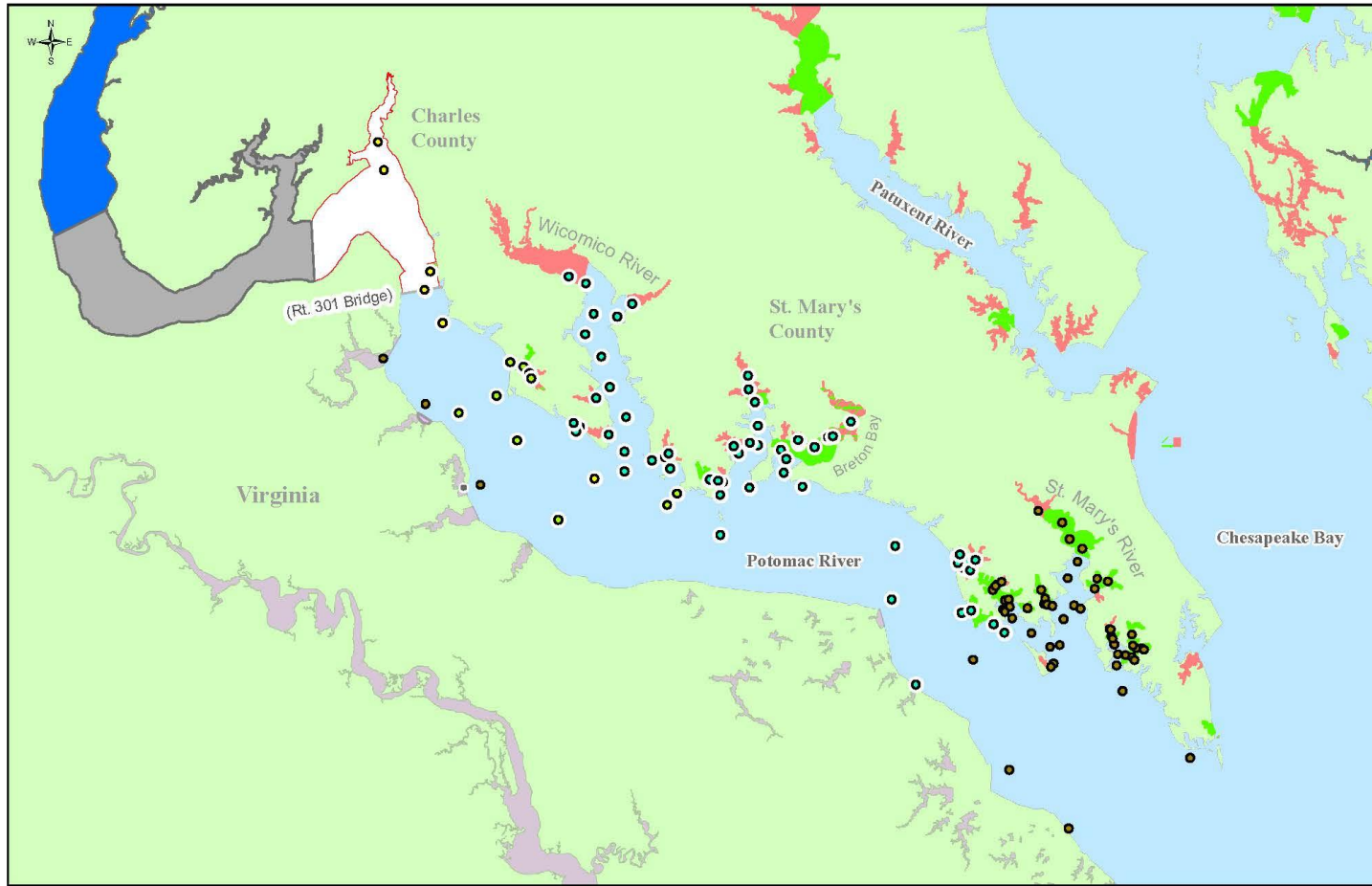


Shellfish Harvesting Water Monitoring Results Summary

Contents

Sampling Overview	2
Precautionary Closure Sampling Stations	3
Results for precautionary shellfish closure	4
What are the Oyster Public Health Standards?.....	4
What do precautionary closure shellfish sample results mean?	5
Shellfish Sampling Pictures.....	6
Maryland's Shellfish Harvesting and Closure Area Map	7
Results Outside of the Precautionary Shellfish Closure - Potomac River	8
What are the Oyster Public Health Standards?.....	10
What do the routine shellfish sample results mean?	11
Routine Shellfish Sampling Maps.....	12
Figure 1: Collection of Water Sample.....	6
Figure 2: Capping of Water Sample Bottle	6

Sampling Overview



- Precautionary Closure Shellfish Sampling Stations
- Shellfish Samples Collected in February
- Shellfish Samples Collected March 5th
- Shellfish Sampling Stations to be sampled in March
- Precautionary Shellfish Closure
- Approved Shellfish Waters
- Conditionally Approved Shellfish Waters
- Restricted Shellfish Waters
- Unclassified Shellfish Waters
- Closed Safety Zones
- Non-Shellfish
- Virginia Waters

Potomac River
Routine Shellfish Sampling Overview
March 9, 2026



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lieutenant Governor
Serena C. McIlwain, Secretary

Precautionary Closure Sampling Stations



0 1.5 3 Miles

Upper Potomac River, Charles County
Shellfish Sampling
February 12, 2026

- Precautionary Shellfish Closure
- Remains Approved By This Letter
- Remains Conditionally Approved By This Letter
- Remains Restricted By This Letter
- Remains Unclassified By This Letter
- Closed Safety Zones
- Non-Shellfish
- Virginia Waters



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lieutenant Governor
Serena C. McIlwain, Secretary

Results for precautionary shellfish closure

