

3.3 – Recreational Harvest criteria by species

Species	Season	Days	Limit	Size and Special Considerations
Bay scallops	Open October 1 – March 31	Wed. – Sun.	1 bushel per week	Must possess a well defined growth ring. <b>Exception: Bay scallops that have a well-defined raised annual growth line located less than 10mm from the hinge of the shell, shall be lawful to harvest and possess if the shell height is at least 63.5mm or 2.5"</b>
Bay Scallop	Open October 1 – March 31	Wed-Sun	2 bushel/week	Under section 2.14b
Quahogs	Year round	Daily	1 – 10 quart bucket/day; no more than 1 bushel/week	1" thick at hinge
Soft-shell Clams	Closed June 15 <sup>th</sup> - Sept. 15	Sunday Only	1 – 10 quart bucket	2" in length <b>Note: undersized clams must be replanted neck upright covered with a layer of sand.</b>
Razor Clam	Closed June 15 <sup>th</sup> - Sept. 15	Sunday Only	1 – 10 quart bucket	2" in length <b>Note: undersized clams must be replanted neck upright covered with a layer of sand.</b>
Blue Mussel	Year round	Daily	1 bushel/week	2" in length <b>Note: can be taken by one standard bay scallop dredge outside of Eelgrass areas.</b>
Oysters	Year round	Daily	0.5 bushel/week	3" in length
Conch	Closed Dec.16- April 14	Daily	1 bushel/week	2.75" in width
Blue Crab	Closed January 1- April 30	Daily	25 crabs/day	5" from spine to spine <b>Note: Hand or dip net only – State permit required for other methods of taking</b>
Horseshoe crabs				Prohibited
Green Crab				In order to harvest green crabs you must obtain a Letter of Authorization (LOA) from DMF
Eels	Year round	24 hours/day	50/day	6" minimum <b>Note: can be taken by gigging or by dip net 1.5" mesh netting or bigger; Requires state recreational saltwater fishing license</b>
Other shellfish (limpets, periwinkles, blood arks, sea clams, sea quahogs, sea scallops, winkles)				May be taken in accordance to the laws of Massachusetts-see state regulations