



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 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 East Lyme and Waterford waters. The following areas are being reclassified as Prohibited: the mooring field between the Giants Neck breakwater and Griswold Island, Port Niantic and Mago Point Marina proper in the Niantic River, and several small areas and waterbodies. A 100' Prohibited buffer is being placed around Griswold Island. In the Niantic River, a small portion of Conditionally Approved Area A off the Smith Cove inlet is being reclassified as Conditionally Approved Seasonal with a seasonal closure during the active boating months. The recreational area in Jordan Cove is being renamed from Conditionally Approved Seasonal Area A & G to Conditionally Approved Seasonal Area G.

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 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 East Lyme and Waterford, CT

Director 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 2023 Comprehensive Sanitary Survey Report for the Towns of East Lyme and Waterford, covering the period 01/01/2013 through 12/31/2023, inclusive of an analysis of data for the 2021 to 2023 reporting period.

Based on the follow-up documentation, the following shellfish growing areas in East Lyme and Waterford, from west to east, are reclassified effective May 1, 2025:

- An improperly classified mooring area located to the east of the breakwater at Giants Neck (the end of Point Road) was found during the survey. The area encompassing the mooring field between the Giants Neck breakwater and Griswold Island will be reclassified to be included in the Prohibited area of the Pattagansett River.
- Due to the DoAG's inability to access Griswold and Huntley Islands, a 100' Prohibited buffer is being placed around Griswold Island. Huntley Island is already located within the Prohibited waters of the Pattagansett River.
- Smith Cove is properly classified as Prohibited based on the marina; however, during the dilution calculation for the 2022 Triennial and revised for this report, it was found the Prohibited area did not provide an adequate area to dilute the theoretical waste. Previously, the area directly outside of the Cove in the Niantic River was classified as Conditionally Approved Seasonal. The DoAG reconfigured the Niantic River Conditionally Approved areas, effective 8/1/20, and reclassified the area outside of Smith Cove as Conditionally Approved because there were no mooring areas in that portion of the River. However, a portion of Conditionally Approved area A is again being reclassified to be incorporated into Conditionally Approved Seasonal area B North to provide adequate dilution for the Smith Cove marinas and moorings.
- The Restricted Relay areas around the Port Niantic Marina and Mago Point Marina proper in the southern portion of the Niantic River are improperly classified, and will be reclassified as Prohibited.
- There are several small areas and waterbodies that are being reclassified as Prohibited or unclassified. These areas were found to be improperly classified during the process of mapping the survey and were the result of mapping errors.

- The recreational area in Jordan Cove, formerly named Conditionally Approved Seasonal Areas A & G will be renamed Conditionally Approved Seasonal Area G.

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 East Lyme and Waterford are being provided to the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Town Clerks.

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, Karen Miller Galbo, East Lyme Town Clerk, kgalbo@eltownhall.com, David Campo, CCTC, Waterford Town Clerk, dcampo@waterfordct.org

SHELLFISH GROWING AREA CLASSIFICATIONS FOR EAST LYME, EXCLUSIVE OF THE NIAN TIC RIVER

PROHIBITED (WEST TO EAST)

Four Mile River, Old Lyme/East Lyme: All tidal waters and tributaries of Four Mile River to the confluence with Long Island Sound.

Bride Brook: All tidal waters and tributaries of Bride Brook from West Main Street south to the confluence with Long Island Sound.

Brockett Pond: The entirety of Brockett Pond.

Pattagansett River: All tidal waters and tributaries of the Pattagansett River from Dodge Pond south to the confluence with Long Island Sound. The Prohibited area includes the waters around Watts, Huntly, and Griswold Islands and is defined by the line from the breakwater off Giants Neck, around Griswold Island, and to the western tip of the beach off Old Black Point Road.

Indian Pond Tidal Creek: The entirety of Indian Pond and its tributaries.

RESTRICTED

Niantic Bay Restricted North: The area bounded by the railroad crossing (41.324004, -72.18196), south to 41.319403, -72.18152, due east to the shoreline, and subsequently northwest to the original coordinate following the railroad line.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED SEASONAL

Area F / Niantic Bay Special Anchorage Area – 3.0” Rainfall Trigger: The area bounded by crescent avenue (41.314759, -72.201537), northeast to 41.315331, -72.196087, southeast to 41.31471, -72.195449, southwest to Big Rocks (41.306086, -72.202658), then north along the shoreline back to the original coordinate. This area shall be closed to the harvesting of shellfish seasonally while this anchorage area is in use, approximately from May 1 - October 31.

