



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF AQUACULTURE

P.O. Box 97, 190 Rogers Avenue, Milford, CT 06460
203-874-0696 | Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov
Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer



February 5, 2024

Guilford Health Department, Director of Health
Sonia Marino, RS, M.P.H.
50 Boston Street
Guilford, CT 06437

RE: Reclassification of shellfish growing areas in Guilford, CT

Ms. Marino,

The Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture (DoAG) is required to reevaluate shellfish growing area classifications in the State on an annual basis, to accurately reflect the appropriate designated use of the area and remain in compliance with the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP). The DoAG has completed the 2022 Triennial Report for the Town of Guilford, covering the period 01/01/2020 through 12/31/2022.

Based on the Triennial Assessment, the following shellfish growing areas in Guilford, from west to east, are reclassified effective January 1, 2024:

- The waters of the Little Harbor are reclassified from Conditionally Approved to Conditionally Approved Seasonal based on the presence of >20 moorings in the Harbor.
- A portion of the Conditionally Approved waters of Shell Beach and Joshua Cove are reclassified from Conditionally Approved to Conditionally Approved Seasonal based on the presence of >20 moorings in the areas.
- A portion, or all, of the waters of Guilford Harbor, the East River, and the West River are reclassified from Conditionally Restricted Relay to Restricted Relay. This change is Administrative.
- A portion, or all, of the waters of Sachems Head Harbor, the West River and Sluice Creek are reclassified as Prohibited. These areas were previously classified as Conditionally Approved or Conditionally Restricted Relay. This change is based on the presence of marinas.
- The marsh between Leetes Island Road and Shell Beach Road had Prohibited classification lines drawn, but a Prohibited area was added around the entire marsh. This change is Administrative.

For additional information on the NSSP requirements for classifying shellfish growing areas, please see the NSSP Model Ordinance Chapter IV. Shellfish Growing [Areas@.02](#) Microbiological Standards and [@.03](#) Growing Area Classification.

<https://www.fda.gov/food/federalstate-food-programs/national-shellfish-sanitation-program-nssp>

These changes become effective January 1, 2024. A legal notice has been placed in the local newspaper announcing this change. A copy of the written description of the current classifications and all relevant maps are attached. Copies of the new classification descriptions for the shellfish growing areas in Guilford are being provided to the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Guilford Town Clerk.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Alissa Dragan
Supervising Environmental Analyst, 203-874-0696, ext. 119
alissa.dragan@ct.gov

Cc: Amy Fitzpatrick, USFDA Regional Shellfish Specialist, Amy.Fitzpatrick@fda.hhs.gov, Bryan Hurlburt, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Bryan.Hurlburt@ct.gov, Keith Williams, CT DEEP Environmental Conservation Police, Keith.Williams@ct.gov, Katie O'Brien-Clayton, CT DEEP Environmental Analyst, Katie.O'Brien-Clayton@ct.gov, Anna Dwyer, Guilford Town Clerk



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LEGAL NOTICE

Effective January 1, 2024 pursuant to Section 26-192e of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture changed the shellfish classifications in Guilford waters. A portion, or all of the waters of Little Harbor, Shell Beach, and Joshua Cove are reclassified as Conditionally Approved Seasonal; a portion, or all of the waters of Guilford Harbor, the East River, and the West River are reclassified as Restricted; and a portion, or all of the waters of Sachems Head Harbor and Sluice Creek are reclassified as Prohibited.

For further details and descriptions, contact the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture.

Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Aquaculture
(203) 874-0696

Dated at Milford, Connecticut, this 13th day of December 2023.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

David H. Carey, Director
For Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt



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CLASSIFICATION OF SHELLFISH GROWING AREAS GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT EFFECTIVE: 1/1/2024

PROHIBITED AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

Shell Beach: All waters north of Shell Beach Road.

Island Creek Marsh: All waters of the Island Creek Marsh system north of Route 146 (Leetes Island Road).

Sachem Head Prohibited: The area off Sachem's Head Yacht Club, as defined by 41.245557, -72.709232; northwest to 41.245569, -72.710037; northwest to 41.245961, -72.710724; southwest to 41.245634, -72.711469; southeast to the island where the Yacht Club is built at 41.245634, -72.711469; then back to the original coordinate following along the island, road connecting the island to the mainland, and the mainland.

Tuttle Point: All tidal waters within a 200 foot radius of the mouth of a small unnamed tidal creek that crosses Tuttle Point Road before reaching Long Island Sound.

West River North: All waters north of the Route 1 (Boston Post Road) crossing.

West River: The area around the Guilford Yacht Club and Brown's Boatyard, as defined by the southernmost boundary 41.266827, -72.676199 and the northernmost boundary 41.26966, -72.680117.

Sluice Creek: All waters north of the area around the Guilford Town Marina, as defined by the southernmost boundary where Sluice Creek conflues with the East River (41.270907, -72.665455).

East River: All waters of the East River north of Route 1.

RESTRICTED AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

Hoadley Creek/Leetes Island Marsh: The area enclosed by the Guilford Town line at 41.263726, -72.731284 and the old railroad track. The old railroad track crosses the creek twice (41.263919, -72.73113 and 41.264398, -72.726804) in Guilford jurisdictional waters and prevents passage northward.

Sachem Head Harbor Restricted North: The area enclosed from 41.248652, -72.705695 to 41.248361, -72.704917, then along the shoreline back to the original coordinate.

Sachem Head Harbor Restricted South: The tidal waters east of the Colonial Road crossing in Sachem Head Harbor.



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RESTRICTED AREAS (WEST TO EAST) (CONTINUED)

Tuttle Point Restricted: The area off Mulberry Point (41.255178, -72.677249); northeast to 41.260868, -72.674145; northwest to the mainland at 41.262202, -72.676998; then back along the shoreline to the original coordinate, excluding the Tuttle Point Prohibited area.

Guilford Harbor/East River/West River: The area from the point off Chaffinch Island State Park (41.263955, -72.674508); southeast to 41.261084, -72.672813; northeast to 41.26252, -72.664466; northeast to Grass Island at 41.267197, -72.660281; then up the East River to the the Route 1 (Boston Post Road) crossing, exclusive of the Sluice Creek Prohibited area; then west along the shoreline back to the original coordinate, inclusive of the lower part of the West River as far north as 41.266827, -72.676199.

West River North: The area between the Route 1 (Boston Post Road) crossing (41.287833, -72.6905) to as far south as 41.26966, -72.680117.

CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED AREAS

There are no Conditionally Restricted areas in Guilford.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

Conditionally Approved Seasonal Little Harbor – 1.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area enclosed by the line from Harrison Point Road (41.257373, -72.726994) to Andrews Road (41.258179, -72.724698), and along the shoreline to the original coordinate. This area is Conditionally Approved with a seasonal closure during the boating months due to the presence of a mooring area.

Conditionally Approved Shell Beach – 2.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area defined by 65 Little Harbor Road (41.260524, -72.720353); north along the shore to Shell Beach (41.262869, -72.716933); southeast to the Shell Beach Prohibited border at 103 Shell Beach Road (41.262034, -72.715421); south along the border to 41.260411, -72.715397; along the shore to the border with Conditionally Approved Seasonal Shell Beach (41.26023, -72.715468); then southwest along the boundary to 41.258775, -72.718965; and northwest back to the original coordinate.

Conditionally Approved Seasonal Shell Beach – 2.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area enclosed by the border with Conditionally Approved Seasonal Shell Beach (41.26023, -72.715468); southwest to 41.259875, -72.717085; then southwest along the boundary to 41.258775, -72.718965; southeast to the mainland off Joshua Point Road (41.257468, -72.717924); then along the shoreline in a northeastern direction back to the original coordinate. This area is Conditionally Approved with a seasonal closure during the boating months due to the presence of a mooring area.

Conditionally Approved Joshua Cove – 1.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area enclosed by a line from Joshua Point (41.256032, -72.719256) southeast to Uncas Point (41.248999, -72.714131) then directly along the shoreline back to the original coordinate, excluding the Conditionally Approved Seasonal Joshua Cove and Conditionally Approved Seasonal Island Creek areas.



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CONDITIONALLY APPROVED AREAS (WEST TO EAST) (CONTINUED)

Conditionally Approved Seasonal Joshua Cove – 1.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area off 175 W Uncas Point Road (41.250725, -72.710805); then southwest along the shoreline to the stone pier off Uncas Point Road (41.249007, -72.714142); northwest to 41.249604, -72.714593; arching northeast to 41.25108, -72.714013; then arching southeast back to the original coordinate. This area is Conditionally Approved with a seasonal closure during the boating months due to the presence of a mooring area.

Conditionally Approved Seasonal Island Creek – 1.0” Rainfall Trigger: Island Creek and its tributaries between the northernmost boundary at the Route 146 (Leetes Island Road) crossing (41.265566, -72.703105) and the southernmost boundary at the creek mouth (41.259311, -72.704853). This area is Conditionally Approved with a seasonal closure due to a decline in water quality from July 1 - September 14.

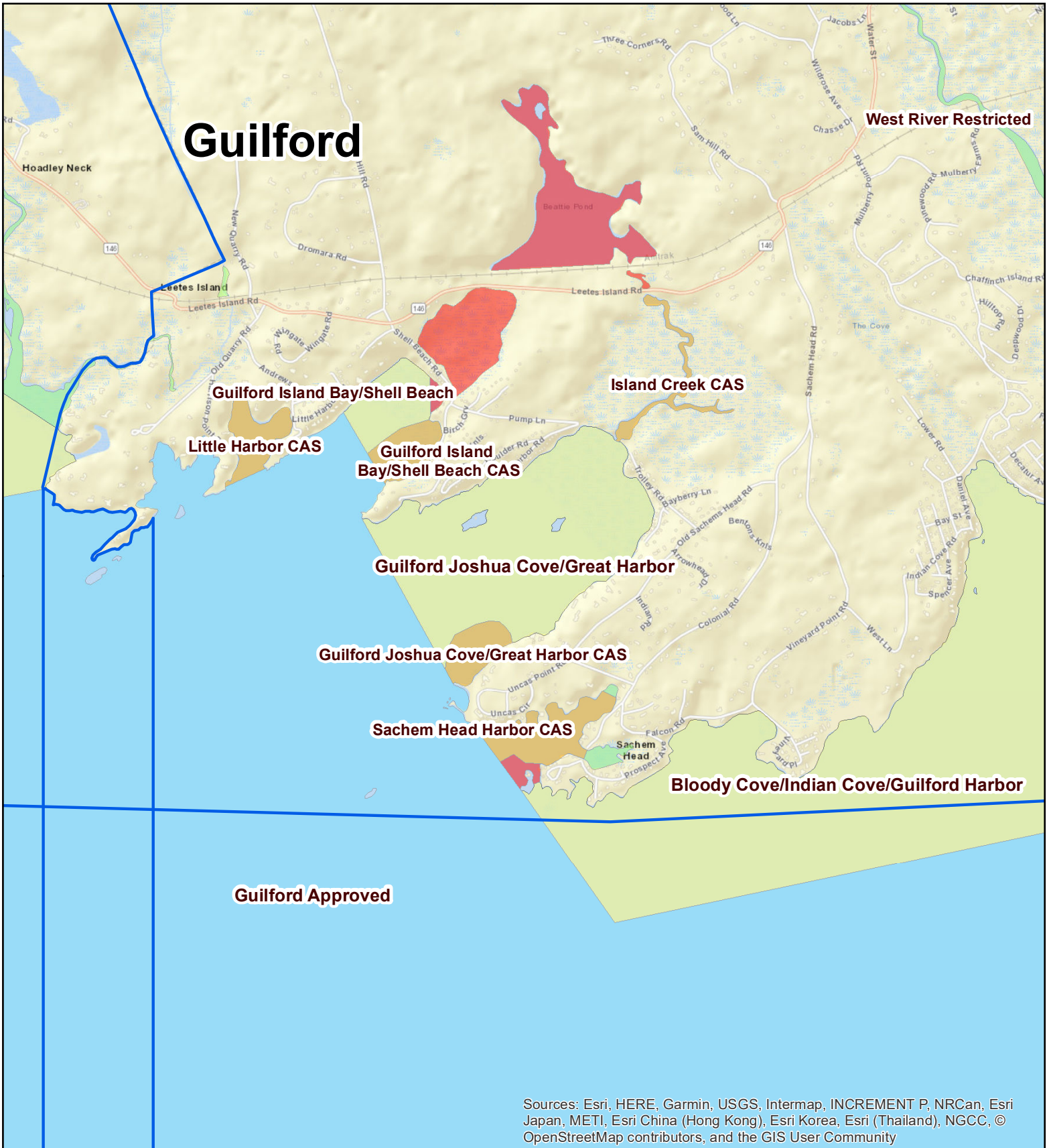
Conditionally Approved Seasonal Sachem Head Harbor – 1.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area enclosed by a line drawn from Chimney Corner (41.247172, -72.712991) southwest to the Sachem’s Head Yacht Club (41.244501, -72.71033), and subsequently along the shoreline back to the original coordinate, excluding the Sachem Head Harbor Prohibited, Sachem Head Harbor Restricted East, and Sachem Head Harbor Restricted North areas. This area is Conditionally Approved with a seasonal closure during the boating months due to the presence of a mooring area.

Conditionally Approved East – 1.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area from the Sachem’s Head Yacht Club (41.244392, -72.710264); southeast to 41.238766, -72.704989; northeast to 41.24358, -72.674443; northeast to 41.251315, -72.660464; northeast to 41.251702, -72.654263; north along the Guilford-Madison jurisdiction line to the mainland at 103 Circle Beach Road (41.265636, -72.654275); along the shoreline west to 41.267245, -72.660271 on Grass Island; southwest to 41.262545, -72.664419; southwest to Mulberry Point (41.254849, -72.677461); then southwest along the shoreline to the original coordinate.
*This area was previously called Bloody Cove/Indian Cove/Guilford Harbor and Grass Island.

Conditionally Approved Chaffinch Island – 1.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area enclosed by Mulberry Point (41.254849, -72.677461), northeast to 41.262545, -72.664419; southwest to 41.261062, -72.672786; northwest to the point off Chaffinch Island State Park (41.263976, -72.674535); then southwest along the shoreline to 41.262196, -72.676956; southeast to 41.260874, -72.674124; then southwest back to the original coordinate.

APPROVED AREAS

The Long Island Sound waters within Guilford, exclusive of those areas classified by the DoAG as Prohibited, Restricted, Conditionally Restricted, or Conditionally Approved.

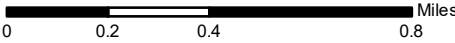


Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Guilford 1

Classification Effective Date:
1/1/2024
Map Date: 1/30/2024



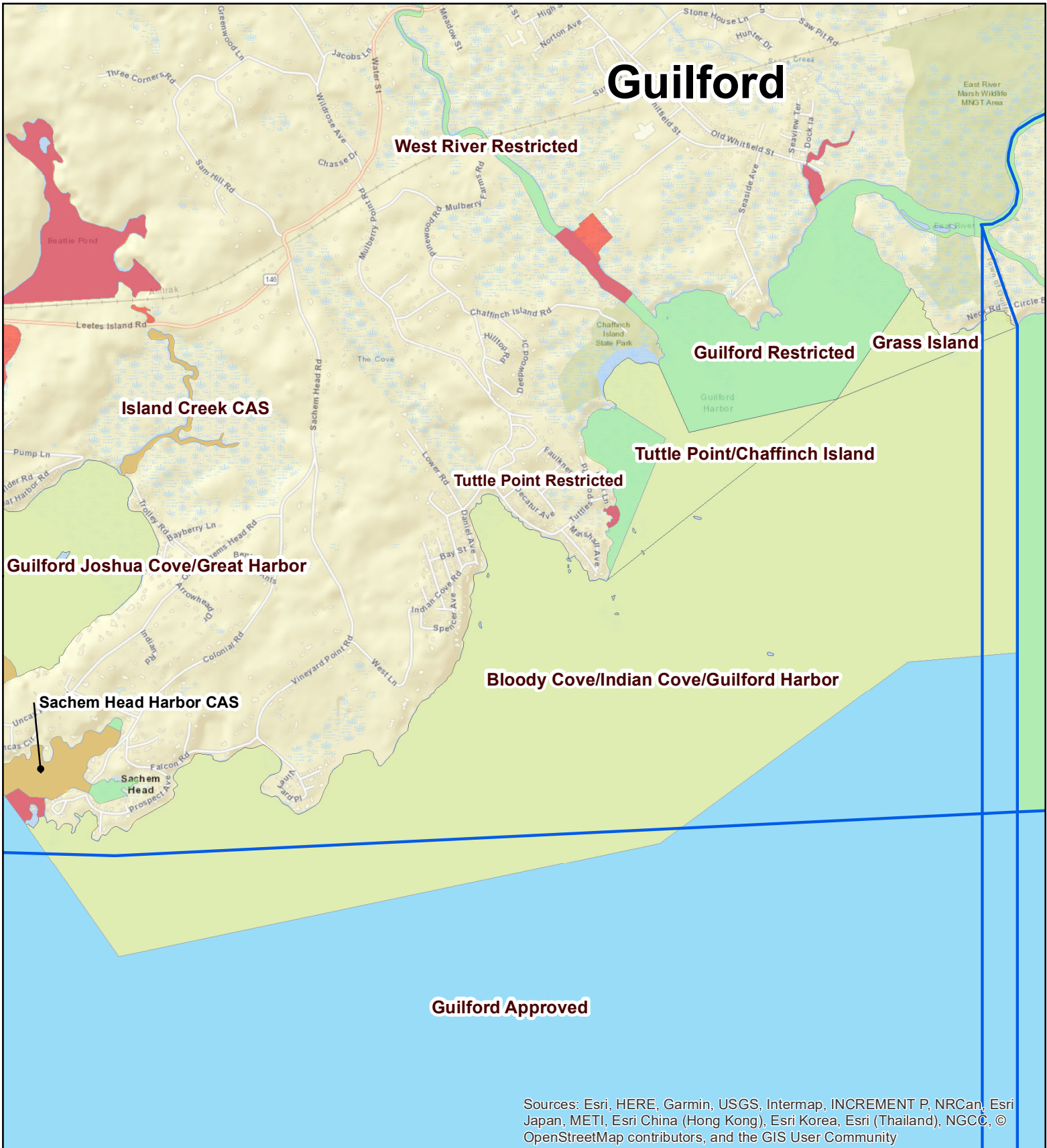
Map not intended for navigation

Shellfish Area Classification

- Town_Line
- Classification**
- Approved
- Conditionally Approved
- Conditionally Approved Seasonal
- Conditionally Restricted-Relay
- Restricted-Relay
- Prohibited

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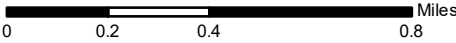


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Guilford 2

Classification Effective Date:
1/1/2024
Map Date: 1/30/2024



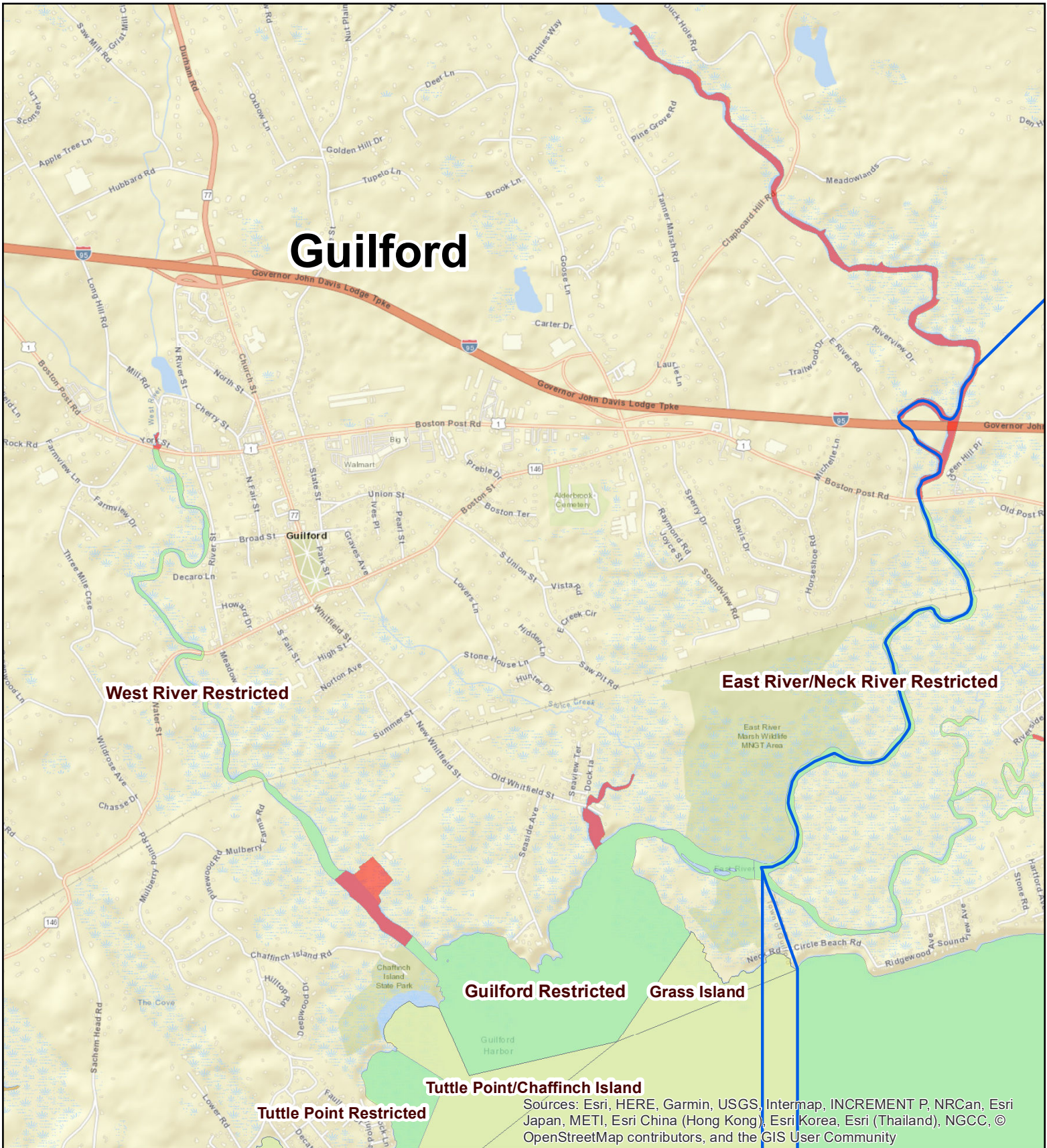
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Shellfish Area Classification

- Town_Line
- Classification**
- Approved
- Conditionally Approved
- Conditionally Approved Seasonal
- Conditionally Restricted-Relay
- Restricted-Relay
- Prohibited

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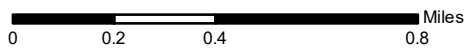


Guilford 3

Classification Effective Date:

1/1/2024

Map Date: 1/30/2024



Map not intended for navigation

Shellfish Area Classification

— Town_Line

Classification

- Approved
- Conditionally Approved
- Conditionally Approved Seasonal
- Conditionally Restricted-Relay
- Restricted-Relay
- Prohibited

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