

PSP Alert Update



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

Recent testing shows that shellfish from the inner bay continue to contain toxins above the regulatory limit that is considered safe for human consumption. The Alaska Harmful Algal Bloom 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 rmmasui@alaska.edu or 907-235-4799.

Shellfish can accumulate toxins by filtering certain phytoplankton and this can concentrate toxins in the shellfish tissue-this can lead to paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) when humans consume them. **Wild shellfish in Alaska are not monitored for HAB related toxins and are considered 'Dig at your own risk.'** Commercially sold shellfish are tested and regulated by 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