APPROVED

All waters in East Lyme not classified as Prohibited, Restricted, Conditionally Restricted, Conditionally Approved or Conditionally Approved Seasonal.

SHELLFISH GROWING AREA CLASSIFICATIONS FOR THE NANTIC RIVER (EAST LYME AND WATERFORD)

PROHIBITED (WEST TO EAST)

Keeny Cove: The entirety of Keeny Cove north of the line from 41.352505, -72.17741 to 41.35246, -72.176732.

Smith Cove: The entirety of Smith Cove to the confluence with the Niantic River, as defined by the line from 4 Round Rock Road south to 5 North Main Street.

Waterford Inlet: The entirety of the inlet of Niantic River Road.

Year-round Marinas/Niantic River: The entirety of the Port Niantic Marina, Harbor Hill Marina, and Marker 7 Marina on the southwestern corner of the River and the Mago Point Marina and gut on the southeastern corner of the River. The boundaries of the southwestern prohibited area are defined by 41.327176, -72.18582, northeast to 41.328129, -72.183068, southeast to 41.326719, -72.182561, southwest to 41.325082, -72.184004, and then north along the shoreline back to the original coordinate. The boundaries of the southeastern prohibited area are 41.328557, -72.174287, southeast to 41.325993, -72.180015, south to the bridge at 41.324301, -72.180112, then east and north along the shoreline back to the original coordinate.

RESTRICTED (WEST TO EAST)

Niantic River North: All waters of the Niantic River north branch north of the line drawn from the Demarcation Sign located on the western shore of Niantic River (41.347215, -72.190005) east to Sandy Point (41.347203, -72.186894).

Keeny Cove: All waters of Keeny Cove between the Keeny Cove Prohibited area and a line drawn at the southern extremity of land on the western shore of Keeny Cove (41.3477, -72.181326) east to the Demarcation Sign located on the eastern shore of the Niantic River (41.348308, -72.177416).

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

Area A – 1.5” Rainfall Trigger: The area enclosed between Conditionally Approved Seasonal Area B North and Area B South, not inclusive of the Prohibited Waterford Inlet.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED SEASONAL

Area B North – 1.5” Rainfall Trigger: The area encompassed between the northern boundary of the Niantic River North and Keeny Cove Restricted Relay areas, and the southern boundary formed by 27 Cherry Street, north to 41.39383, -72.180977, then east to the shoreline. This Conditionally Approved area will be "closed" seasonally during the active boating months, approximately May 1 - November 15.

Area B South – 1.5” Rainfall Trigger: The area encompassed between the northern boundary of 41.331326, -72.182854 east to 41.331347, -72.176597 and the southern boundary of Main Street, not inclusive of the Prohibited areas around the marinas.

APPROVED

None in the Niantic River.

SHELLFISH GROWING AREA CLASSIFICATIONS FOR WATERFORD, EXCLUSIVE OF THE NIAN TIC RIVER

PROHIBITED (WEST TO EAST)

Millstone Point: The area around the Dominion Millstone Power Plant, as defined by the semi-circle starting at Bay Point, southeast to the tip off the western branch of the Point (41.304122, -72.16577), arching southeast around the Point (41.303446, -72.161454), then northeast to Fox Island off the eastern branch of the Point, northwest to the rock outcropping east of the Point (41.309271, -72.161445), and then northeast to the mainland (41.311715, -72.160802). The Prohibited area is inclusive of the Millstone Marsh off the eastern boundary of the Power Plant.

Gardners/Cranberry Pond: The entirety of the Pond to its confluence with Long Island Sound.

Jordan Cove/Jordan Brook: The entirety of Jordan Cove and its tributaries commencing from the Jordan Mill Pond damn south to the confluence with Long Island Sound, as defined by the arc from the point off 38 Windward Way southeast to the sandbar off 6 Reed Avenue.

Pleasure Beach Marsh: The entirety of the marsh tributary to the confluence with the eastern end of Jordan Cove.

Goshen Cove: The entirety of Gosh Cove and its tributaries south to the confluence with Long Island Sound.

Alewife Cove: The entirety of Alewife Cove south of Route 213 to the New London Town jurisdiction line.

Thames River, Waterford: The entirety of the Thames River in the Waterford Town jurisdiction area.

