



# Maryland

## Department of the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Serena McIlwain, Secretary  
Suzanne E. Dorsey, Deputy Secretary

February 6, 2026

Mr. Joshua Kurtz, Secretary  
Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
Tawes State Office Building  
580 Taylor Avenue  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Secretary Kurtz:

The Maryland Department of the Environment has determined by sampling of the water and appropriate investigation that the area described below complies with the standards for the harvesting of shellfish. Therefore, pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article § 4-742, the Maryland Department of the Environment hereby reclassifies the area described below as approved for the harvesting of shellfish **effective February 16, 2026, through the end of the 2026 oyster season as determined by the Department of Natural Resources.**

### **Kent Island Narrows, Queen Anne's County**

All the waters of Kent Island Narrows are open for shellfish harvesting from February 23, 2026 until the end of the 2026 oyster season as determined by the Department of Natural Resources except for the areas described below.

The following areas remain restricted to shellfish harvesting:

### **Kent Islands Narrows, Queen Anne's County**

All waters of Kent Island Narrows lying easterly of a line running 100 feet off the east shore of the Narrows from a point of land (38°58'36.5" North Latitude, 76°14'44.7" West Longitude) at the northern end of the Narrows to Daymark "8" (38°57'54.8" North Latitude, 76°14'35.7" West Longitude) near the entrance to Wells Cove.

### **Wells Cove, Queen Anne's County**

All waters of Wells Cove lying easterly of a line running in a southeasterly direction from a point of land (38°57'55.9" North Latitude, 76°14'35.4" West Longitude) on the northern shore of Wells Cove to a point of land (38°57'45.4" North Latitude, 76°14'28.3" West Longitude) on the southern shore of Wells Cove.

### **Waters in Marina Facilities**

All waters lying within the confines of any marina are restricted for the harvesting or storing of shellfish.

A map of these areas is enclosed.