Station ID	Station Latitude	Station Longitude	Description	Sample Date	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Sample Date	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Sample Date	Fecal Coliform (MPN)
13-04-045	38.23575	-76.85100	Flashing green 4 second "17"	2/12/26	< 3	2/17/26	< 3	3/5/26	< 3
13-04-041A	38.29111	-76.93444	C "Q" Swan Point Buoy	2/12/26	< 3	2/17/26	< 3	3/5/26	< 3
13-04-041	38.33972	-76.98000	Halfway between N "R" and Lower Cedar Point	2/12/26	< 3	2/17/26	< 3	3/5/26	< 3
13-03-800	38.36183	-76.99523	(CORE station XDC 1706) Midchannel at Morgantown Bridge	2/12/26	< 3	2/17/26	< 3	3/5/26	< 3
13-03-800A	38.3788	-76.99055	Inside the Closed Safety Zone for the Clifton on the Potomac	2/12/26	< 3	2/17/26	< 3	3/5/26	< 3
13-03-303	38.44128	-77.02964	Midchannel 1000' SE of Green "1"	2/12/26	< 3	2/17/26	< 3	3/5/26	< 3
13-03-306	38.46022	-77.03497	Midchannel 1000' SE of Green "3"	2/12/26	< 3	2/17/26	< 3	3/5/26	< 3

What are the Oyster Public Health Standards?

Fecal Coliform results of < 3 are entered into the database as 1.0, this is done because only whole numbers can be used in 90th Percentile calculations.

The 90th percentile is a "cutoff" point where 90% of your data (like test scores, speeds, or prices) falls at or below that value, while only the top 10% are higher. To calculate the 90th percentile, sort data in ascending order, multiply the count of data points (N) by 0.9, and find the corresponding value. The 90th percentile (p90) is used instead of the average to provide a more accurate, reliable representation of user experience by ignoring extreme outliers that skew data. The 90th percentile is critical to shellfish sanitation standards (specifically under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program, or NSSP) because it acts as a measure of variability and extreme pollution events, rather than just the average water quality. It ensures that shellfish harvesting areas are low public health risk even during fluctuations in water quality caused by environmental factors like heavy rainfall.

