



# Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services

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## **PRESS RELEASE** **For Immediate Release**

**November 25, 2019 Port Angeles, Washington – the Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services, Environmental Health Division announces an upgrade to recreational shellfish harvest of beaches that were previously closed to all species due to the presence of biotoxins.**

### **In Clallam County, Discovery Bay is closed to butter and varnish clams only.**

The following beaches in Clallam County are listed with the closure in effect.

<b>Beaches</b>	<b>Status</b>
Strait of Juan de Fuca from Cape Flattery east to Pillar Point	<b>No Closure</b>
Strait of Juan de Fuca from Pillar Point east to Dungeness Spit	No Closure
Dungeness Bay	No Closure
Sequim Bay	Closed to All Species
Discovery Bay	Closed to Butter and Varnish clams only
Seasonal Closure of Ocean Beaches	All Species Closed

All species means clams (including geoduck), oysters, mussels and other invertebrates such as the moon snail. All areas are closed for the sport harvest of scallops. These closures do not apply to shrimp. Crab meat is not known to contain biotoxins, but the guts can contain unsafe levels. To be safe, clean crab thoroughly and discard the guts (butter).

It is important to know the difference between butter clams and other species of clams. Butter clams have the ability to retain toxins for a very long time—up to a year or more. Areas may be closed for the sport harvest of butter clams when all other species are safe and open.

For more information about this closure, call the Shellfish Safety Hotline at 1.800.562.5632, or visit the Department of Health's Shellfish Safety Website at [www.doh.wa.gov/shellfishsafety](http://www.doh.wa.gov/shellfishsafety). For additional information call Audrey Coyne with the Washington State Department of Health, Office of Shellfish and Water Protection at 360.236.3354.

These health-related closures are in addition to closures regulated by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Fish and Wildlife closures can be found on their website: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/shellfishing-regulations>. Their Shellfish Rule Hotline is 1.866.880.5431.

Washington State Department of Health  
Environmental Public Health Programs  
Office of Shellfish and Water Protection

Bulletin Home Page: [www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/biotoxin.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/biotoxin.htm)  
Hotline 1-800-562-5632

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**The Most Recent Change Since the Last Bulletin is:**

**In Thurston County, Budd Inlet is closed to all species of shellfish.**

**In Clallam County, the Strait of Juan de Fuca from Pillar Point west to Cape Flattery is open to all species of shellfish.**

*The following beaches are CLOSED to the recreational harvest of the species listed. All species means clams (including geoduck), oysters, mussels and other invertebrates such as the moon snail. All areas are closed for the sport harvest of scallops. The following closures do not apply to shrimp. Crabmeat is not known to contain the PSP toxin, but the guts can contain unsafe levels. To be safe, clean crab thoroughly and discard the guts (butter).*

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**Clallam**

Discovery Bay	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams
Sequim Bay	All Species
Extended seasonal closure of ocean beaches	All Species

**Grays Harbor**

Twin Harbors, Copalis and Mocrocks Beaches	All Species excluding Razor Clams
Extended seasonal closure of ocean beaches	All Species

**Island**

Port Susan	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams
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**Jefferson**

Discovery Bay	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams
Extended seasonal closure of ocean beaches	All Species

**King**

Quartermaster Harbor	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams
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**Kitsap**

The eastern side of the County from Point No Point south to Illahee State Park, including all bays and inlets	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams
All of Bainbridge Island, except the southern shoreline between Restoration Point and Point White	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams
Blake Island	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams

**Mason**

No Closures	No Closures
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**Pacific**

*The ocean beaches are closed to the sport harvest of all species of molluscan shellfish from April 1 to October 31 each year.*

Twin Harbors and Long Beach	All Species excluding Razor Clams
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Extended seasonal closure of ocean beaches	All Species
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<b>Pierce</b>	
No Closures	No Closures
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<b>San Juan</b>	
East Sound	All Species
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<b>Skagit</b>	
Sinclair and Cypress Islands	All Species
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Samish Bay	Butter Clams, Geoducks, Varnish Clams
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Padilla Bay, Fidalgo Bay, Guemes Island and Guemes Channel	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams
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<b>Snohomish</b>	
Port Susan	Butter Clams and Varnish Clams
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<b>Thurston</b>	
Budd Inlet	All Species
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<b>Whatcom</b>	
Bellingham Bay, Chuckanut Bay and Larrabee State Park	All Species
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*The ocean beaches are closed to the sport harvest of all species of molluscan shellfish from April 1 to October 31 each year.*