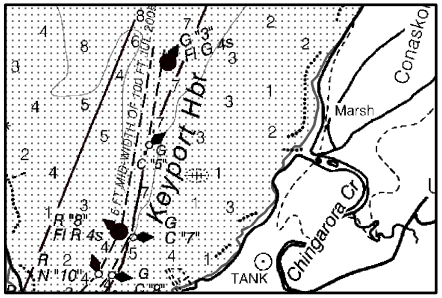
SHELLFISH GROWING WATER CLASSIFICATION CHARTS ARE A GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION OF THE CLASSIFICATION REGULATIONS AND ARE PROVIDED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. SEE N.J.A.C. 7:12-1 ET SEQ. FOR THE FULL TEXT AND AREA DESCRIPTIONS.

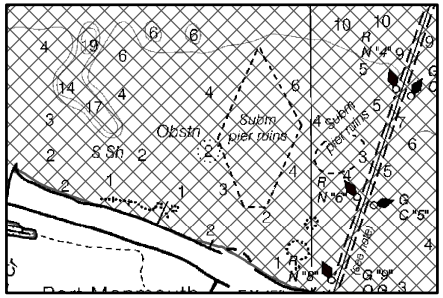
NOTE:
These charts are provided for the purpose of delineating shellfish growing water classifications, and are not intended to be used for navigational purposes.

SHELLFISH GROWING WATER CLASSIFICATION CODES



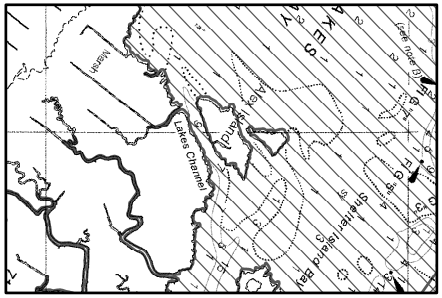
PROHIBITED AREA

Waters condemned for the harvest of oysters, clams and mussels.



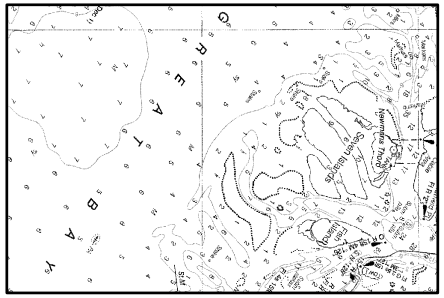
SPECIAL RESTRICTED AREA

Waters condemned for the harvest of oysters, clams and mussels EXCEPT harvesting for further processing may be done under special permit from the State Department of Environmental Protection.



SEASONAL AREA

Waters which are condemned for the harvest of shellfish but open by operation of regulations according to the schedule at 7:12-4.1 and 4.2; refer to specific charts for seasonal dates where applicable.



APPROVED AREA

Waters approved for the harvest of oysters, clams, and mussles.

PROHIBITED AREAS FOR HARVESTING

1. ALL MARINAS, MAN-MADE LAGOONS, ANCHORAGES OR OTHER PLACES WHERE DOCKING OR MOORING FACILIITES ARE PROVIDED FOR BOATS

Definition: A marina is any structure (docks, floating docks, piers, that supports five or more boats) built on or near the water which is utilitized for docking, storing or otherwise mooring vessels and usually but not necessarily providing service to vessels such as repairing, fueling, security, or other related activities.

2. LEASED AREAS

Harvesting from leased shellfish lots is restricted to the lessee. These lots are delineated by stakes or set by the lease holder. Charts of leased areas may be examined at either the Nacote Creek or Bivalve Shellfish Offices.

HARVESTING REGULATIONS

Shellfish cannot be taken before sunrise or after sunset or on Sundays, except as provided in N.J.S.A. 50:2-1. Hard clams harvested must be at least 1 ½ inches in length. No one may take or catch more than 150 clams per day or sell or offer for sale clams, unless he or she is a holder of a Commercial Clam License.

PENALTY FOR ILLEGAL SHELLFISHING

Harvesting shellfish illegally is punishable in the following manner:

1st Offense - Petty Disorderly Persons
Fines up to $500 and/or up to 30 days imprisonment
2nd Offense - Disorderly Persons
Fines up to $1000 and/or up to 6 months imprisonment

POSSIBLE SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE OF BOAT AND EQUIPMENT FOR ANY OFFENSE

Additional penalties for illegal shellfishing can include the loss of the privilege to take oysters, clams or other shellfish, for a period of three years for a first offense, five years for a second offense, and 10 years for the third offense and any subsequent offense.

CONDEMNED AREA SIGNS

TO AID IN THE DELINEATION OF SHELLFISH GROWING WATERS, CERTAIN AREAS ARE POSTED WITH THE FOLLOWING SIGNS:

HELP TO PREVENT OVERBOARD DISCHARGES

Please be aware that overboard discharges from harvesters' boats have been linked to illness outbreaks associated with shellfish. Please help New Jersey to maintain its excellent record of safe shellfish harvest by not making any overboard discharges of wastes. If you have any questions about the location of Pumpout Stations, please call the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife at (609) 748-2056.