



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



LEGAL NOTICE

Effective July 1, 2025 pursuant to Section 26-192e of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture will change the shellfish classifications in Stonington waters. These areas are being reclassified as Prohibited: A portion of the Mystic Harbor, Mystic River marina, a small inlet on the southwestern side of Masons Island at the end of Pogy Bay Lane, Stonington Area A Restricted and the small cove to the east of that area, Latimer Point Dock, the northern portion of Wilcox and Quiambog Coves, docks located in the Cove between Noyes Ave and Boulder Ave and the Langworthy mooring area, the inner portion of Stonington Harbor, Lambert and Quannaduck Cove, 4 waterbodies north of Lamberts and Quannaduck Cove, several small tributaries around Barn Island State Park, and Walkers, Stonington, and Greenhaven marinas. 100' Prohibited buffers were placed around Andrews and Dodges Islands. The portion of Quiambog Cove south of the Route 1 bridge is reclassified from Restricted Relay to the Lower Quiambog Cove Conditionally Approved area. The eastern portion of Outer Quiambog Cove by Lord's Point is reclassified as Conditionally Approved Seasonal.

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 1st day of July, 2025.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

David H. Carey, Director
For Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt



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



July 22, 2025

Ledge Light Health District, Director of Health
Jennifer Muggeo
216 Broad Street
New London, CT 06320

RE: Reclassification of shellfish growing areas in Stonington, CT

Ms. Muggeo,

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 Comprehensive Sanitary Survey Report for the Town of Stonington, covering the period 01/01/2009 through 12/31/2022, inclusive of an analysis of data for the 2020 to 2022 reporting period.

Based on the Sanitary Survey, the following shellfish growing areas in Stonington, from west to east, were reclassified effective July 1, 2025:

- The upper Mystic River Conditionally Restricted Relay areas, Mystic Harbor CR North and the Mystic River Marina CR are being reclassified as Prohibited. This classification change is based on shoreline development, marinas, the shallow and constricted nature of the waterbody, and the proximity of the area to the WPCF.
- The small inlet on the southwestern side of Masons Island at the end of Pogy Bay Lane is being reclassified from Conditionally Approved Seasonal to Prohibited. This change is Administrative.
- The small Restricted Relay area in the northern portion of Conditionally Approved Area A and the small cove to the east of that area are being reclassified as Prohibited. This classification change is based on lack of shellfish resources and accessibility of the areas for survey.
- The Conditionally Approved Seasonal Area B is split into a western and eastern portion by Andrews Island. There are moorings in both portions of the Conditionally Approved area. The Latimer Point Dock in the eastern portion of Conditionally Approved Seasonal Area B is being reclassified as Prohibited.
- 100' Prohibited buffers are being placed around Andrews and Dodges Island, as the DoAG was unable to access these islands to conduct the survey.
- The northern portion of Wilcox Cove above Route 1 is being reclassified from Restricted Relay to Prohibited. This classification change is based on accessibility of the area for survey.
- The northern portion of Quiambog Cove north of the Route 1 bridge is being reclassified from Restricted Relay to Prohibited. This classification change is based on lack of shellfish resources and accessibility of the area for survey.
- The southern portion of Quiambog Cove south of the Route 1 bridge to the boundary of the Outer Quiambog Cove Conditionally Approved area is reclassified from Restricted Relay to Conditionally Approved. This classification changed is based on acceptable water quality data collected by the

Stonington Shellfish Commission. The area will be called the Lower Quiambog Cove Conditionally Approved area.

- The eastern portion of the Outer Quiambog Cove Conditionally Approved area by Lord's Point contains moorings for up to 24 boats and 12 stick moorings located along the shoreline. This portion of the area will be reclassified as Conditionally Approved Seasonal.
- Prohibited areas are being placed around the docks located in the Cove between Noyes Ave. and Boulder Ave and the Langworthy mooring area.
- The inner portion of Stonington Harbor is being reclassified from Conditionally Restricted Relay to Prohibited. This change is based on the improperly classified marinas located in the harbor, the large mooring field, the Stonington Borough WPCF outfall, and lack of shellfish resources in the Harbor.
- North of Stonington Harbor, the Lamberts and Quana duck Cove Restricted Relay areas will be reclassified as Prohibited.
- The 4 waterbodies north of Lamberts and Quana duck Cove above the Amtrak railroad line are being reclassified from uncertified and Restricted Relay to Prohibited.
- Several small tributaries and mosquito ditched around Barn Island State Park are being reclassified from Restricted Relay to Prohibited.
- The following marinas in the Pawcatuck River and Wequetequock Cove will be reclassified from Restricted Relay to Prohibited: Walkers Marina, Stonington Marina, and Greenhaven Marina.

