

From: **CDFW Marine Region News Service** < marinenews@wildlife.ca.gov >

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Subject: CDFW Informational Notice - Shellfish Safety Notification: Sport-Harvested Bivalve Shellfish from Marin County

To: < onlyamericanmade@gmail.com >



California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Marine Region News Service

Informational Notice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - June 24, 2019

The following safety notification is from the California Department of Public Health:

Further Information:

Corey Egel

CDPH

(916) 440-7259

CDPHpress@cdph.ca.gov

CDPH Biotoxin Information

Line: 1-800-553-4133

Shellfish Safety Notification: Sport-Harvested Bivalve Shellfish from Marin County

Dangerous levels of paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) toxins have been detected in mussels from Marin County. The naturally occurring PSP toxins can cause illness or death in humans. Cooking does not destroy the toxin.



Gaper clam
illustration by Amadeo Bachar

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is advising consumers not to eat sports-harvested mussels, clams, or whole scallops from Marin County.

This shellfish safety notification is in addition to the [annual mussel quarantine starting May 1, 2019](#). The annual quarantine applies to all species of mussels harvested along the California coast, as well as all bays and estuaries, and will continue through at least October 31.

This warning does not apply to commercially sold clams, mussels, scallops or oysters from approved sources. State law permits only state-certified commercial shellfish harvesters or dealers to sell these products. Shellfish sold

by certified harvesters and dealers are subject to frequent mandatory testing to monitor for toxins.

PSP toxins affect the central nervous system, producing a tingling around the mouth and fingertips within a few minutes to a few hours after eating toxic shellfish. These symptoms are typically followed by loss of balance, lack of muscular coordination, slurred speech and difficulty swallowing. In severe poisonings, complete muscular paralysis and death from asphyxiation can occur.

You can get the most current information on shellfish advisories and quarantines by calling CDPH's toll-free Shellfish Information Line at (800) 553-4133. For additional information, please visit the [CDPH Marine Biotoxin Monitoring web page](#) .

The original safety notification from CDPH is posted [here](#).

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CDFW Marine Region News Service
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Links to CDPH Shellfish Safety Notifications may be found on the CDFW website at:
wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean/Health-Advisories

Learn more about CDFW's Marine Region at wildlife.ca.gov/regions/marine
Read CDFW's Marine Management News blog at cdfwmarine.wordpress.com

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