



Gavin Newsom, Governor
Yana Garcia, Secretary for Environmental Protection
Kristina Thayer, Ph.D., Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Charlton H. Bonham, Director
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

FROM: Kristina Thayer, Ph.D. *Kristina Thayer*
Director Kristina Thayer (Jul 30, 2025 08:02:33 PDT)

DATE: July 30, 2025

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION TO OPEN THE RECREATIONAL RAZOR CLAM FISHERY IN DEL NORTE COUNTY (CDPH BIVALVE SHELLFISH ADVISORY REMAINS IN PLACE FOR DEL NORTE COUNTY)

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), in consultation with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), has determined that consumption of razor clams from Del Norte County no longer poses a significant threat for domoic acid exposure, and therefore recommends that the recreational razor clam fishery be opened in Del Norte County. This recommendation is based on levels of domoic acid below the federal action level in the meat of razor clams collected from this area and analyzed by CDPH laboratories. A table presenting the results of domoic acid analysis in samples from the impacted area is shown below.

The following biotoxin-related health advisories and closures remain in place for the North Coast Region:

- The recreational razor clam fishery closure for Humboldt County, based on domoic acid levels.
- The CDPH-issued bivalve shellfish [health advisory for Del Norte County](#) based on elevated levels of [paralytic shellfish poisoning \(PSP\) toxins](#).

OEHHA strongly recommends that non-commercial shellfish harvesters follow all [CDPH marine biotoxin quarantines and health advisories](#), including those for PSP. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, CDPH, and OEHHA will collect, monitor, and analyze razor clams and other bivalves to determine when the recreational razor clam fishery in Humboldt County can be re-opened safely, and the Del Norte bivalve health advisory can be removed. If you have questions, please contact me at Kris.Thayer@oehha.ca.gov or Dr. Wesley Smith at Wesley.Smith@oehha.ca.gov.

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Razor Clam Sampling Results

COUNTY	LOCATION	SAMPLE COLLECTION DATES	TISSUE TYPE	DOMOIC ACID (ppm) ^a
DEL NORTE	Crescent Beach	6/26/25	meat*	< 2.5
			meat*	< 2.5
			meat*	< 2.5
		7/12/25	meat*	< 2.5
			meat*	3.9
			meat*	< 2.5

*Composite sample of 4 individual clams.

^a The action level is ≥ 20 ppm.

cc: June Weintraub, Sc.D.
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