



April 11, 2025

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 conditionally approved for shellfish harvesting. Therefore, pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article § 4-742, MDE hereby reclassifies the area described below to conditionally approved for the harvesting of shellfish **effective April 28, 2025**. Please note that this reclassification does not change the Department of Natural Resources designation of the area described as an oyster sanctuary.

St. Mary's River, St. Mary's County (4aO)

All of the waters of St. Mary's River upstream of a line running in a northeasterly direction from a point of land (38°09'10.3" North Latitude, 76°27'24.3" West Longitude) on the western shore of the St. Mary's River to a point of land (38°12'29.0" North Latitude, 76°27'15.0" West Longitude) on the opposite shore, and all of the waters downstream of a line running in a northerly direction from a point of land (38° 12' 32.8" North Latitude, 76° 28' 12.4" West Longitude) on the western side of St. Mary's River to a point of land (38° 12' 43.5" North Latitude, 76° 28' 12.4" West Longitude) on the western shore of Tippity Witchy Island and then from a point of land (38° 12' 49.3" North Latitude, 76° 28' 05.3" West Longitude) on the eastern shore of Tippity Witchy Island and running in a easterly direction to a point of land (38° 12' 50.0" North Latitude, 76° 28' 00.4" West Longitude) on the eastern shore of the St. Mary's River.

The following areas will remain conditionally approved to shellfish harvesting:

St. Mary's River, St. Mary's County (4aD)

All of the waters of St. Mary's River upstream of a line running in a northwesterly direction from a point of land (38°10'57.2" North Latitude, 76°26'02.0" West Longitude) on the eastern shore of the St. Mary's River to a point of land (38°11'07.5" North Latitude, 76°26'36.7" West Longitude) on the opposite shore, and all of the waters downstream of a line running in a northeasterly direction from a point of land (38°09'10.3" North Latitude, 76°27'24.3" West Longitude) on the western shore of the St. Mary's River to a point of land (38°12'29.0" North Latitude, 76°27'15.0" West Longitude) on the opposite shore.

Effective Date: October 15, 1987

Continued Date: October 17, 2011, May 30, 2022, July 31, 2023, and April 28, 2025

The following areas will remain restricted to shellfish harvesting:

St. Mary's River, St. Mary's County (4aO)

All of the waters of the St. Mary's River upstream of a line running in a northerly direction from a point of land (38° 12' 32.8" North Latitude, 76° 28' 12.4" West Longitude) on the western side of St. Mary's River to a point of land (38° 12' 43.5" North Latitude, 76° 28' 12.4" West Longitude) on the western shore of Tippiy Witchy Island and then from a point of land (38° 12' 49.3" North Latitude, 76° 28' 05.3" West Longitude) on the eastern shore of Tippiy Witchy Island and running in a slight southeasterly direction to a point of land (38° 12' 50.0" North Latitude, 76° 28' 00.4" West Longitude) on the eastern shore of the St. Mary's River.

Effective Date: May 30, 2022

Continued Date: July 31, 2023, and April 28, 2025

A map of these areas is attached.

