



State of New Jersey

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Public Notice of the Suspension of Harvest from Shellfish Beds Dangerous to Health

Shellfish growing areas are routinely monitored throughout New Jersey so that the Department is able to ensure the wholesomeness of shellfish intended for human consumption. Analysis of water samples indicate that the Middle Thorofare area no longer meets the current *Approved* shellfish growing water classification set forth in the Shellfish Growing Water Classification rules at N.J.A.C. 7:12 (<http://www.nj.gov/dep/rules/rules/njac7:12.pdf>).

TAKE NOTICE, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:12-1.4(b) and the statutory authority granted the Department of Environmental Protection at N.J.S.A. 58:24-2 to protect the public health from the risk posed by the consumption of shellfish that may have been subjected to pollution or other conditions that may render the shellfish dangerous to health, I hereby immediately suspend the harvest of shellfish from the following waters, as further described below:

Middle Thorofare

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:12-1.3, the waters in the Middle Thorofare area are classified as *Approved*. To be classified as *Approved*, the bacteriological quality of water samples at every sample station in the growing area shall not exceed the fecal coliform median or geometric mean of 14 CFU per 100 ml and the estimated 90th percentile shall not exceed 31 CFU per 100 ml. For more information on shellfish growing water classifications please see the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP), Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish, 2015 Revision, [incorporated by reference at N.J.A.C. 7:12-1.3(a)] available at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration website:

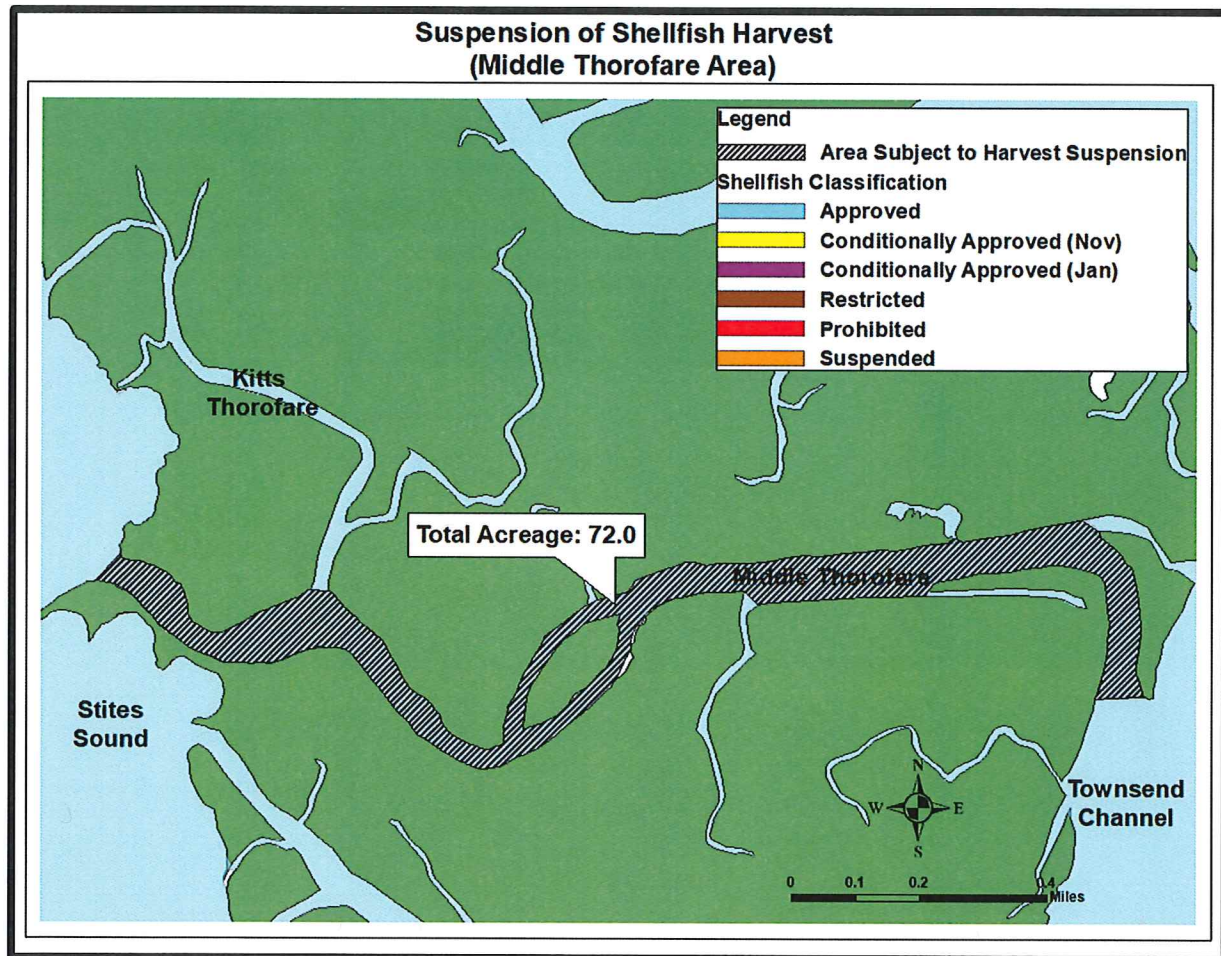
<https://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FederalStateFoodPrograms/ucm2006754.htm>.

Water sampling data collected by the Department, in accordance with the sampling collection requirements of the NSSP Guide, since 2013 (total of 30 samples) indicate that the water samples from Middle Thorofare do not consistently meet the fecal coliform standards for the *Approved* classification.

The suspension of harvest in Middle Thorofare shall take effect immediately and continue pending the establishment by rulemaking of the appropriate classification and boundaries of the waters so classified, as provided by N.J.A.C. 7:12-1.4, or until further determination by the Department that the area of water subject to the suspension meets the standards for its current classification.

Middle Thorofare Area (72.0 acres)

All of Middle Thorofare from a line beginning from a point on the west shore of the mouth of Middle Thorofare and Townsend Channel at latitude 39 degrees 7 minutes 31.3 seconds N., longitude 74 degrees 43 minutes 15.5 seconds W., then bearing approximately 87.8 degrees T in a east direction across the mouth of Middle Thorofare to a point on the east shore of Middle Thorofare and Townsend Channel at latitude 39 degrees 7 minutes 31.4 seconds N, longitude 74 degrees 43 minutes 10.3 seconds W., and proceeding west along the shoreline of Middle Thorofare, excluding all tributaries, across the mouth of Kitts Thorofare, then west along the north shoreline of Middle Thorofare to a point northeast of the mouth of Stites Sound at latitude 39 degrees 7 minutes 42.7 seconds N., longitude 74 degrees 44 minutes 58.1 seconds W., the bearing approximately 223.8 degrees T to a point southwest of the mouth of Stites Sound at latitude 39 degrees 7 minutes 40.4 seconds N., longitude 74 degrees 45 minutes 0.8 seconds W, then proceeding east along the south shoreline of Middle Thorofare, excluding all tributaries, back to the point of origin and terminating.



Date: 5/1/18

Michele Putnam, Assistant Commissioner
Water Resource Management