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 became effective July 1, 2025. 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 Stonington are being provided to the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Town Clerks of Stonington and Groton, and the Groton City Clerk.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Alissa Dragan

Supervising Environmental Analyst

alissa.dragan@ct.gov

203-874-0696, ext. 119

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, Sally Duplice, Stonington Town Clerk, sally@stonington-ct.gov, Marisol Melendez, Town of Groton Clerk townclerk@groton-ct.gov, Dani Baycura, City of Groton Clerk clerk@cityofgroton-ct.gov



CLASSIFICATION OF SHELLFISH GROWING AREAS STONINGTON, CONNECTICUT

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

PROHIBITED SHELLFISH AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

Ram Island, Andrews Island, Dodges Island: 1,000 foot Prohibited buffers surround the three islands in all directions. A portion of the Prohibited buffer off Andrews Island extends east around the Latimer Point dock, defined by 41.333692, -71.954279 to the north and 41.332757, -71.954848 to the south.

Stonington Mystic River Prohibited: The Prohibited area includes a portion of the Mystic Harbor, Mystic River as far north as Old Mystic, and its tributaries including Pequotsepos Brook. The southern boundary runs from the west branch at 41.340818, -71.977098 northeast to Masons Island at 41.341427, -71.972191, east along the northern boundary of Masons Island, and along Masons Island Rd in the east branch.

Mystic River Marina: The square around the Mystic River marina, located on the western shore of Masons Island off Quarry Road. The area is bounded by 41.33833, -71.972865; northwest to 41.339147, -71.973959; southwest to 41.337524, -71.97529; southeast to 41.336859, -71.972967; north to the shore and then directly along the shoreline back to the original coordinate.

Masons Island Prohibited inlets: The marsh inlets off Great Marsh road east of 41.332953, -71.970996, and off Poggio Bay Lane north of 41.328402, -71.970481.

Area A Prohibited: The northeastern coves off Conditionally Approved Area A, as defined by the southern boundaries of 41.339486, -71.956069 to 41.338576, -71.954288 and 41.339864, -71.952937 to 41.339727, -71.951735.

Wilcox Cove Prohibited: All waters of the Stonington River/Wilcox Cove to the confluence with Long Island Sound. The southern boundary is defined by 41.336667, -71.948254 east to 41.336645, -71.948082.

Quiambog (Quiambaug) Cove Prohibited: All waters north of the Route 1 crossing in Quiambog Cove. The northern boundary of the Prohibited area is the confluence of Copps Brook with Quiambog Cove.

Lords Point Marinas: The western marina off Boulder Avenue is defined by the square 41.33449, -71.929658, southwest to 41.334336, -71.630516, south to 41.333692, -71.930516, due east to the shoreline, and then back to the original coordinate. The eastern marina off Charles Street is defined by 41.332712, -71.92812, northeast to 41.333356, -71.92687, northwest to the shoreline at 41.333558, -71.927069, then west along the shoreline to the original coordinate.

Stonington Harbor: All waters north of the breakwater outside of Stonington Harbor, inclusive of Lambert's Cove and Quana Duck Cove. The southern boundary runs from Wamphassuc Point, east along the breakwater, north to the Stonington Harbor Yacht Club breakwater, and east along the breakwater to the eastern shoreline of Stonington Harbor.

CLASSIFICATION OF SHELLFISH GROWING AREAS STONINGTON, CONNECTICUT

Pawcatuck River and Wequetequock Cove marinas: The following marinas in the Pawcatuck River and Wequetequock Cove are surrounded by Prohibited areas: Walkers Marina, Coveside Marina, Stonington Marina, and Greenhaven Marina.

Barn Island tributaries: All tributaries and mosquito ditches off the Barn Island State Park to their confluence with Long Island Sound.

Pawcatuck River: All waters north of the line defined by River Road (41.346126, -71.82929) southeast to the Connecticut-Rhode Island jurisdiction line (41.346124, -71.829742). The northern boundary abuts the dock off Mechanic Street Marina.

