



David E. Pierce, Ph.D.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

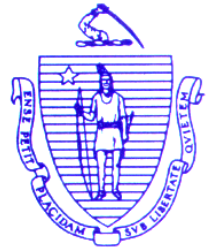
Division of Marine Fisheries

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Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Ronald Amidon
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

January 5, 2018

Honorable Select Boards of the following towns/cities: Swansea, Somerset, Fall River, Freetown Dighton, Berkley, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion, Wareham, Bourne, Falmouth and Gosnold

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, MGL, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that shellfish areas in the above listed towns/cities (designated shellfish growing areas BB 1- 58 and E 1 - 14) closed on January 4, 2018 due to a coastal storm, now meet the National Shellfish Sanitation Program guidelines for an "OPEN" status.

Therefore under authority of MGL, Chapter 130, Sections 74A and 322 CMR 7.01 (7) the below-defined areas will revert to their former status prior to the closure of January 4, 2018 **effective at sunrise on Saturday January 6, 2018.**

Those areas previously classified as "APPROVED" and in the "OPEN" status prior to the January 4, 2018 shellfish closure will revert to their previous status on January 6, 2018 and open to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption subject to local rules and regulations under authority of MGL Chapter 130, section 52.

Similarly, those areas previously classified as "CONDITIONALLY APPROVED" and in the "OPEN" status prior to the January 4, 2018 shellfish closure will revert to their previous status on January 6, 2018 subject to the previous status conditions. Areas classified as "PROHIBITED" and "RESTRICTED" shall remain closed to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption.

STATUS: OPEN TO THE TAKING OF SHELLFISH

"The waters, flats and all tributaries of Massachusetts within the following DSGA's BB 1 - BB58 and E 1 - E14 in the towns and cities of Swansea, Somerset, Fall River, Freetown Dighton, Berkley, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion, Wareham, Bourne, Falmouth and Gosnold."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David E. Pierce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail.

David E. Pierce,
Director

cc: J. McGinn, B. Perrin, P. Moran, OLE
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, T. Sheilds, DMF
R. Amidon, M. King, DFG
J. Hobill, S. King, DEP
FDA,
DPH
Shellfish Constables of the above listed towns.