

CARL J. WILSON ACTING COMMISSIONER

Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification – Notification of Changes April 3, 2025 This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced.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 Growing Area EC, Little Deer Isle and Deer Isle (Deer Isle, Stonington). This notice reclassifies an area around Whig Island (Deer Isle) from Approved to seasonally Conditionally Approved due to water quality failing to meet approved standards year-round. 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/fisheries/shellfish/shellfish-closures-and-aquaculture-leases-map. 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. Pumpkin Island to Eggemoggin, Little Deer Isle (Deer Isle): northeast of a line beginning at a red painted post at the end of Lighthouse Lane approximately 500 yards southwest of the boat launch running west to green navigational buoy #29; AND southeast of a line beginning at green navigational buoy #29 running northeast to green navigational buoy #25, AND southwest of a line beginning at green navigation buoy #25 running southeast to end at the boathouse at the end of Bircholm Lane.
- P2. Mill Pond (Deer Isle): Southeast of the Bridge Street/Main Street bridge (Mill Pond Dam). This closure includes all of "The Mill Pond" on the south side of the Mill Dam.
- P3. Inner Harbor and Holt Pond (Deer Isle and Stonington): south of a line beginning at Morgan Point (off the end of Morgan Point Ln.) running south to a red painted post on the southern shore of Inner Harbor.
- P4. Stonington Harbor (Stonington): northeast of a line beginning at the southwest point of Moose Island, then running southeast to red nun #24, then running northeast to the northwestern ledge of the Dow Ledges, and then running north to the mouth of Ames Pond Stream.
- P5. Burnt Hill Cove (Stonington): north of a line beginning at an unnamed point approximately 250 yards west of the mouth of Burnt Hill Stream then running southeast to another unnamed point of land approximately 100 yards to the south of Burnt Hill Stream.

P6. Greenlaw Cove (Deer Isle): Southeast of a line beginning at the northern tip of the point approximately 150 yards northwest of the end of Downback Way running northeast to the northwest tip of the point on the opposite shore approximately 175 yards west of the end of Fife Rd.

Conditionally Approved (Rainfall, Seasonal): Effective immediately, because of intermittent pollution due to rainfall, 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) when rainfall meets or exceeds 1" within a 24-hour period from June 1st through September 30th. For current status, please refer to the Statewide Conditional Area Closure Notice on the DMR website: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/fisheries/shellfish/closures.

- CA 1. Fish Creek (Deer Isle): west of a line beginning at the tip of the point at the end of FR 884 running northeast to the tip of the point approximately 125 yards southeast of Little Point Road.
- CA 2. Greenlaw Cove (Deer Isle): west of a line beginning at the tip of a prominent point of land on the north shore of Greenlaw Cove running south to a red painted post on the opposite shore.

Conditionally Approved, Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP): Effective immediately, because of proximity to a WWTP, 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) following a by-pass or overflow event at the Stonington Waste Water Treatment Plant. For current status, please refer to the Statewide Conditional Area Closure Notice on the DMR website. https://www.maine.gov/dmr/fisheries/shellfish/shellfish-closures-and-aquaculture-leases-map.

CA 34. Stonington Harbor/Deer Isle Thorofare: South of a line beginning at an unnamed point of land approximately 100 yards to the south of Burnt Hill Stream (Stonington) then running northwest to another unnamed point of land approximately 250 yards west of the mouth of Burnt Hill Stream; AND southeast of line beginning at an unnamed point of land approximately 250 yards west of the mouth of Burnt Hill Stream running southwest to the easternmost point of Andrew Island (Stonington); AND northeast of line beginning at the easternmost point of Andrew Island running southeast to the southwestern point of Crotch Island (Stonington); AND northwest of line beginning at the southern point of Thurlow Head (Crotch Island, Stonington) running northeast to the southern tip of Rock Island (Stonington), then running east to southwestern tip of Green Island (Stonington), then from the southeast tip of Green Island running northeast to the southern tip of Sprout Island (Stonington) then running northeast to the southern tip of Potato Island (Stonington) then running northeast to the southern tip of Camp Island (Stonington); AND west of a line running north from the northeastern tip of Camp Island to Grog Ledge (Stonington); AND south and west of a line beginning at Grog Ledge and running west to the unnamed point approximately 150 yards north of the end of Lee Hills Rd (Stonington); AND south and east of a line beginning at the southwest point of Moose Island (Stonington), then running southeast to red nun #24, then running northeast to the northwestern ledge of the Dow Ledges (Stonington), and then running north to the mouth of Ames Pond Stream (Stonington).

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:

- <u>CA 3.</u> Whig Island (Deer Isle): east of a line beginning at the eastern tip of Whig Island, running north to a red painted post on the southern point of the prominent point of land on the northern shore of this cove; AND east of a line beginning at the eastern tip of Whig Island, running south to a red painted post on the southern shore of this cove (closed July 1st through September 30th).
- CA 4<u>5</u>. Crockett Cove (Deer Isle, Stonington): north and east of a line beginning at a red painted post on the shore approximately 250 yards southwest of where the Stonington town line crosses Burnt Cove Rd, running southeast to the head of the nearest peninsula in Stonington (closed June 1st through August 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/fisheries/shellfish/closures.

A. Growing Area EC.

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: <u>DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov</u>. 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:

https://www.maine.gov/dmr/fisheries/shellfish/shellfish-closures-and-aquaculture-leases-map This information is also recorded on our HOTLINE (207- 624-7727 OR 1-800-232-4733).

David W. Miller

David W. Miller Eastern Maine Growing Area, Commissioner's Designee

<u>12:30 PM</u> (*Effective Time*)