For shellfish harvesting waters to meet the Approved standard of classification according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP, 2023 Revision), the 90th percentile must be at or below 49.0 MPN fecal coliform (for the most recent 30 samples).

What do precautionary closure shellfish sample results mean?

Fecal coliform bacteria levels are below the detection limit of 3 organisms per 100 milliliters of water. This is generally considered a "non-detect" or low public health risk level, because this is below the level that can be reliably measured in a laboratory.

These results are consistent with what we would expect to find this time of year at these routine monitoring stations and support an approved shellfish harvesting classification. There is no evidence of discharge from the Potomac Interceptor spill this far down in the Potomac. We will continue our routine monitoring, as required by the NSSP, to ensure continued appropriate classification of shellfish harvesting waters.

Shellfish Sampling Pictures



Figure 1: Collection of Water Sample



Figure 2: Capping of Water Sample Bottle

Maryland's Shellfish Harvesting and Closure Area Map

Maryland's Shellfish Harvesting and Closure Area Map can be found on the MDE Webpage at <https://mde.geodata.md.gov/Shellfish/>

The map generally depicts the classification of shellfish waters of the State: restricted, conditionally approved, or approved. This map shows the current classifications.

Shellfish harvesting waters which are open or approved for harvesting are those where harvesting is permitted anytime. Conditionally approved means that oysters and clams can be directly harvested except for the three days following a rainfall of an inch or greater in twenty-four hours. Harvesters are notified of conditional closings daily by an announcement broadcast by the Maryland Natural Resources Police made at 5, 6, and 7 a.m. on VHF radio band 14, by calling 410-537-4450, or by visiting this web site for the daily advisory on conditionally approved shellfish areas. Restricted means that no direct harvesting of oysters and clams is allowed at any time. Harvest from restricted areas (private leases and/or aquaculture only) is permitted by request for the purpose of natural cleansing (relay). Request for relay of oysters or clams from restricted waters to approved waters must be made in writing to MDE in advance of possible relay dates. Relay can occur only outside of oyster season and when water temperatures are above 50°F.

All of the waters lying within the confines of any marina are prohibited for the harvesting or storing of shellfish. Also, all waters lying adjacent to marina facilities located in shellfish waters of the State and capable of accommodating ten (10) or more vessels are restricted for the harvesting or storing of shellfish between May 1st and September 30th of each year. These restrictions will include that area beyond a marina facility based on the following table:

Number of Slips	Distance of Restriction Beyond Marina
11-50	100 feet
51-100	150 feet
101-150	200 feet
151-200	250 feet
Greater than 200	250 feet

These areas will be reopened to harvest shellfish each year between October 1st and April 30th. Any individual owning a marina facility may request a variance for the size of the zone described above in accordance with the marina policy adopted by the Department on August 10, 1987. For additional information concerning this policy call MDE, Water and Science Administration at (410) 537-3873.

Areas adjacent to sewage treatment outfalls are classified as prohibited as required under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program. Prohibited means that the harvest of shellstock for any purpose is not permitted. These areas are included in the descriptions that follow and are noted as "Closed Safety Zone/ prohibited". The enforcement of these closed areas is same whether the area is classified as restricted or prohibited.

In addition, near-shore areas (shallow waters up to approximately 200 feet from shore) may appear as approved on the map because of inadequate resolution. These waters may be unmonitored and therefore unclassified as well as unsuitable for harvesting until they are monitored and classified as restricted, conditionally approved, or approved. Interested persons should contact MDE to determine the classification of all near-shore waters.