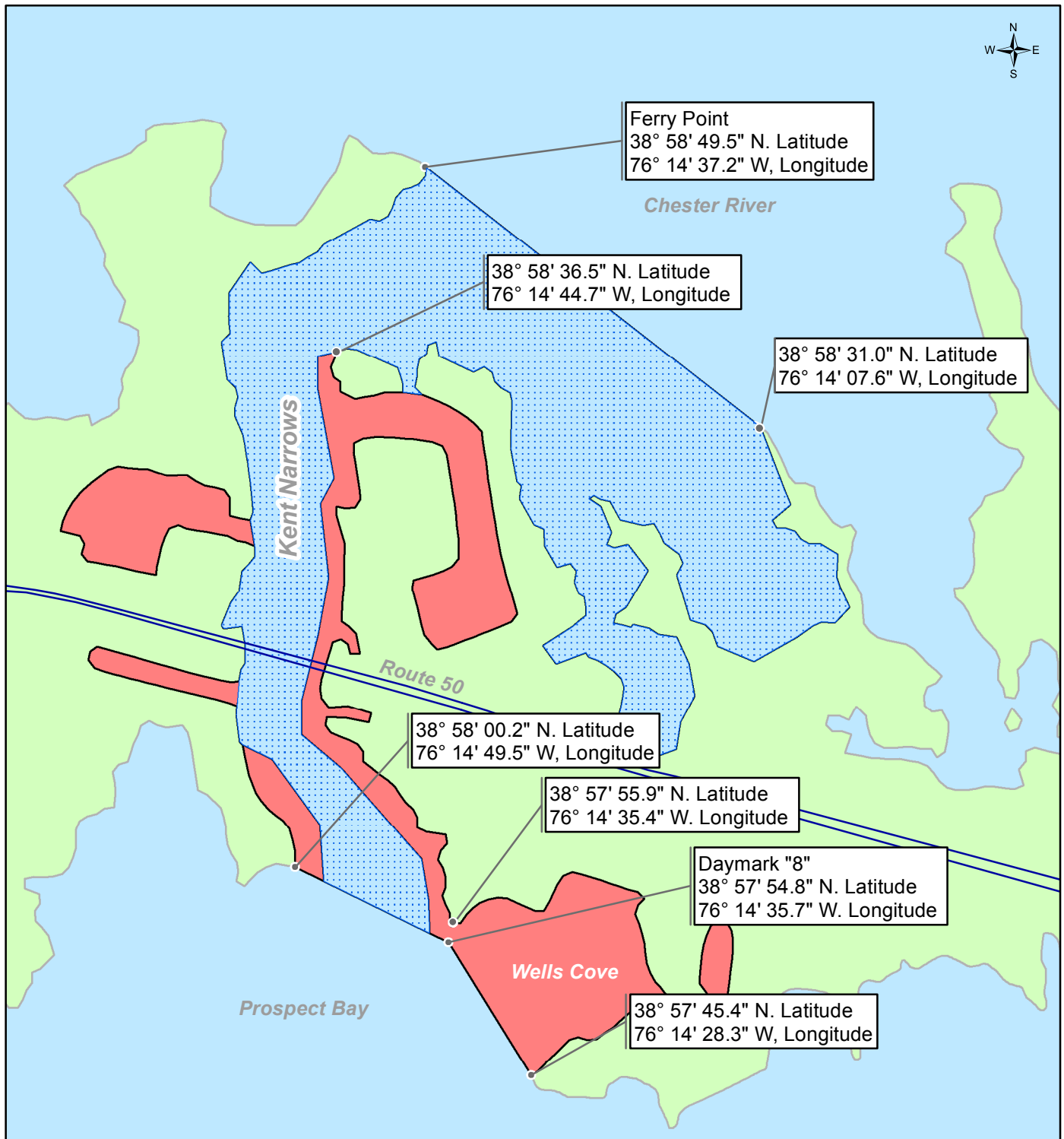
Sincerely,

  
Deputy Director  
D. Lee Currey, Director  
Water and Science Administration

Attachment


cc: (see attached list)

# Notice of Changes to Shellfish Waters



0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Kent Narrows, Queen Anne's County  
 Prohibited Shellfish Area Map 14  
 February 2026

-  Opened By This Letter
-  Remains Restricted By This Letter



Wes Moore, Governor  
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 Serena C. McIlwain, Secretary

## CC List

Mr. William Evans, MD Dept. of the Environment  
Ms. Kim Coulbourne, MDH, Division of Food Control  
Mr. Rusty McKay, Compliance Monitoring Division  
Ms. Allison O'Hanlon, Field Services Program  
Dr. Maureen Edwards, MDH Environmental Health Coordination  
Mr. Bill Sieling, Chesapeake Bay Seafood Industries Association  
Dr. Cliff Mitchell, MDH, Community Health Administration  
Ms. Patricia Vauls, MDH  
Dr. Brian Callam, Director, Dept. of Natural Resources  
Ms. Amy Hontz, MDH, Division of Food Control  
Honorable Corey W. Pack, Chairman, Board of Talbot Co. Commissioners  
Honorable James J. Moran, President, Board of Queen Anne's Co. Commissioners  
Honorable William W. Pickrum, President, Board of Kent County Commissioners  
Major Scott Simmons, Maryland Natural Resources Police  
Ms. Ingrid Braun, Executive Secretary, Potomac R. Fisheries Commission  
Ms. Jodi Baxter, Fisheries Service  
Mr. Ronald Owens, Executive Secretary, Potomac R. Fisheries Commission  
Mr. Brennan Greene, Director, Office of Environmental Health  
Ms. Erica Beskid, Director, Environmental Programs  
Mr. John E. Nickerson, Director, Environmental Health  
Dr. Chinnadurai Devadason, Health Officer  
Dr. Leland Spencer, Health Officer  
Mr. Harry White, Kent County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Walter R. Witt, Jr., Anne Arundel County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Brian Hite, St. Mary's County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Dale S Dean, Calvert County Oyster Committee  
Mr. William Troy Wilkins, Queen Anne's County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Herman J. Harrison, Talbot County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Daniel Ralph Webster, Somerset County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Cody Paul, Dorchester County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Alan Keith Bradley, Wicomico County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Francis W. Kilinski, Charles County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Robert Howes, Anne Arundel County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Hollice John Edward Lowe, Baltimore County Oyster Committee  
Mr. Robert T. Brown, Sr., President, Maryland's Watermen's Association  
Mr. Moochie Gilmer, Director, Queen Anne's Co. Watermen's Association