



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Division of Water Monitoring and Standards  
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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Shellfish License Holders

FROM: Robert Schuster, Bureau Chief *RS*  
Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring

DATE: July 20, 2016

SUBJECT: Revised 2016 New Jersey *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* Control Plan (VPCP)

The 2016 New Jersey *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* Control Plan (VPCP) has been revised; effective immediately the attached version will supersede the version released on May 24, 2016. Harvest timeframes for subtidal shellfish harvesting during the *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (Vp) season ensure that harvest will occur during the coolest part of the day during the warmer months when the bacteria grow and multiply most rapidly and when New Jersey has historically experienced the most cases of reported Vp illness. The fixed start time in the May 24, 2016 version of the VPCP was intended to simplify compliance and enforcement because it would ensure that all harvesters were off the waters the same time each day. However, the Department acknowledges that N.J.S.A. 50:2-11 requires that the start of harvest be no earlier than sunrise. Because at certain times of the summer 6 a.m. is earlier than sunrise, the Department is modifying the VPCP to establish sunrise as the start time for harvest. Accordingly, time in which the shellfish must be placed in refrigeration will vary; however, the hours to refrigeration will not change from the May 24, 2016 version of the VPCP. All shellfish harvested on a day during the VP timeframe (June 1 – August 31) must be placed in refrigeration by a time determined by adding the allotted hours to refrigeration (either 6 hours or 7 hours depending on the date of harvest) to the set sunrise time (Trenton time) on the date of harvest. The sunrise timetable that is to be used for harvesting is included in the NJ Hunting and Trapping Digest available from the Department's Division of Fish and Wildlife and on-line at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/>.