Results Outside of the Precautionary Shellfish Closure - Potomac River

Station ID	Station Latitude	Station Longitude	Description	Sample Date	Fecal Coliform (MPN)	Current Classification
13-02-029A	38.27333	-76.63389	900 yards south of Buzzard Point in center of Waterway	2/18/2026	23	Restricted
13-02-024	38.26303	-76.65338	Flashing Green 2.5 sec Light "7A" off Pawpaw Point	2/18/2026	9.1	Conditional
13-02-025	38.26361	-76.64944	In channel at Flashing Red 4 sec Light "8"	2/18/2026	43	Restricted
13-02-023A	38.25667	-76.665	Green "7" - 1000 yards south-southeast of Pawpaw Point	2/18/2026	3.6	Conditional
13-02-021C	38.26047	-76.67794	Just outside of mouth of Cherry Cove Creek	2/18/2026	<3	Conditional
13-02-021B	38.26103	-76.67869	Mouth of Cherry Cove Creek	2/18/2026	<3	Restricted
13-02-021A	38.25889	-76.67861	Breton Bay near mouth of Cherry Cove Creek	2/18/2026	<3	Conditional
13-02-202	38.25472	-76.69333	Flashing Green 6 sec Light "5"	2/18/2026	<3	Conditional
13-02-701	38.24861	-76.68917	100 yards west of Protestant Point	2/18/2026	3.6	Approved
13-02-203	38.23944	-76.69111	Red Daymark "4"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-02-015	38.22944	-76.72	W Beacon off Newtown Neck	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-02-016	38.22472	-76.74472	650 yards east-northeast Coltons Point and 450 yards offshore	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-02-014	38.23311	-76.74253	Red Daymarker "4" inside mouth of St. Patrick's Creek	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-02-014D	38.23431	-76.74681	Green Daymarker "7" of St. Patrick's Creek	2/18/2026	<3	Conditional
13-02-014C	38.235	-76.75347	St. Patrick Creek - 275 yards south-southwest of Thompson Seafood and 50 yards offshore	2/18/2026	<3	Conditional
13-02-009A	38.2525	-76.72917	Mouth of Canoe Neck Creek	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-02-010	38.2581	-76.73175	700 yards inside mouth of Canoe Neck Creek	2/18/2026	9.1	Restricted
13-02-702	38.25778	-76.71306	500 yards West of Newtown Neck/1000 yards south of Shipping Point	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-02-008B	38.25958	-76.71958	Mouth of Unnamed Creek between Canoe Neck Creek and Shipping Point	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-02-006B	38.27056	-76.71278	150 yds offshore from unnamed point; 900 yds NE from mouth of Deep Cr	2/18/2026	15	Approved