RESTRICTED

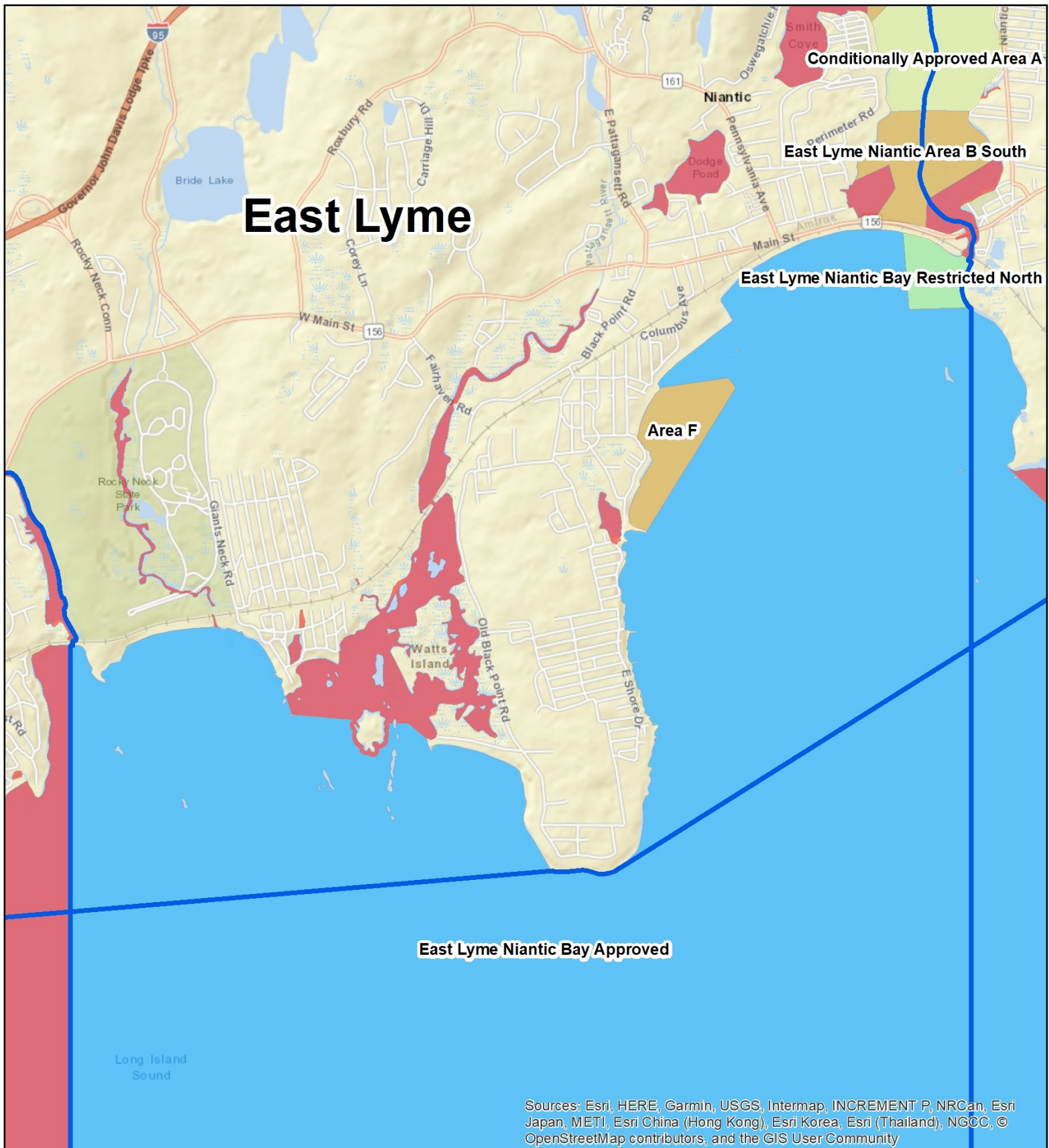
Restricted East: The area outside of Harkness State Memorial Park at 41.300652, -72.11822; southwest to 41.274694, -72.137461; south to the New York State jurisdiction line at 41.249311, -72.13377; northeast along the New York State jurisdiction line to the Waterford-New London jurisdiction line; north along the Waterford-New London jurisdiction line to the shore at 41.304008, -72.101103 near the Waterford Town Beach; then west along the shoreline back to the original coordinate.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED SEASONAL

Area G, Jordan Cove – 1.5” Rainfall Trigger: The area enclosed by Fox Island (41.306738, -72.160558), north along the Millstone Point Prohibited area to the mainland, southeast along the shoreline to White Point (41.302887, -72.144051) excluding the Jordan Cove Prohibited area, then northwest back to the original coordinate. This Conditionally Approved area will be "closed" seasonally from January 1-March 31 annually due to inability to access the area to conduct the required water quality monthly sampling.

