

Approved at the Duxbury
Selectboard's meeting on
January 29, 2024.

HARBORMASTER

DEPARTMENT

Town of Duxbury

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

TOWN CLERK

2024 JAN 30 AM 9:56

DUXBURY, MASS.

TO: Select Board
FROM: Jake B. Emerson, Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable
DATE: January 16, 2024
RE: Recommendations - Bonus Shellfish Season

As prescribed in the Shellfish Rules and Regulations, the Select Board may declare from time to time Bonus Shellfish Seasons.

Ongoing Shellfish Department surveys and daily monitoring indicate shellfish resources within the Town of Duxbury.


Because of abundant shellfish resources, may I make the following recommendations:

- 1) Declare a temporary Bonus Shellfish Season for the commercial harvesting of softshell clams for the month of FEBRUARY. Regulations as attached. (Please see Attachment B & C)
- 2) Declare a temporary Bonus Shellfish Season for the commercial harvesting of quahog clams for the month of FEBRUARY. Regulations as attached. (Please see Attachment A & C)
- 3) Declare a temporary Bonus Shellfish Season for the recreational harvesting of softshell clams for the month of FEBRUARY. Regulations as attached. (Please see Attachment D)

These proposed recommendations are to be considered special seasons and not annual events and further may be amended by the Select Board at any time. If approved the requirements of MGL CH. 130, including posting notices, etc. will be complied with.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for considering this request.

JBE


Duxbury Assistant Town Clerk
A True Copy Attest

Attachment A

TEMPORARY, SPECIAL SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

Temporary, Special Shellfish Regulations (T.S.S.R.): Chapter II, Section C -Resident/Combination Commercial Shellfish License.

4. Bonus Shellfish

- a. Quahog only.
- b. Season - month of FEBRUARY starting FEBRUARY 1 and ending FEBRUARY 29, 2024.
- c. Bag limit - 3 bushels of little necks per week, 3 bushels of cherrystones or chowders per week
- d. A bushel shall be measured by dry volume not to exceed 32 dry quarts.

Other Restrictions:

- (1) Areas of harvest, the entire town is open with the exception of those parts closed due to pollution or propagation or private grants.
- (2) Commercial quahog reports stating the amounts harvested, size and percentage taken, area dug and market sold will be due the last day of the month dug.
- (3) Bonus season not to be regarded as an annual event.

Attachment B

TEMPORARY, SPECIAL SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

Temporary, Special Shellfish Regulations (T.S.S.R.): Chapter II, Section C -Resident/Combination Commercial Shellfish License.

4. Bonus Shellfish

- a. Softshell only
- b. Season - month of FEBRUARY starting FEBRUARY 1 and ending FEBRUARY 29, 2024.
- c. Bag Limit - 3 bushels per day, maximum 12 bushels per week.
- d. All Shellfish (softshell) commercially harvested shall be landed and transported within an approved measured (32 dry quart) container. The approved container, as an example, shall have an inside measured diameter no larger than 10" height by 18" length by 12" width. The effective date for this section shall be January 15, 1998.

Other Restrictions:

- (1) Area of harvest, the entire town is open with the exception of those parts closed due to pollution or propagation or private grants, including areas otherwise so stated within.
- (2) Commercial softshell reports stating amounts harvested, areas dug and market sold will be due the last day of the month dug.
- (3) Bonus season not to be regarded as an annual event.

Attachment C

TO: Select Board

Town Manager

DATE: January 16, 2024

FROM: Jake B. Emerson, Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable

I would like to recommend the following:

A. Duxbury Shores: Allow the commercial harvesting of soft-shell clams and Quahog within 500 feet of the mean high tide mark, within the area of Duxbury Shores, from Cove Street Landing (Back River) to the 126 Crescent Street pier. Inclusive of all approved waters with the exception of those parts closed due to pollution or private shellfish leases. Expire FEBRUARY 29, 2024 and excludes Wednesdays, and Saturdays.

B. Duxbury Beach: Allow for the commercial harvesting of Soft-shell Clams within 500 feet of the mean high tide mark. Expires FEBRUARY 29, 2024 and excludes Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Attachment D

NOTICE - Recreational- BONUS SHELLFISH SEASON- Soft Shell

As prescribed in the Duxbury Shellfish Rules and Regulations the Select board may from time to time declare a bonus season on soft shell clams (steamers).

The recreational bonus shellfish season for Soft Shell Clams (steamers), will be for the month of FEBRUARY 2024 on ***Wednesdays*** only with a bag limit as prescribed in the Shellfish Rules and Regulations at six (6) quarts per week per family permit.

All the Shellfish Rules and Regulations, law, terms and conditions shall apply.

This is a bonus season and not to be regarded as an annual event.