



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

NOV 17 2009

-EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY PSP CLOSURE-

Dear Federal Permit Holder or Dealer:

At the request of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is extending the temporary paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) closure (i.e., Temporary PSP Closure Area) through December 31, 2010, due to the presence of high levels of the toxin that causes PSP. *See chart of the closure area on the reverse side.* NMFS may terminate the emergency regulations at an earlier date by publication in the Federal Register of a notice of termination, if information becomes available indicating such action is warranted.

All bivalve molluscan shellfish fishing, with the exception of sea scallop adductor muscles harvested and shucked at sea, is prohibited in the northern component of the Temporary PSP Closure Area. The northern component of the Temporary PSP Closure Area includes all Federal waters bound by the following coordinates in the order stated: (1) 43°00' N. lat., 71°00' W. long.; (2) 43°00' N. lat., 69°00' W. long.; (3) 41°39' N. lat., 69°00' W. long.; (4) 41°39' N. lat., 71°00' W. long., and then ending at the first point.

Only the harvest of whole or roe-on scallops is prohibited in the southern component of the Temporary PSP Closure Area. The southern component of the Temporary PSP Closure Area includes all Federal waters bound by the following coordinates in the order stated: (1) 41°39' N. lat., 71°00' W. long.; (2) 41°39' N. lat., 69°00' W. long.; (3) 40°00' N. lat., 69°00' W. long.; (4) 40°00' N. lat., 71°00' W. long., and then ending at the first point. This is necessary because scallop viscera and roe can retain PSP toxins longer than other species of molluscan shellfish. This temporary rule will expire after December 31, 2010, unless otherwise rescinded by the Regional Administrator.

A copy of the final emergency rule is available at NMFS's Northeast Regional Office Web Site: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>. If you have any questions on this continuation of the emergency action, please call Anna Macan at (978) 281-9165.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Fairness Act of 1996.



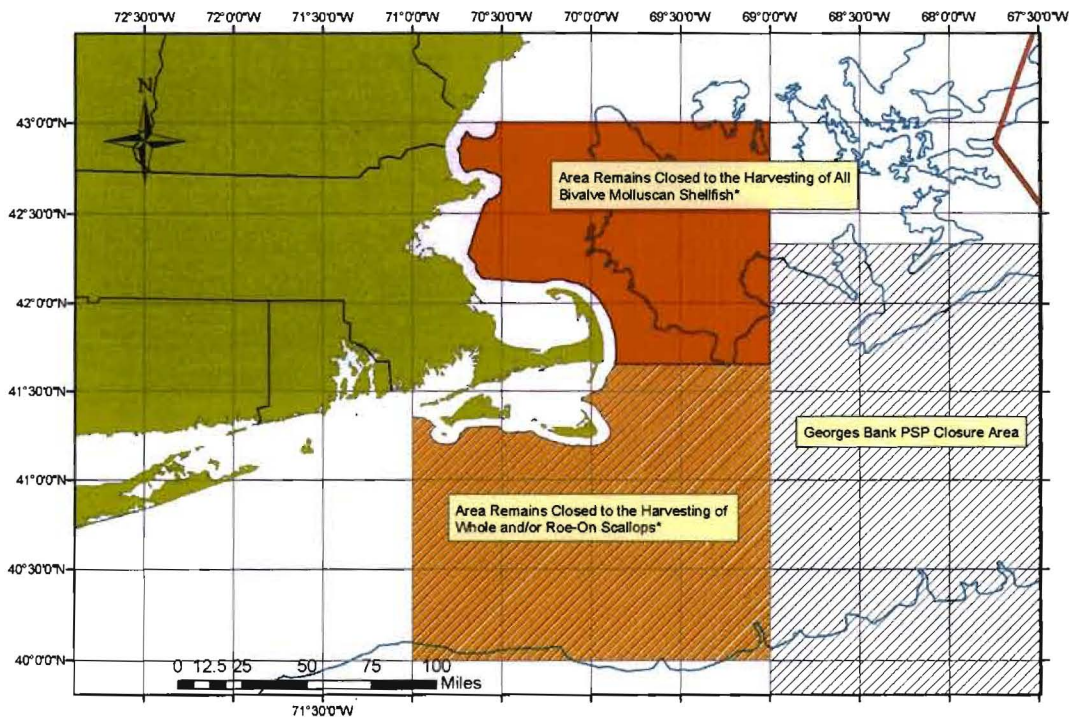
Coordinates for the Northern Temporary PSP Closure Area.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	43° 00' N	71° 00' W
2	43° 00' N	69° 00' W
3	41° 39' N	69° 00' W
4	41° 39' N	71° 00' W
5	43° 00' N	71° 00' W

Coordinates for the Southern Temporary PSP Closure Area

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	41° 39' N	71° 00' W
2	41° 39' N	69° 00' W
3	40° 00' N	69° 00' W
4	40° 00' N	71° 00' W
5	41° 39' N	71° 00' W

**Continuation of the Emergency Closure of Federal Waters to the Harvest of Shellfish
Due to the Toxin that Causes Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP)**



*Exception allowed for scallop harvesting with onboard shucking of the adductor muscle only.