APPROVED

All waters in Waterford, exclusive of those classified as Prohibited, Restricted, Conditionally Restricted, Conditionally Approved, or Conditionally Approved Seasonal.



East Lyme 1

Classification effective date
5/1/2025

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Map not intended for navigation

CT Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture

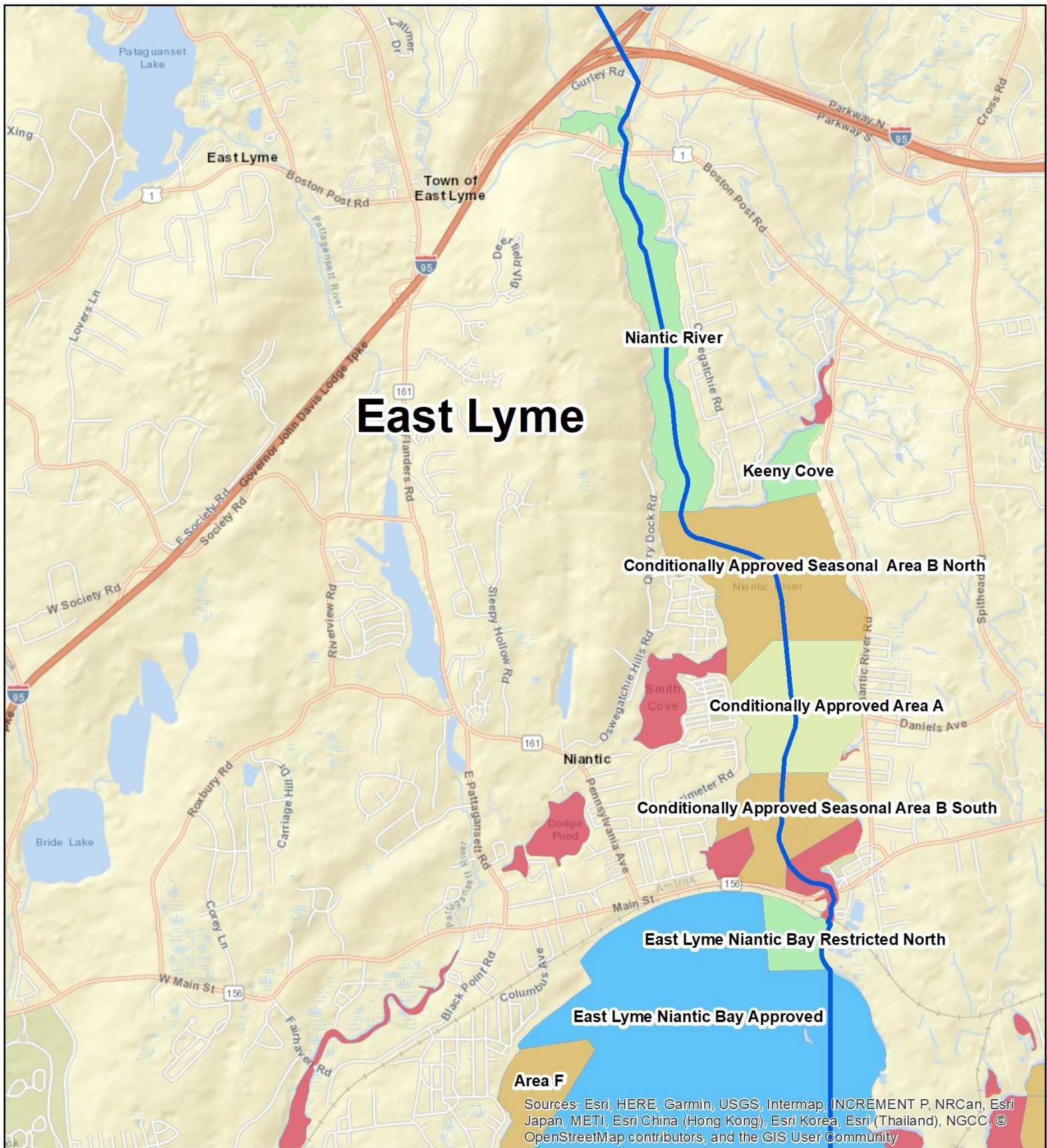
tel: 203-874-0696 email: Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov

