Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification-Notification of Changes

June 26, 2014

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Under the authority of Maine statute 12 M.R.S.A., Chapter 607, Section 6172; the Commissioner has made the following classification change to Area No. 16, Maquoit Bay and Middle Bay (Freeport, Brunswick, and Harpswell): This notice makes an administrative change to remove the open/closed statements for the rainfall conditional area due to status now being recorded in the statewide Conditional Area Closure Notice which can be found on the DMR website: http://www.maine.gov/dmr/rm/public_health/closures/closedarea.htm. It is important to always refer to the Conditional Area Closure Notice for the current status of all rainfall, river flow or waste water treatment plant conditional areas. All existing pollution and red tide/psp closures remain in effect.

The boundary descriptions of the area are as follows (struck text is being removed and underlined text is being added):

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

1. Maquoit Bay (Brunswick): north of a line drawn across the mouth of Bunganuc Creek, beginning at a red painted post located on the on the west shore of the mouth of the creek; then running due east to a red painted post on the east shore of the mouth of the creek.

2. Merepoint Bay (Harpswell): inside and shoreward of a line beginning 1000 feet south of Birch Island Landing; then running north to the westernmost tip of land near Birch Island Landing; then running east to the westernmost point of land 1000 feet north of Birch Island Landing.

B. Effective immediately, because of intermittent pollution due to rainfall the shores, flats and waters of Maquoit Bay beginning at a red painted post located on the shore approximately 365 yards southwest of Wharton Point then running southeast to a red painted post the north tip of Pulsifer Point on the opposite shore, have been classified have been classified as “Conditionally Approved” and shall be closed to the harvest of clams, quahogs, oysters and mussels, when rainfall meets or exceeds 1” within a 24 hour period. This area is currently CLOSED. Please refer to the Statewide Conditional Area Closure Notice on the DMR website: http://www.maine.gov/dmr/rm/public_health/closures/closedarea.htm for open/closed status.

C. Effective immediately, because of pollution, the shores, flats and waters of Merepoint Bay: inside and shoreward of a line beginning at the unnamed point of land 2000 feet north of Paul’s Marina (Brunswick), then running southeast to the north tip of Birch Island (Harpswell); then running southwest to the north tip of Gallows Island (Harpswell); then running west to the south end of Windemere Road on Merepoint Neck (Brunswick); have been classified as “Conditionally Approved,”
and shall be closed to the harvest of clams, quahogs, oysters and mussels from April 15 through October 31.

If you have questions, please contact Kohl Kanwit, Department of Marine Resources, 194 McKown Point Road, West Boothbay Harbor, Maine 04575-0008, Tel: (207) 633-9535, Email: Kohl.Kanwit@maine.gov. During weekends/holidays, contact 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/rm/public_health/closures/closedarea.htm. This information is also recorded on our HOTLINE (207-624-7727 OR 1-800-232-4733).

Sincerely,

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Kohl Kanwit
Commissioner’s Designee – Director, Bureau of Public Health

4:00 PM
(Effective Time)
Maine Department of Marine Resources
Pollution Area No. 16
Maquoit Bay and Middle Bay (Freeport, Brunswick, and Harpswell)

Legend
Classification
- Prohibited
- Conditionally Approved
- Red Painted Post

Maquoit Bay will close when rainfall meets or exceeds 1" in 24 hours.

This area is CLOSED Apr 15 to Oct 31

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