RESTRICTED RELAY SHELLFISH AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

Stonington Mystic River Restricted: The area between the southern boundary of the Stonington Mystic River Prohibited area and the northern boundary of the Conditionally Approved Seasonal Lower Mystic River area from 41.333539, -71.976294 east to 41.333507, -71.974664.

Wilcox Cove Restricted: The area outside of Wilcox Cove, defined by East Shore Road on Latimer Point (41.33498, -71.949311); southeast to 41.333204, -71.945401; northeast to the shore 41.33681, -71.944219; then southwest along the shoreline back to the original coordinate, exclusive of the Wilcox Cove Prohibited area.

Lords Point: The two coves off Lords Point bound by 41.33395, -71.933149 southeast to 41.33020, -71.9248, exclusive of the Prohibited boundaries around the Lords Point Marinas.

East Stonington-Pawcatuck River: The area bound by the Stonington Harbor Prohibited area to the west and Outer Stonington Harbor Conditionally Approved area to the south, north and east along the Connecticut-Rhode Island jurisdiction line, inclusive of the Wequetequock and Pawcatuck Rivers, exclusive of the Prohibited areas previously defined around marinas and the Barn Island tributaries.

CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED RELAY SHELLFISH AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

There are no Conditionally Restricted Relay areas in Stonington.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED SHELLFISH AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

Area A – 1.5" Rain Trigger: The area of the Mystic Harbor east branch bound by the Masons Island Road crossing to the north and Conditionally Approved Seasonal Area B to the south (41.335088, -71.962376 east to 41.334871, -71.956689 and 41.334919, -71.955112 east to Latimer Point 41.335048, -71.953996), exclusive of Area A Prohibited.

Lower Quiambog (Quiambaug) Cove – 1.0" Rain Trigger: The area bound by the Amtrak crossing to the south and the Route 1 crossing to the north.

Outer Quiambog (Quiambaug) Cove – 1.5" Rain Trigger: The area defined by the southern boundary of the Wilcox Cove Restricted area (41.33315, -71.945404) east to Lords Point (41.334994, -71.933794); and northwest along the shoreline, exclusive of the Quiambog Cove Conditionally Approved Seasonal and Lower Quiambog Cove Conditionally Approved areas, to the northeastern boundary of the Wilcox Cove Restricted area.

CLASSIFICATION OF SHELLFISH GROWING AREAS STONINGTON, CONNECTICUT

Outer Stonington Harbor – 3.0” Rain Trigger: The area bound by the Connecticut-Rhode Island jurisdiction line (41.325119, -71.8977792), southwest along the jurisdiction line to 41.319225, -71.900531; southwest along the breakwater (41.316586, -71.90832), then southwest to 41.313306, -71.913963; north to the line of the East Stonington-Pawcatuck River Restricted area (41.325048, -71.913164), then east back to the original coordinate.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED SEASONAL SHELLFISH AREAS (WEST TO EAST)

