

Flooding prompts closure of shellfish harvesting on North, Central Oregon coasts

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

As a precautionary measure to minimize exposure to potentially contaminated waters, the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and Oregon Department of Human Services Public Health Division have imposed an immediate closure of both commercial and recreational harvest of shellfish from the beaches, bays, and estuaries from Yaquina Bay north to the Columbia River. The closure will remain in effect until additional sampling and testing indicates that water quality has returned to pre-flood-event levels. The closure does not affect shellfish harvesting south of Yaquina Bay on the Oregon coast. Product currently on the market is considered safe. For more information, call ODA's shellfish safety information hotline at 800-448-2474, the Food Safety Division at 503-986-4720 or visit the ODA shellfish closures Web site at http://oregon.gov/ODA/FSD/shellfish_status.shtml.

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