13-02-004	38.28667	-76.71528	Flashing Green 4 sec Light "5" at Cedar Point	2/18/2026	23	Conditional
13-02-001	38.29528	-76.72056	½ way between Guest Pt and the North shore of mouth of Tomakokin Cr	2/18/2026	43	Restricted
13-02-035	38.30417	-76.72083	Mid Channel St. Clement's Bay	2/18/2026	23	Restricted
13-01-014	38.31694	-76.845	Flashing Green 6 sec "9W"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-017	38.29694	-76.83806	Green Daymarker "7W"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-018A	38.28944	-76.85	500 yards inside mouth of Charleston Creek	2/18/2026	9.1	Restricted
13-01-024	38.27667	-76.82417	Flashing Green 4 sec "5W"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-024A	38.26528	-76.84	Flashing Red 4 sec light "2" at entrance to Neale Sound	2/18/2026	<3	Restricted
13-01-027A	38.27028	-76.86333	Flashing Green 4 sec light "7" at west entrance to Neale Sound	2/18/2026	<3	Restricted
13-01-045A	38.26711	-76.86697	Flashing Red 4 sec "2N" (same as 13-04-045A)	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-036	38.272768	76.869044	New station	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-028	38.24083	-76.82583	Flashing Green 4 sec 35 ft "1W" at mouth of Wicomico River	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-029	38.25389	-76.82583	Daymark "2W"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-202	38.24794	-76.80267	Green Daymarker "7U"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-033	38.25028	-76.79139	Speed Limit Daymarker (78) at entrance to White Neck Creek	2/18/2026	<3	Restricted
13-01-033A	38.2525	-76.78833	Unnamed point 100 yds from entrance to White Neck Creek	2/18/2026	43	Restricted
13-01-034	38.24264	-76.78739	St. Catherine Sound – Green Daymarker "9L"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-008	38.33194	-76.85917	Red Daymarker "14W"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-006	38.34583	-76.85167	Red Daymarker "16W"	2/18/2026	7.3	Approved
13-01-001B	38.36583	-76.85806	Green Daymarker "19W"	2/18/2026	<3	Approved
13-01-001C	38.37056	-76.87306	1.5 miles West of 001B near shore	2/18/2026	15	Restricted
13-01-004A	38.34389	-76.83194	Department of Natural Resource area buoy "B"	2/18/2026	3.6	Approved
13-01-003A	38.3525	-76.81917	Chaptico Bay - 200 yards north- northeast of Hayden Point	2/18/2026	9.1	Restricted
13-05-081	38.15472	-76.60000	Flashing 6 Sec Light off of Ragged Point	2/17/2026	<3	Approved
13-05-041	38.19806	-76.74500	RW "C" (A) WHIS	2/17/2026	<3	Approved
13-05-069	38.09778	-76.58014	Flashing Red 2.5 sec Light "2B" at entrance to Bonum Creek	2/17/2026	<3	Approved
11-03-008	38.2300	-76.6750	500 yards east southeast of Huggins Point and about 550 yards off shore	2/17/2026	3.6	Approved
11-03-072	38.19056	-76.59694	25 yards east of Red marker "10"	2/17/2026	<3	Approved
11-03-201	38.17861	-76.54389	Herring Creek - Flashing Red 4 sec Light "6"	2/17/2026	<3	Approved

11-03-004C	38.17356	-76.53342	Herring Creek - Tall Timbers Cove – 40 yards off stone seawall	2/17/2026	<3	Restricted
11-03-004	38.17528	-76.53889	Mouth of Tall Timbers Cove in Herring Creek	2/17/2026	<3	Restricted
11-03-004B	38.18011	-76.53556	Herring Creek - 700 yards Northwest of Flashing Red 4 sec Light "6" (Mid-creek off brick house)	2/17/2026	<3	Restricted
11-03-005	38.18056	-76.52944	Herring Creek - 200 yards southeast of mouth of Big Duke Creek and 250 yards west of Springer Cove	2/17/2026	3.6	Restricted
11-03-003	38.18278	-76.54444	Herring Creek: McKay Cove – 200 yards north of Flashing Red 4 sec Light "6"	2/17/2026	<3	Approved
11-03-003C	38.18433	-76.54253	Herring Creek: McKay Cove	2/17/2026	3.6	Approved
11-03-011	38.14556	-76.54111	1800 yards northwest of Piney Point and 400 yards out from mouth of Piney Point Creek	2/17/2026	<3	Approved
11-03-015	38.14722	-76.53278	450 yards inside Piney Point Creek	2/17/2026	<3	Conditional
11-04-202	38.13806	-76.51417	100 yards south of dolphins off Piney Point Beach	2/17/2026	<3	Approved
11-04-203	38.13222	-76.50500	100 yards south of Fl G 4 sec "I"	2/17/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-037	38.22583	-76.78139	Flashing Light "1L" off Waterloo Pt.	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-035	38.2182	-76.7895	Red Buoy "N 14A"	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-068	38.20833	-76.88222	N "J" (5 miles sw of Cobb point)	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-065	38.27972	-76.96611	RW "D" Mo (A) WHIS	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-070	38.31333	-76.92278	Mouth of Cuckhold creek	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-071	38.31049	-76.91154	Cuckold Creek at Mouth of Perry Branch	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-072	38.30611	-76.90639	Cuckold Creek at mouth of Middletown Branch	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-073	38.3029	-76.905	Cuckold Creek at mouth of Mathews Cove	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04-041A	38.29111	-76.93444	C "Q" Swan Point Buoy	03/05/2026	<3	Approved
13-04--066	38.2612	-76.91705	Red Nun "28"	03/05/2026	<3	Approved

What are the Oyster Public Health Standards?