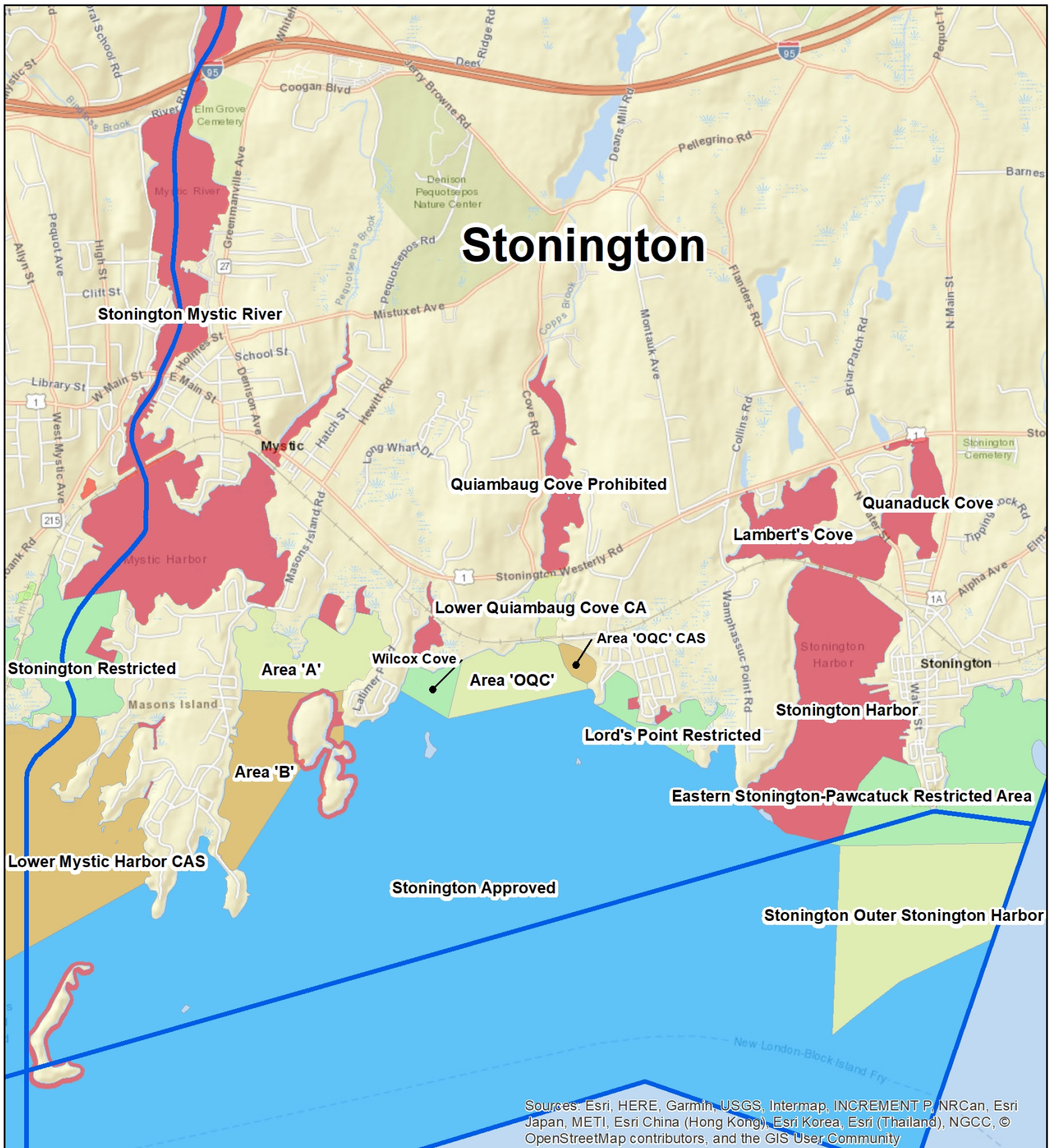
Lower Mystic River – 1.5” Rain Trigger: The area of the Mystic Harbor west branch, south of the Stonington Mystic River Restricted boundary and north of the Approved boundary defined by Groton-Stonington jurisdiction line (41.319134, -71.980326) northeast to Masons Island (41.323152, -71.970566). Please note, this area is divided by the Groton-Stonington jurisdiction line, and the Groton portion is defined in the 2023 Groton Shellfish Growing Area Classification Description. This Conditionally Approved area shall be annually closed from approximately May 1 – November 15, during the boating season when there are ≥ 10 boats present in the marinas and/or > 20 boats in the mooring areas, and reopen when the number of boats present is less than 10 or 20, respectively.

Area B – 1.5” Rain Trigger: This area is divided into two portions by Andrews Island. The western portion is defined by the boundary of Conditionally Approved Area A to the north and the southern boundary abuts the Approved area as defined by Enders Island (41.32401, -71.962926) northeast to Andrews Island (41.330225, -71.957633). The eastern portion is defined by the boundary of Conditionally Approved Area A to the north and the Approved Area from 41.332868, -71.953986 south to 41.331885, -71.954029, exclusive of the Prohibited buffers around Andrews and Dodges Islands and the Latimer Point Dock. This Conditionally Approved area shall be annually closed from approximately May 1 – November 15, during the boating season when there are ≥ 10 boats present in the marinas and/or > 20 boats in the mooring areas, and reopen when the number of boats present is less than 10 or 20, respectively.

Outer Quiambog (Quiambaug) Cove – 1.5” Rain Trigger: The circle off Lords Point defined by 41.335286, -71.933861; northwest to 41.335765, -71.935117; northwest to 41.336474, -71.935782; northwest to the shore (41.337702, -71.93627), then southeast along the shore back to the original coordinate. This Conditionally Approved area shall be annually closed during the boating season there are ≥ 20 boats present in the mooring areas, and reopen when the number of boats present is less than 20.