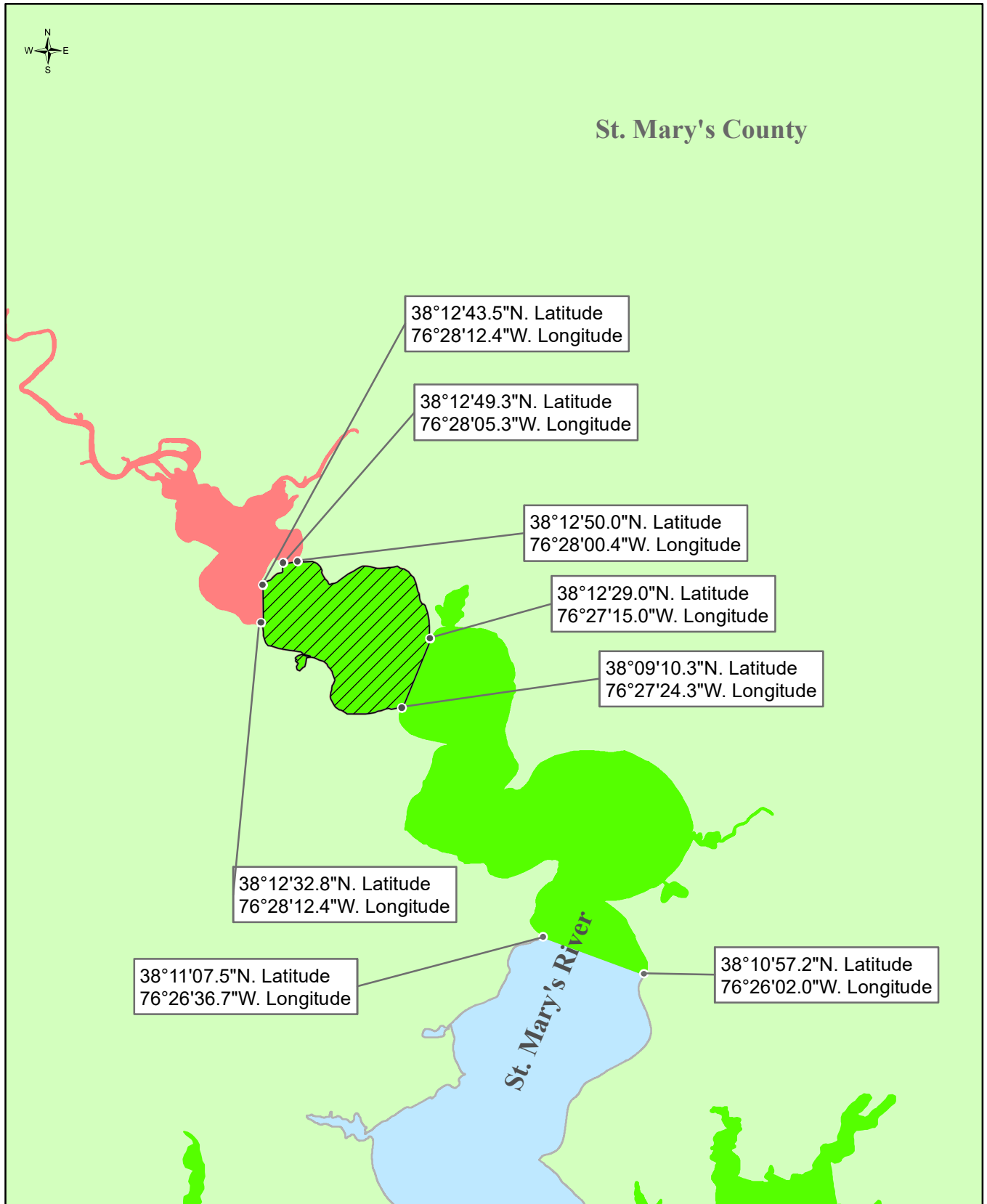
Sincerely,

Matthew C. Rowe

D. Lee Currey, Director
Water and Science Administration

Attachment

cc: (see attached list)



0 0.5 1 Miles

St. Mary's River, St. Mary's County
Prohibited Shellfish Area Map 4aO
April 2025

- Conditionally Approved By This Letter
- Remains Approved By This Letter
- Remains Conditionally Approved By This Letter
- Remains Restricted By This Letter



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lieutenant Governor
Serena 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
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Mr. John Hartline, Executive Director, Tri County Council for Southern Maryland
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Honorable Peter F. Murphy, President, Board of Charles County Commissioners
Major Melissa Scarborough, Maryland Natural Resources Police
Honorable James Randy Guy, President, Board of St. Mary's County Commissioners
Ms. Karen DeStefano, Maryland Natural Resources Police
Ms. Ingrid Braun, Executive Secretary, Potomac R. Fisheries Commission
Mr. Ronald Owens, Executive Secretary, Potomac R. Fisheries Commission
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Ms. Lisa Laschalt, Director, Environmental Health Division
Ms. Heather Moritz, Director, Office of Environmental Health
Mr. Walter R. Witt, Jr., Anne Arundel County Oyster Committee
Mr. Dale S Dean, Calvert County Oyster Committee
Mr. Hollice John Edward Lowe, Baltimore County Oyster Committee
Mr. Harry White, Kent 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. Brian Hite, St. Mary's County Oyster Committee
Mr. Joe Stine, Director, Charles Co. Watermen's Association
Mr. Robert T. Brown, Sr., President, Maryland's Watermen's Association
Mr. John F. Trossbach, Sr.
Mr. John L. Trossbach, Jr.
Mr. Kevin D. Lashley
Mr. Henry C. Chase, Jr.
Mr. Robert T. Brown, Sr.
Mr. Robert L. Lumpkins