

# PSP Alert



Toxic shellfish have been found in Kachemak Bay the first week of September 2025.

Shellfish from the inner bay have been found to contain toxins above the regulatory limit that is considered safe for human consumption. The Alaska Harmful Algal Bloom (AHAB) Network is testing wild shellfish to be analyzed for toxins and results will be posted at <https://ahab.aos.org/hab-alerts/>. Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve continues to monitor phytoplankton in Kachemak Bay, for more information reach out to Rosie Masui at [mmasui@alaska.edu](mailto:mmasui@alaska.edu) or 907-235-4799.

Shellfish can accumulate toxins by filtering certain phytoplankton and this can concentrate toxins in the shellfish tissue, which when consumed, can lead to paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) in humans. **Wild shellfish in Alaska are not monitored for HAB-related toxins and are considered 'Dig at your own risk.'** Commercially available shellfish are tested and regulated by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for PSP toxins and are considered safe to eat.

Symptoms of PSP include tingling of the lips or fingertips and numbness of the arms or legs. **PSP can be fatal. Anyone with these symptoms should seek immediate medical care or call 9-1-1**

For more information on causes of shellfish poisoning:  
<https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/shellfish/paralytic-shellfish-poisoning/>



Information related to Public Health concerns:  
**Homer Public Health Center 907-235-8857**

