



Wellfleet Shellfish Department



300 Main Street, Wellfleet, Massachusetts 02667

Dragging Inner Harbor Channel

With guidance from Shellfish Advisory Board to “let ‘er rip,” the Shellfish Department has put together the following information to allow dragging of the inner harbor portion of the federal channel between the end of the breakwater and the red #16 can before dredging of the federal channel begins this fall.

- Federal channel dredging will begin Oct. 1, 2020.
- Shellfish harvesting by draggers in inner harbor portion of the federal channel will be allowed beginning **March 5, 2020**.
- Oysters first, then quahogs. We ask dragger captains to please communicate with department when you think it is ready to switch over.
- End date: Thursday, April 30, 2020.
- AREA: End of breakwater to red 16 can. See map attached.
- Harbormaster’s requirements:
 - **Need to be paid up with the town, for example, Harbormaster fees, excise taxes for boats, insurance, registration in order to participate**
 - Always someone at the helm
 - Display day shapes to indicate active trawling (dragging)
- Please use caution because we don’t know what’s down there. No harbormaster on duty weekends.
- If you decide to go further in towards L-pier or federal anchorage, be careful of lost aquaculture gear and moorings. There is at least one 250 lb. or 500 lb. mooring that Harbormasters know about in the federal anchorage.
- Let department know if lost aquaculture gear or trash is found. We can come with boat to get it. We are happy to take seed if convenient for your operations.
- **Be mindful of grants. 25-foot buffer. No turning onto grants. Look for buoys.**
- Deckload and move to another area to cull seed and shack. We are suggesting anywhere 100 feet south of no drag line, but please provide your thoughts on where culling activity could happen. **No culling should take place in channel.** So far, suggestions have been made to cull in the recreational-only area of Indian Neck and along the West Side, depending on wind direction.
- Tags are for CCB13. Normal daily limits will be in effect.
- All other Wellfleet Shellfishing Policy and Regulations such as Section 6.2.4 Commercial Catch Limits and Section 8 Commercial Shellfishing: Dragging and Dredging will remain in effect.
- **Please let Shellfish Department know if you will participate in this special program.**

wellfleet-ma.gov/shellfish-department

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