Shellfish Area Classification

— Town_Line

Classification

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



East Lyme 2

Classification effective date

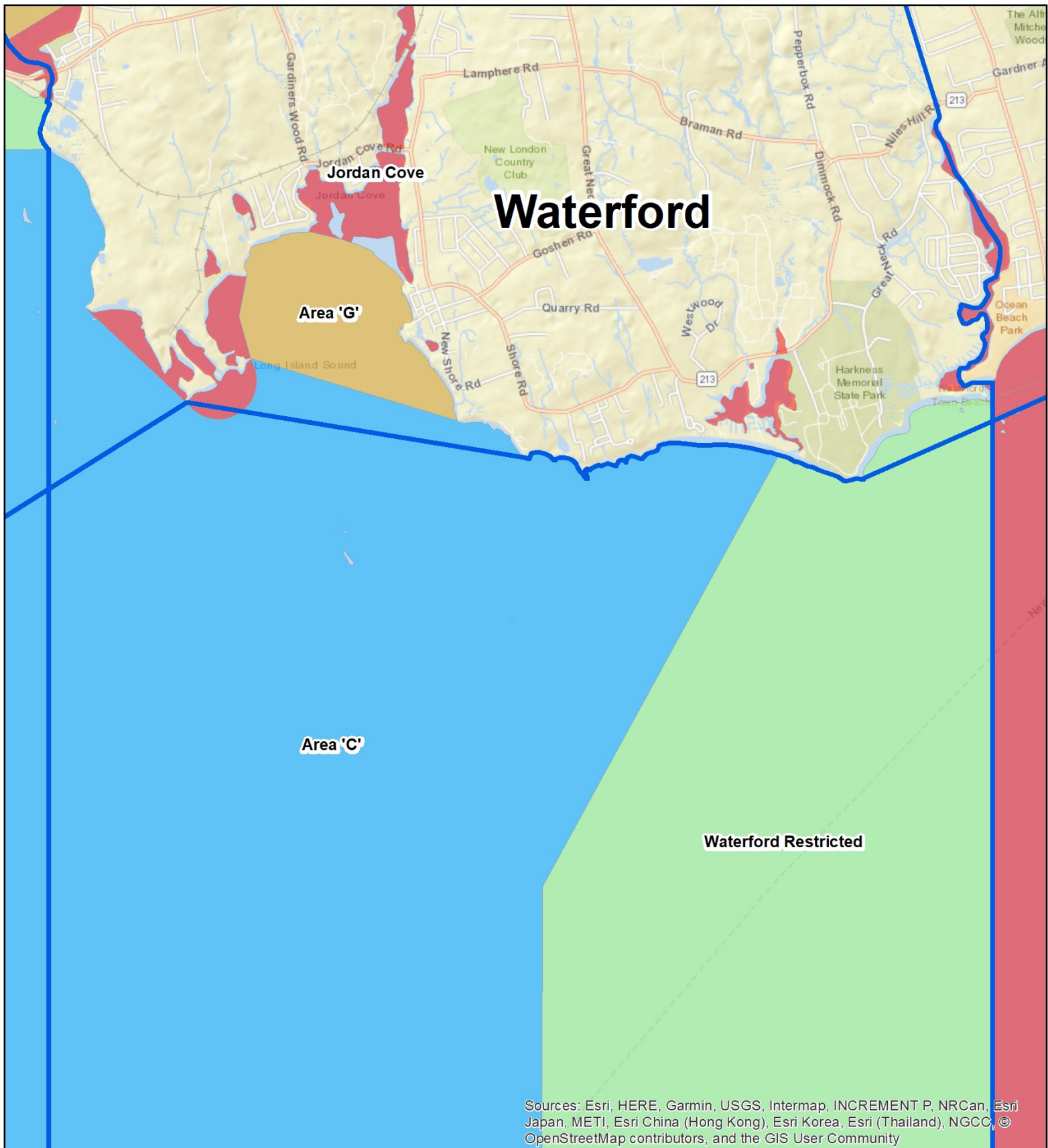
5/1/2025

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Map not intended for navigation

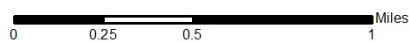
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Waterford 1

Classification effective date
5/1/2025



Map not intended for navigation

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Shellfish Area Classification	
	Town_Line
Classification	
	Approved
	Conditionally Approved
	Conditionally Approved Seasonal
	Conditionally Restricted-Relay
	Restricted-Relay
	Prohibited