Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification – Notification of Changes

March 1, 2021

This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced.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 changes to Pollution Areas 5, 6, and 7, Bald Head Cliff (York) to Cape Arundel (Kennebunkport). This notice renames Pollution Areas 5, 6, and 7 to Growing Area WD. 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.

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

Prohibited: 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 taken from the shores, flats and waters of the following Prohibited areas:

P1. Little River, Mousam River, Kennebunk River, and coastal vicinity (Wells to Kennebunkport): inside and shoreward of a line beginning at the easternmost tip of the jetties at the mouth of the Webhannet River (Wells), then running northeast to Fishing Rock (Kennebunk), then running northeast to the south tip of Cape Arundel (Kennebunkport).

P2. Lower Ogunquit River, Ogunquit Beach, Moody Beach, Wells Beach, and the Webhannet River (Ogunquit, Wells): southwest and shoreward of a line formed by the Beach Street bridge (Ogunquit); AND west and shoreward of a line beginning at the eastern tip of Israels Head (Ogunquit), then running northeast to Bibb Rock, then running north to the eastern tip of the northern jetty at the mouth of the Webhannet River (Wells), AND south of a line running northwest from the southern edge of the parking lot at the end of Foster Lane to the point of land at the end of Atlantic Avenue.

P3. Upper Ogunquit River (Ogunquit): north of a line starting from the northeast corner of the boat ramp at the Ocean Street footbridge and running east to a red painted post on the opposite shore.

P4. Western Shore of Ogunquit River (Ogunquit): west of a line starting from the southern tip of an unnamed point of land located on the western shore of the Ogunquit River and running southwest across a sandbar to a red painted post located on the shore in front of The Dunes on the Waterfront Hotel.
P5. Bald Head Cliff to Israel Head (York, Ogunquit): west of a line beginning at Bald Head Cliff extending northwest to the tip of Israel’s Head.

Restricted: 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 aquaculture leases with an MOU only) from the shores, flats and waters of the following Restricted area without a special MDMR permit:

R1. Lower Webhannet River (Wells): south of Mile Road.

Conditionally Approved (Seasonal): Effective immediately, because of seasonal pollution, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters, mussels or whole or roe-on scallops (from aquaculture leases with an MOU only) from the shores, flats and waters of the following Conditionally Approved area(s) during the closed dates:

CA1. Upper Webhannet River (Wells): north of a line beginning at the prominent point at the end of Jetty Ln running west to the opposite shore (closed August 1st through October 31st).

CA2. Ogunquit River (Ogunquit): south of a line starting from the northeast corner of the boat ramp at the Ocean Street footbridge and running east to a red painted post on the opposite shore; AND east of a line starting from the southern tip of an unnamed point of land located on the western shore of the Ogunquit River and running southwest across a sandbar to a red painted post located on the shore in front of The Dunes on the Waterfront Hotel; AND north of a line created by the Beech St bridge (closed May 1st through October 31st).

Approved: All other shores, flats and waters not described in the above sections are Approved and it is lawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters, mussels or whole or roe-on scallops (from aquaculture leases with an MOU only) when in the open status. For current status, please refer to the Biotoxin and Emergency Closure Notices on the DMR website: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/closures/index.html

A. Growing Area WD.

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/shellfishsanitation-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

9:00 AM
(Effective Time)