

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fishing and Boating Services
Closure of Portions of Halls Point and Haines Oyster Bars (Somerset County) to Oyster Harvest — Effective 10/1/2021

WHAT THIS NOTICE DOES

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces that the portions of Halls Point and Haines oyster bars in Tangier Sound (Somerset County) described below are closed to all oyster harvest through and including November 30, 2021.

AREA CLOSED

All the waters of Tangier Sound enclosed by a line beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°10.051' N, and Long. 75°58.534' W; then running 9° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°11.686' N, and Long. 75°58.206' W; then running 49° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.412' N, and Long. 75°57.159' W; then running 92° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.390' N, and Long. 75°56.495' W; then running 103° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.362' N, and Long. 75°56.341' W; then running 143° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°11.941' N, and Long. 75°55.943' W; then running 242° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°11.438' N, and Long. 75°57.149' W; then running 205° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°10.140' N, and Long. 75°57.944' W, then running 259° True to the point of beginning.

PURPOSE OF THIS CLOSURE

This closure is necessary due to concerns about small oysters and slow growth of the oysters in the specified area. By delaying the opening of this area, smaller oysters will be given additional time to reach market size. This closure was requested by the Somerset County Oyster Committee.

WHO THIS NOTICE AFFECTS

This closure applies to all individuals who catch oysters recreationally or commercially.

EFFECTIVE DATE

The closure is effective at 12:01 a.m. October 1, 2021. The area will reopen on December 1, 2021 with no further notice. Upon opening, harvesters must follow the rules established by the public notices effective July 4, 2021 titled "[2021-2022 Commercial Oyster Rules — Effective 7/4/2021](#)" and "[2021-2022 Recreational Oyster Rules — Effective 7/4/2021](#)".

AUTHORITY

Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.04.11G

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Fishing and Boating Services at 410-260-8302

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio
Secretary of Natural Resources