

PATRICK C. KELIHER COMMISSIONER

Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification-Notification of Changes

June 3, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Under the authority of Maine statute 12 M.R.S.A., Chapter 607, Section 6172; the Commissioner has made the following change to Area No. 164-A, ME/NH Border to Schoodic Point (Winter Harbor): This notice closes the exception area for ocean quahog (*Arctica islandica*) harvest from Newagen (Southport) to Basin Point (Harpswell). 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):

Effective immediately, because of paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP), it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any ocean quahogs (*Arctica islandica*), taken from Maine coastal waters and those offshore waters of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ/200 mile limit) between the ME/NH border AND west of a line beginning at Schoodic Point (Winter Harbor) due south to the limits of US jurisdiction.

EXCEPTION: Ocean quahogs may be harvested within state waters west of a line beginning at the southwestern tip of Newagen (Southport) running true south to the limits of the Three Nautical Mile Line and east of a line beginning at the eastern tip of Basin Point (Harpswell) then running true south to the limits of the Three Nautical Mile Line. Ocean quahogs may not be harvested from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise.

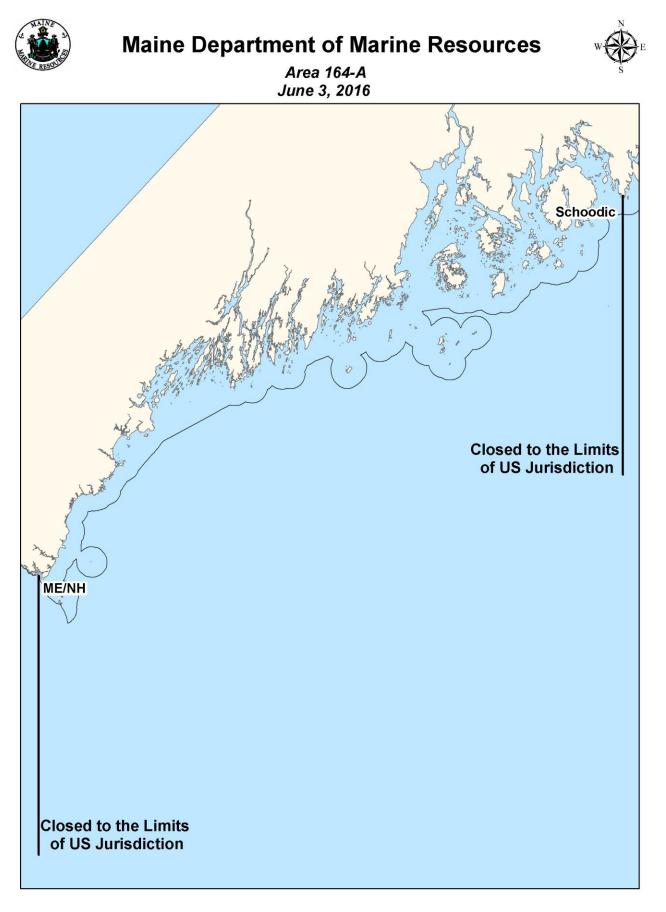
If you have questions, please contact Angel Ripley or Kohl Kanwit, Department of Marine Resources, 194 McKown Point Road, West Boothbay Harbor, Maine 04575-0008, Tel: (207) 633-9515 or (207) 633-9535, Email: angel.ripley@maine.gov or kohl.kanwit@maine.gov. During weekends/holidays, contact the appropriate 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 2:05 PM (Effective Time)

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