Fecal Coliform results of < 3 are entered into the database as 1.0, this is done because only whole numbers can be used in 90th Percentile calculations.

The 90th percentile is a "cutoff" point where 90% of your data (like test scores, speeds, or prices) falls at or below that value, while only the top 10% are higher. To calculate the 90th percentile, sort data in ascending order, multiply the count of data points (N) by 0.9, and find the

corresponding value. The 90th percentile (p90) is used instead of the average to provide a more accurate, reliable representation of user experience by ignoring extreme outliers that skew data. The 90th percentile is critical to shellfish sanitation standards (specifically under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program, or NSSP) because it acts as a measure of variability and extreme pollution events, rather than just the average water quality. It ensures that shellfish harvesting areas are safe even during fluctuations in water quality caused by environmental factors like heavy rainfall.

For shellfish harvesting waters to meet the Approved standard of classification according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP, 2023 Revision), the 90th percentile must be at or below 49.0 MPN fecal coliform (for the most recent 30 samples).

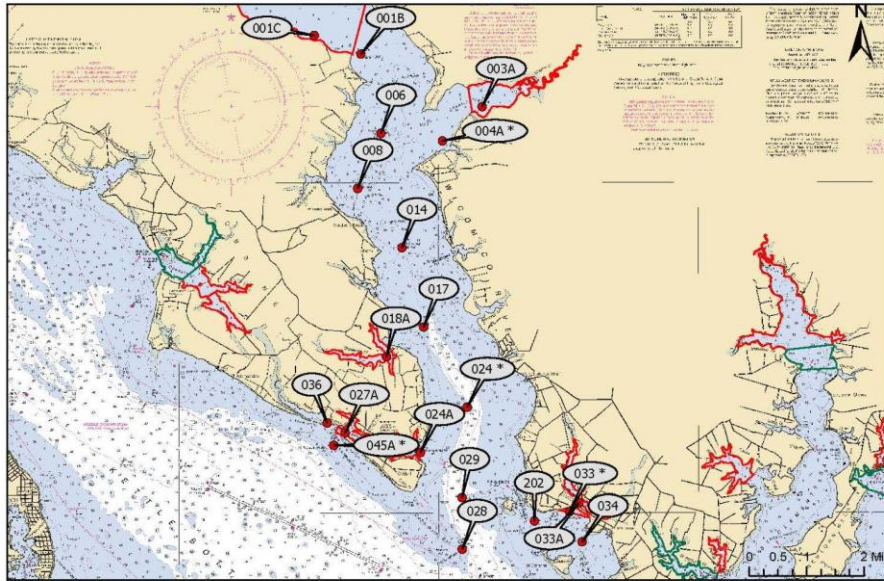
What do the routine shellfish sample results mean?

Fecal coliform bacteria levels are below the detection limit of 3 organisms per 100 milliliters of water at most of the stations sampled. This is generally considered a "non-detect" or low public health risk level, because this is below the level that can be reliably measured in a laboratory.

These results are consistent with what we would expect to find this time of year at these routine monitoring stations. There is no evidence of discharge from the Potomac Interceptor spill this far down in the Potomac. We will continue our routine monitoring, as required by the NSSP, to ensure continued appropriate classification of shellfish harvesting waters.

