



Town Shellfish Crier
August 31, 2021

1. Herring River Closes a half hour after sunset on Tuesday, August 31, 2021.

As of a half hour after sunset today, August 31, the Herring River will close to shellfishing. Please plan accordingly.

2. Hats Out of the Cove by Tuesday, September 28, Due to Marina Dredging

Due to the second phase of marina dredging set to begin on Thursday, October 1, 2021, grant holders will need to remove their spat collecting devices and all gear from Chipman's Cove by sunset on Tuesday, September 28. The dredging crews will likely begin staging on that Wednesday and Thursday, and we want to make sure to give them ample berth. The Shellfish Dept. is available to assist any grant holder with transportation (using our barge) in order to help prepare the harbor for dredging.

3. Saving Chipman's Cove and Duck Creek Shellfish Resources Before Dredging Begins

Along the same lines of thinking ahead, the dredging of Area 1 – the areas in front of and behind the marina – will begin on October 1. The Shellfish Department is looking for ideas on whether to try and harvest quahogs out of the channel areas (like we did last year in the federal channel) as well as if we should try and move some oysters away from the outer bars of Chipman's so that they don't succumb to the overload of sediment in the water column that happened last year with dredging. Please share your ideas with us bearing in mind that we will not be able to access AmeriCorps until October, so any labor will need to come from shellfishermen, both commercial and recreational, if possible.

4. Interesting articles in the last East Coast Shellfish Growers Association newsletter!

The August edition of the ECSGA newsletter contained several articles that may be of interest to shellfishermen. They report on new compostable bags from Ketcham Supply Co., advances in quahog QPX research, and a newly published study quantifying the benefits of aquaculture on marine habitats. To check out those articles, follow this [link](#). While reading, please consider becoming a member of the ECSGA whose goal is to effectively represent the needs of aquaculture with federal and state officials and throughout the shellfishing community. P.S. Their April 2021 newsletter included an article touting the success and creativity of the Wellfleet Shellfishermen's Farmer's Market.

Contact Nancy at nancy.civetta@wellfleet-ma.gov or 617-901-7193 with ideas on how the Shellfish Department can help or improve shellfishing. Thank you!

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