



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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Director

May 12, 2023

Town of West Tisbury Selectboard  
Town Hall  
West Tisbury, MA 02575

Town of Chilmark Selectboard  
Town Hall  
Chilmark, MA 02535

Honorable Selectboard Members,

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries has re-examined the shellfish growing area Tisbury Great Pond (V31) in the Towns of West Tisbury and Chilmark and determined that the area definitions must be re-written for clarity. The growing area continues to meet NSSP criteria for "APPROVED" classification with "Open to Shellfishing" status and "PROHIBITED" classification with "Closed to Shellfishing" status. The statuses of this area will not change, but the definitions of the growing area will be changed as of sunrise on May 15, 2023.

Therefore, under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 130, section 74A the below-defined areas have been redefined and will remain "APPROVED" with a status of "Open to Shellfishing" and "PROHIBITED" with a status of "Closed to Shellfishing."

## **REDEFINITION**

**CLASSIFICATION: APPROVED**

**STATUS: Open to Shellfishing**

### **V31.0**

#### **Tisbury Great Pond**

"The waters, flats, and all tributaries of Tisbury Great Pond in the Towns of West Tisbury and Chilmark; north of a line drawn across the entrance to Tisbury Great Pond (when present) on South Beach, excluding Crab Creek (V31.4), Town Cove (V31.3) and Tiah Cove (V31.5)."

**REDEFINITION**

**CLASSIFICATION: APPROVED**

**STATUS: Open to Shellfishing**

**V31.5**

**Tiah Cove**

“The waters, flats, and all tributaries of Tisbury Great Pond in the Town of West Tisbury, north of a line drawn due east from the “NO SHELLFISHING” sign on Plum Bush Point to the post at the landing at Sepiessa Point Reservation.”

**REDEFINITION**

**CLASSIFICATION: PROHIBITED**

**STATUS: Closed to Shellfishing**

**V31.4**

**Crab Creek**

“The waters, flats, and all tributaries of that portion of Tisbury Great Pond in the Town of Chilmark, west of a line drawn in a southeasterly direction from the “NO SHELLFISHING” sign at 41.34891° / -70.65877° to the “NO SHELLFISHING” sign at 41.34782° / -70.65718°”

**CLASSIFICATION: PROHIBITED**

**STATUS: Closed to Shellfishing**

**V31.3**

**Town Cove**

"The waters, flats, and all tributaries of Tisbury Great Pond in the Towns of Chilmark and West Tisbury, north of a line drawn in a northeasterly direction from the “NO SHELLFISHING” sign 370 yards south of Big Sandy to the “NO SHELLFISHING” sign at Plum Bush Point"

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel J. McKiernan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

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Daniel J. McKiernan, Director  
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: P. Moran, C. Baker, OLE  
J. Kennedy, DMF  
T. O'Shea, DFG  
J. Hobill, DEP  
FDA, DPH  
R. Gale, West Tisbury Shellfish Constable  
I. Scheffer, Chilmark Shellfish Constable.