Routine Shellfish Sampling Maps

Map 13-01 Wicomico River



MDE Shellfish Monitoring Stations
Annapolis Field Services
Active Stations: 20

Map Section STATION

13 01	001B
13 01	001C
13 01	003A
13 01	004A *
13 01	006
13 01	008
13 01	014
13 01	017
13 01	018A
13 01	024 *
13 01	024A
13 01	027A
13 01	028
13 01	029
13 01	033 *
13 01	033A
13 01	034
13 01	045A *
13 01	0202
13 01	036

● Map 13-01 Shellfish Stations

Classification

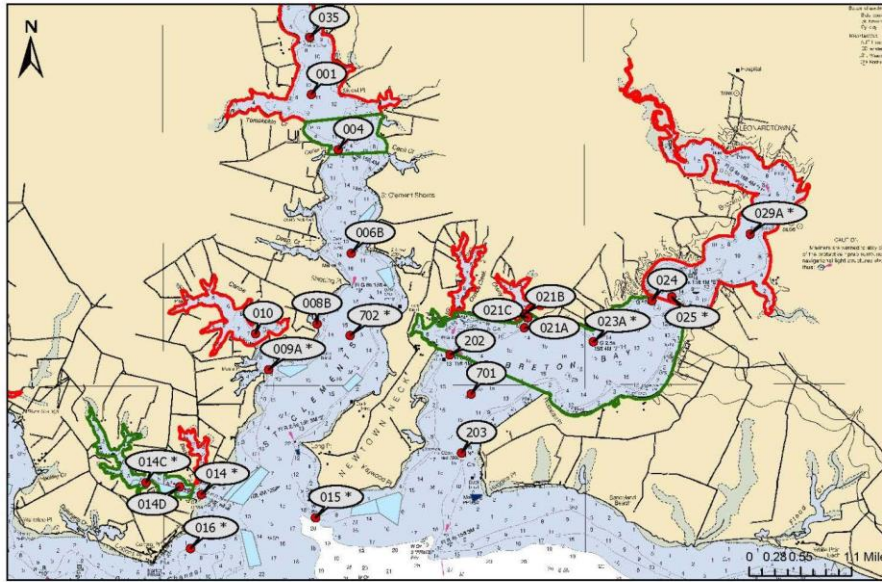
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- ▭ Conditionally Approved



Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Sources: Esri, USGS, VGIN, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA



Map 13-02 Breton & St. Clements Bay



MDE Shellfish Monitoring Stations
Annapolis Field Services
Active Stations: 23

Map Section STATION

- 13 02 001
- 13 02 004
- 13 02 006B
- 13 02 009A *
- 13 02 010
- 13 02 014 *
- 13 02 014C *
- 13 02 015 *
- 13 02 016 *
- 13 02 021B
- 13 02 023A *
- 13 02 024
- 13 02 025 *
- 13 02 029A *
- 13 02 202
- 13 02 203
- 13 02 701
- 13 02 702 *
- 13 02 035
- 13 02 008B
- 13 02 014D
- 13 02 021C
- 13 02 021A

