Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification-Notification of Changes

August 21, 2020

This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Under the authority of 12 M.R.S.A. § 6172; the Commissioner has made the following classification change to Area No. 13, Western Casco Bay and Islands (Cape Elizabeth to Cumberland Falmouth): This notice reclassifies an area west of Sturdivant Island from Restricted to Conditionally Approved based on the presence of a marina due to water quality meeting approved standards when the marina is not in operation. An interactive map that allows the user to zoom in to specific areas can be found on the ME DMR website: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/maps/index.html. All existing pollution and biotoxin closures remain in effect.

A. Effective immediately, because of pollution, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters, or mussels or whole or roe-on scallops taken from the shores, flats and waters of the following areas:

1. Western Casco Bay and Islands (Cape Elizabeth to Falmouth), inside and shoreward of a line beginning at the end of Waites Landing Road (Falmouth), then running southwest to the south tip of the most western island of The Brothers, continuing southeast to the south tip of the southeastern most island of The Brothers, continuing northeast to Crow Island (1000’ northeast of Chivericks Cove (Long Island), continuing southeast to the navigational aide Red Beacon “P” Mo (A), and then continuing northwest to McKenney Point (Cape Elizabeth).

2. Hope Island (Chebeague Island): within 500 feet of shore.

3. Cliff Island (Portland): within 500 feet of shore.

4. Bates Island (Chebeague Island): inside and shoreward of a line beginning at the north tip of Bates Island; then running southwest to the south tip of Ministerial Island; then running southeast to the south tip of Bates Island.

5. Clapboard Island (Falmouth): within 300 feet of shore.

B. Effective immediately, because of pollution, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters, mussels or whole or roe-on scallops from the shores, flats and waters of the following Restricted area(s) without a special MDMR permit:

1. Mussel Cove (Falmouth): inside and shoreward of a line beginning at a red painted post at the most northern point of land at the mouth of Mussel Cove (Falmouth), then continuing southeast to the tip of Bartlett Point (Falmouth), then continuing southeast to the tip of Prince Point (Falmouth).

Effective immediately, because of intermittent pollution, the following area is classified as “Conditionally Approved”, and shall be closed to the harvest of clams, quahogs, oysters and mussels
from May 1 to November 14: the shores, flats and waters within the following boundaries (1) east of a line beginning at a red painted post at the most northern point of land at the mouth of Mussel Cove (Falmouth), then continuing southeast to the tip of Bartlett Point (Falmouth), then continuing southeast to the tip of Prince Point (Falmouth); (2) east of a line beginning at the end of Waites Landing Road (Falmouth), then running southwest to the south tip of the most western island of The Brothers, continuing southeast to the south tip of the southeastern most island of The Brothers; (3) inside and shoreward of a line beginning at the easternmost tip of the southeastern most island of The Brothers, continuing northeast to the southern tip of Sturdivant Island, then running southwest to the shore at the end of Town Landing Road (Falmouth).

C. Effective immediately, because of the presence of a marina, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters, mussels or whole or roe-on scallops from the shores, flats and waters of the following Conditionally Approved area(s) from May 1 to November 14. For current status, please refer to the Statewide Conditional Area Closure Notice on the DMR website: http://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/closures/pollution.html

1. West of Clapboard and Sturdivant Islands (Falmouth to Cumberland): east of a line beginning at a red painted post at the most northern point of land at the mouth of Mussel Cove (Falmouth), then continuing southeast to the tip of Bartlett Point (Falmouth), then continuing southeast to the tip of Prince Point (Falmouth); AND east of a line beginning at the end of Waites Landing Road (Falmouth), then running southwest to the south tip of the most western island of The Brothers, continuing southeast to the south tip of the southeastern most island of The Brothers; AND south of a line beginning at Spruce Lane (Cumberland) running southeast to the southern tip of Sturdivant Island.

Effective immediately it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters or mussels taken from the shores, flats and waters of Mussel Cove (Falmouth): inside and shoreward of a line beginning at a red painted post at the most northern point of land at the mouth of Mussel Cove (Falmouth), then continuing southeast to the tip of Bartlett Point (Falmouth), then continuing southeast to the tip of Prince Point (Falmouth). This area is classified as "Restricted" and requires a special MDMR permit.

If you have questions, please contact Department of Marine Resources, 194 McKown Point Road, West Boothbay Harbor, Maine 04575-0008, Tel: (207) 633-9500 Email: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov. During weekends/holidays, contact on duty Marine Patrol Officers through the appropriate State Police barracks: from New Hampshire border to Brunswick, barracks 1-800-228-0857; from Cushing/Boothbay to Lincolnville/Belfast area, barracks 1-800-452-4664; from Belfast to Canadian border, barracks 1-800-432-7381. This notice can be viewed on the Department’s website at: http://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/closures/pollution.html. This information is also recorded on our HOTLINE (207-624-7727 OR 1-800-232-4733).

Sincerely,

Bryant Lewis
Western Maine Growing Area Supervisor
Commissioner’s Designee

3:00 PM
(Effective Time)