

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES 21 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0021

> PATRICK C. KELIHER COMMISSIONER

Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification-Notification of Changes April 17, 2024 This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced

Under the authority of 12 M.R.S.A. § 6172; the Commissioner has made the following changes to the Conditional Area Closure Notice: This notice sets the reopening date for Areas WM (CA2-CA4) due to river flow decreasing below the established threshold and **will REOPEN EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS, April 20, 2024**. All existing pollution and biotoxin closures remain in effect.

Please refer to the specific Area notices for maps and a detailed description of the impacted conditional areas: <u>https://www.maine.gov/dmr/fisheries/shellfish/closures</u>. Reopening dates will change if additional rain or flow events occur. Whenever a Conditional Area is impacted by rainfall AND a WWTP CSO or bypass event, the area remains closed until the WWTP closure is lifted. Always check this notice before harvesting in a rainfall, river flow and/or Waste Water Treatment Plant performance conditional area to determine the open/closed status. All existing pollution and biotoxin closures remain in effect.

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

Rainfall Conditional Closures:

The following area is closed due to greater than three-quarters inch of rainfall in a twenty-four-hour period and will **REOPEN EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS, April 26, 2024.**

Growing Area WZ: (CA1) North Haven Salt Pond.

The following area is closed due to greater than three-quarters inch of rainfall in a twenty-four-hour period and will **REOPEN EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS, April 26, 2024.**

Growing Area WI: (CA1-CA2) on the Cousins River, Yarmouth Growing Area WJ: (CA1) on the Harraseeket River, Freeport Growing Area WN: (CA1) on Cross River, Boothbay. Growing Area WV: (CA3) on Wheeler Bay, St. George

Wastewater Treatment Plant Closures:

The following areas are closed due to a high-flow event. The areas will **REOPEN EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS, May 3, 2024.**

Growing Area WI: (CA1 & CR1-CR2) - Yarmouth WWTP. Note: WI (CA1) is also closed due to a rainfall event.

The following area is closed due to a CSO or bypass event. The area will **REOPEN EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS, April 30, 2024.**

Growing Area WI: (CR3) – Falmouth WWTP and PWD Arcadia St CSO.

River Flow Closures:

The following areas are closed due to river flow exceeding the established threshold. <u>The area will **REOPEN**</u> <u>EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS, April 20, 2024.</u>

A reopening date will be set when river flow decreases below the established threshold. Growing Area WM: (CA2, CA3, CA4) Kennebec River, Sagadahoc Bay

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

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Bryant Lewis ¹ Western Maine Growing Area Supervisor Commissioner's Designee

<u>1:35 PM</u> (Effective Time)