● Map 13-02 Shellfish Stations

Classification

- Restricted
- Conditionally Approved

LEASETYPE

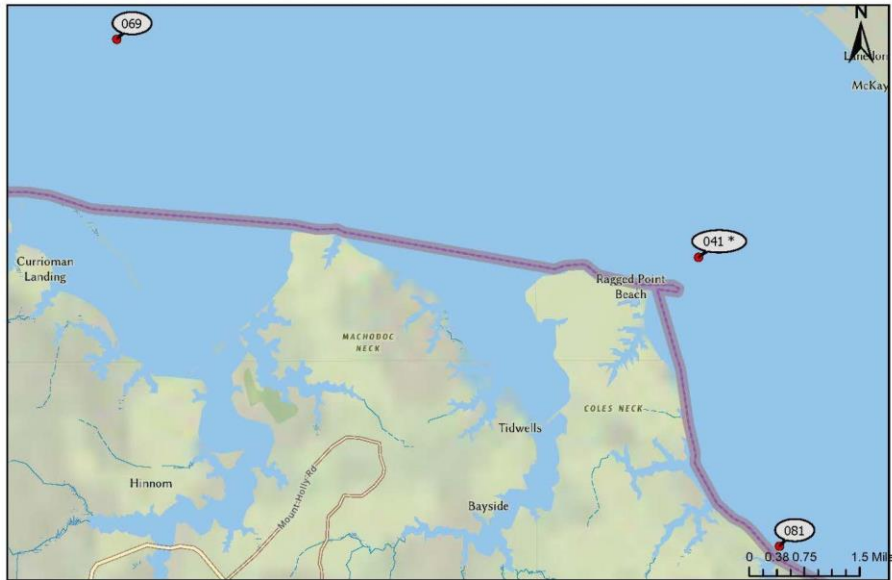
- BOTTOM
- WATER COLUMN



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Map 13-05 Potomac River



MDE Shellfish Monitoring Stations
Annapolis Field Services
Active Stations: 3

Map Section STATION

- 13 05 041 *
- 13 05 069
- 13 05 081

● Map 13-05 Shellfish Stations

Classification

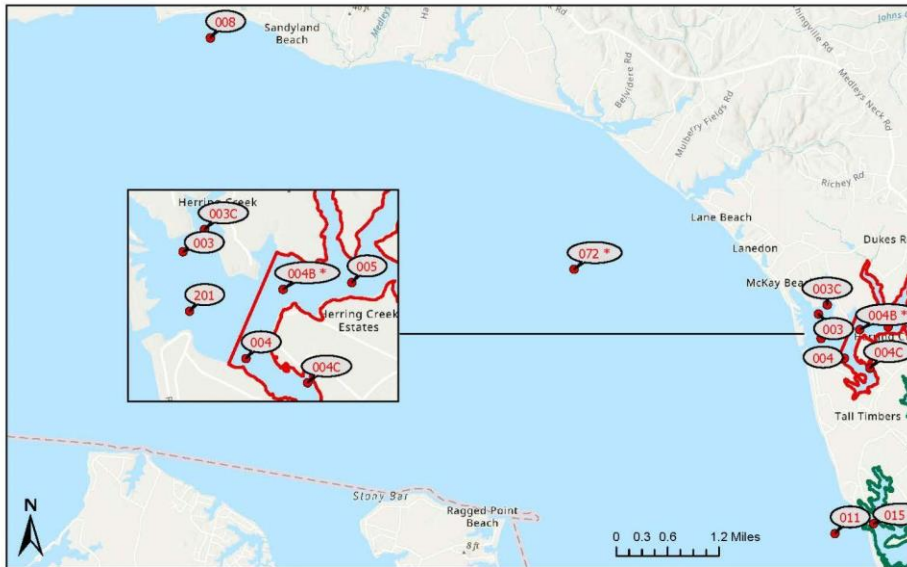
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- Conditionally Approved



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VCIN, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeCeph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Source: Esri, USGS

Map 11-03 Potomac River- Herring Creek



MDE Shellfish Monitoring Stations
Annapolis Field Services
Active Stations: 11

Map Section STATION

11	03	003
11	03	004
11	03	004B *
11	03	004C
11	03	005
11	03	008
11	03	011
11	03	015 *
11	03	072 *
11	03	201
11	03	003C

● Map 11-03 Shellfish Stations
▲ Boat Ramps



VGIN, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS, VGIN, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA



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Map 11-04 A and B St. Georges Creek



MDE Shellfish Monitoring Stations
Annapolis Field Services
Active Stations: 17

Map Section STATION

11	04	001 *
11	04	001A
11	04	001B
11	04	001G
11	04	003
11	04	003A
11	04	004
11	04	012 *
11	04	013
11	04	202
11	04	203
11	04	205 *
11	04	701A
11	04	006B
11	04	004A
11	04	004B
11	04	013A

▲ Boat Ramps
Classification
▭ Restricted
▭ Conditionally Approved
● Map 11-04A and B Shellfish Stations



Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



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