



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF AQUACULTURE

P.O. Box 97, 190 Rogers Avenue, Milford, CT 06460

203-874-0696 | [Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov](mailto:Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov)

*Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer*



**LEGAL NOTICE**

Effective May 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 New London waters. Offshore Restricted Relay waters in New London are being reclassified as Prohibited; all waters in the City are now classified 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 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2025.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

David H. Carey, Director  
For Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt



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May 1, 2025

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

**RE: Reclassification of shellfish growing areas in New London, 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 is required to complete comprehensive Sanitary Survey Reports for all Towns with active shellfish growing areas every 12 years, unless all waters are classified as Prohibited.

The following shellfish growing areas in New London are reclassified effective May 1, 2025:

- To reduce staff time burdens and due to the highly developed nature of New London, the remaining offshore Restricted Relay area will be reclassified as Prohibited. This change is administrative, as the DoAg intended to reclassify all New London waters as Prohibited in 2019, when the USDA's 2017 Program Element Evaluation Report identified the classification of a portion of the Thames River as an emerging concern. The extensive military installations and industrial facilities prevented the Bureau from conducting shoreline surveys of large portions of the Thames River shoreline. In accordance with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program, "Each growing area which is not subjected to a sanitary survey every 12 years shall be classified as prohibited..."

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 May 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 New London are being provided to the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the New London City Clerk.

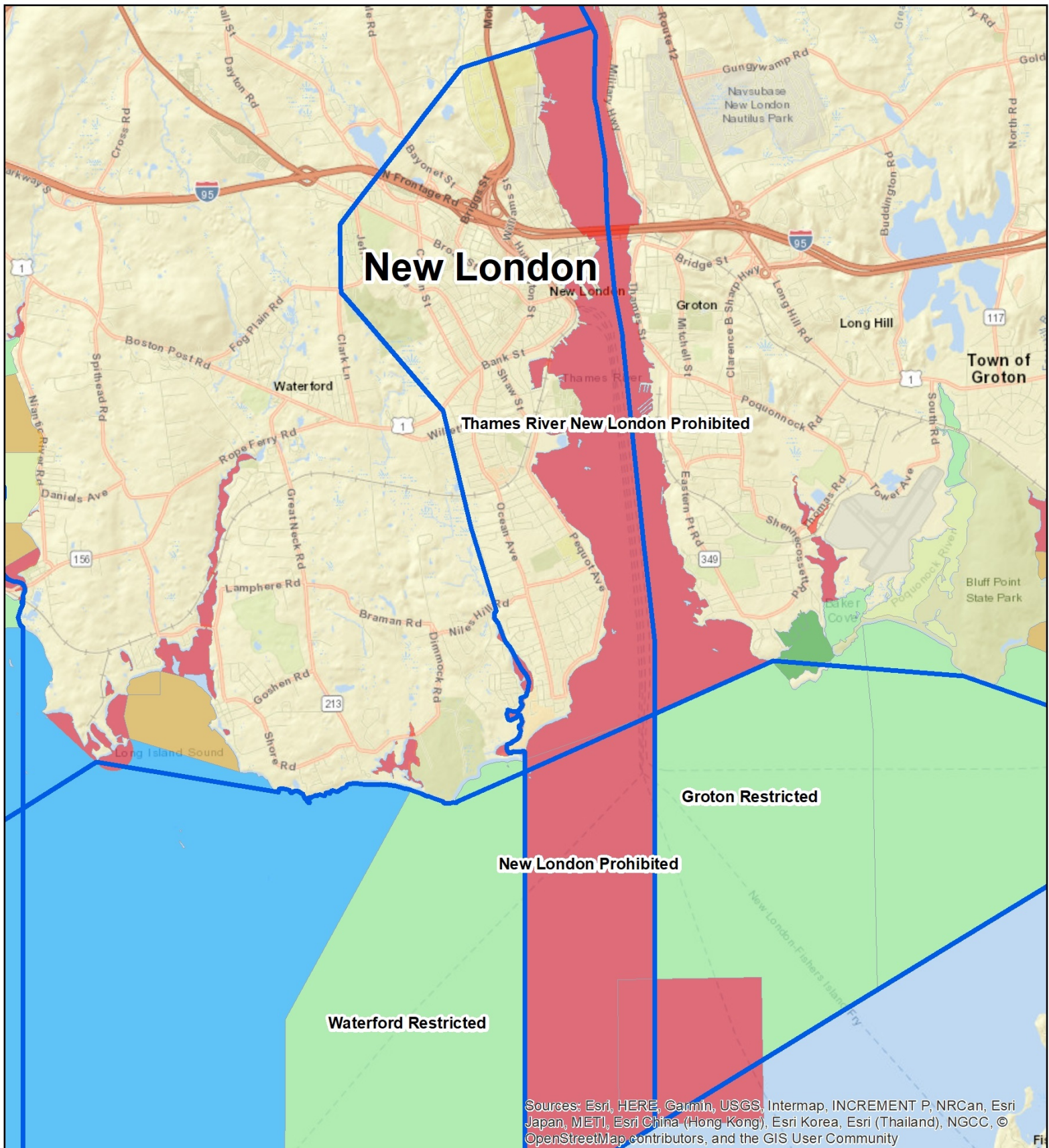
Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Alissa Dragan

Supervising Environmental Analyst  
[alissa.dragan@ct.gov](mailto:alissa.dragan@ct.gov)  
203-874-0696, ext. 119

Cc: Amy Fitzpatrick, USDA Regional Shellfish Specialist, [Amy.Fitzpatrick@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Amy.Fitzpatrick@fda.hhs.gov), Bryan Hurlburt, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Agriculture, [Bryan.Hurlburt@ct.gov](mailto:Bryan.Hurlburt@ct.gov), Keith Williams, CT DEEP Environmental Conservation Police, [Keith.Williams@ct.gov](mailto:Keith.Williams@ct.gov), Katie O'Brien-Clayton, CT DEEP Environmental Analyst, [Katie.O'Brien-Clayton@ct.gov](mailto:Katie.O'Brien-Clayton@ct.gov), Jonathan Ayala, EMBA, MSOM, MMC, New London City Clerk, [jayala@newlondonct.gov](mailto:jayala@newlondonct.gov)



## New London

Classification effective date  
5/1/2025

0 0.475 0.95 1.9 Miles

Map not intended for navigation

**CT Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture**

tel: 203-874-0696 email: [Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov](mailto:Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov)

### Shellfish Area Classification

— Town\_Line

#### Classification

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