APPROVED AREAS

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



Stonington 1

Classification Effective Date:

7/1/2025

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Map not intended for navigation

CT Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture

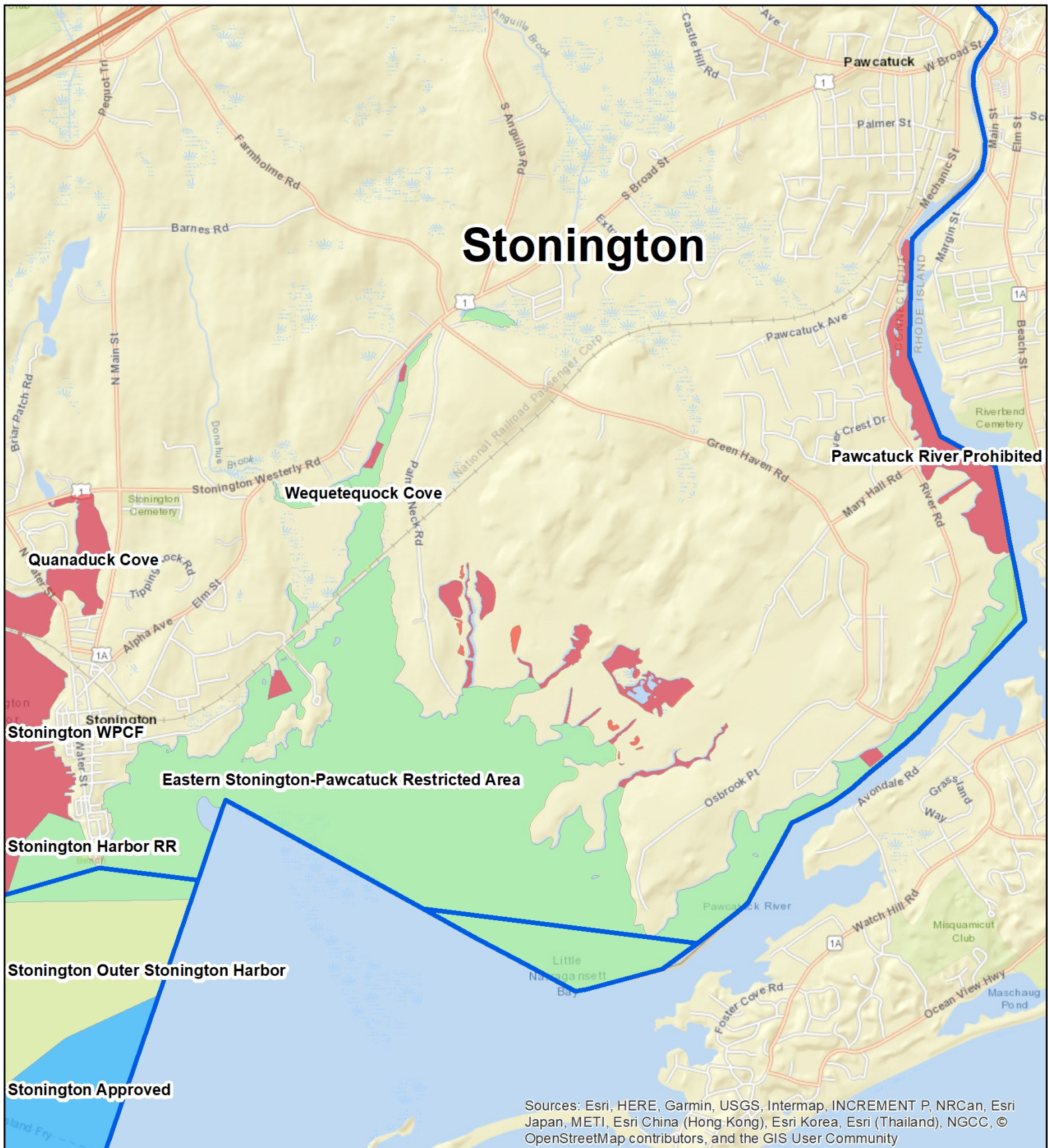
tel: 203-874-0696 email: Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov

Shellfish Area Classification

— Town_Line

Classification

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



Stonington 2

Classification effective date
1/1/2025

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Map not intended for navigation

Shellfish Area Classification

Town_Line

CLAS_after_Branford_change Classification

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

CT Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture

tel: 203-874-0696 email: Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov