Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification-Notification of Changes

October 31, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Under the authority of 12 M.R.S.A. § 6172; the Commissioner has made the following classification change to Area No. 23-A, Upper Damariscotta River (Newcastle, Nobleboro, Damariscotta): This notice reclassifies Huston Cove from Restricted to Conditionally Approved due to water quality meeting approved standards during the open period. All existing pollution and biotoxin 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 Prohibited areas:

   1. Great Salt Bay (Newcastle, Nobleboro, Damariscotta), north of a line running west to east between two unnamed points of land, locally known as The Narrows, located approximately 600 yards north of the Route 1 bridge.

   2. Damariscotta River (Newcastle, Damariscotta): south of the Route 1 bridge; AND north and east of a line beginning at a red painted post located on the southwest tip of Jacks Point (Newcastle), then running south to Green Can buoy #23, then running southwest approximately 91 yards west of the southwest tip of Hall Point (Damariscotta), then running east to the southwest tip of Hall Pt.

B. 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 Restricted area without a special MDMR permit: Huston Cove (Damariscotta): north and east of a line beginning at the southwestern tip of Hall Point running southeast to the opposite shore.

B. Effective immediately, because of seasonal pollution, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters or mussels from the shores, flats and waters of the following Conditionally Approved area(s) during the closed dates:

Huston Cove (Damariscotta), north and east of a line beginning at the southwestern tip of Hall Point running southeast to the opposite shore, are classified as Conditionally Approved and shall be closed to the harvest of clams, quahogs, oysters, and mussels from June 1 to September 30.

C. Effective immediately, because of proximity to a WWTP, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters or mussels from the shores, flats and waters of the following Conditionally Approved area(s) following a malfunction/CSO event at the Great Salt Bay Sanitary District Damariscotta Mills Facility. 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/documents/CA.pdf
Effective immediately, because of proximity to a Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) outfall, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters or mussels from the shores, flats and waters of the following Conditionally Approved area:

The upper Damariscotta River; south of a line running west to east between two unnamed points of land, locally known as The Narrows, located approximately 600 yards north of the Route 1 bridge; AND north of the Route 1 bridge during any malfunction of the Great Salt Bay STP (Mills Facility).

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,

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

1:43 PM
(Effective Time)