

Shellfish Collection Protocols



Sampling Location:

- Samples must be collected from the same beach.
 - Test results are only valid for shellfish collected in the vicinity of the submitted samples, without crossing any geological barriers (freshwater outlets/major beach points).
- Record the GPS location.

Collection:

- Confirm the species identity of all shellfish collected.
- Shellfish can be fresh in the shell, shucked or frozen. If shellfish are not in the shell, please identify the steps you took to process your shellfish.

Number of organisms to submit per sample:

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Butter Clams | 6-10 |
| Little Neck Clams | 15-25 |
| Cockles | 8-12 |
| Horse Clams | 6 |
| Blue Mussels | 60-110 |
| California Mussels | 6-8 |
| Oysters | 10-12 |
| Rock Scallops | 6 |
| Geoduck | 6 |

*A minimum of 100 grams of meat is required per sample. Shellfish samples must include at least 6 individuals from the same species, regardless of shellfish size.

Storing & Handling:

- Do not *hold* shellfish in seawater or freshwater at any time after collection. However, rinsing with seawater or freshwater to remove sediment is recommended.
- Putrid or decomposed samples will not be processed.
 - If your samples are being held more than 48 hours prior to shipment, please freeze.
 - Any additional harvest that you keep should be held in the refrigerator with a damp towel on top.

Shellfish samples are tested at the Southeast Alaska Tribal Ocean Research (SEATOR) Lab in Sitka, Alaska. KANA is not a regulatory agency and the consumption of wild shellfish in Alaska is considered 'dig at your own risk'. Commercially harvested shellfish are regulated by the DEC and are considered safe for consumption.

Sample Submission:

- Place each sample into a heavy duty Ziploc bag and seal tightly, double bag the sample if necessary.
- Label each bag with the harvest location, date of collection, and species.
- Include one Shellfish Biotoxin Sample Form for each sample submitted. Place the form in a separate waterproof plastic bag.
- If you are shipping samples via Island Air
 - Samples must be in a sealable box or other container
 - Island Air staff should be notified upon delivery whether the sample is frozen or refrigerated.
- Contact a KANA Environmental Staff member to notify when shipping or delivering your harvest
 - Grace Ellwanger at grace.ellwanger@kodiakhealthcare.org 907-486-1360
 - Andie Wall at andie.wall@kodiakhealthcare.org or 907-654-1443
- Shipping Address:

**ATTN: KANA Environmental Staff
Kodiak Area Native Association
3449 East Rezanof Drive
Kodiak, AK 99615
907-486-1360**

Test Results:

- Test results are typically available within 72 hours after the lab in Sitka receives samples.
- Samples delivered to Sitka during the weekend will begin being processed the following Monday.
- For Harvest and Hold Samples:
 - KANA staff will call you with the results as soon as we receive them.
- If this is a regularly monitored location:
 - SEATOR will post results to their website (seator.org/data), or you can contact them to receive the results directly via email at seator@sitkatriben-sns.gov or 907-966-9650.

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