



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT 07/12/2019



Recent **blue mussel** samples collected on **7/3/19** from **Starrigavan Beach** in **Sitka** have **substantially elevated amounts of Paralytic Shellfish Toxins (PSTs)** above the FDA regulatory limit of 80µg/100g.

Elevated levels of **PSTs** that cause **Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP)** continue to be seen in shellfish species collected from Southeast Alaska beaches. Ongoing shellfish advisories are currently in place in several areas and updates are available on the Southeast Alaska Tribal Ocean Research website (SEATOR.org).

PSP symptoms include tingling in the lips and fingertips, numbing of arms and legs, nausea, difficulty breathing, and even death. Anyone with these symptoms should seek immediate medical care or call **9-1-1**. To report PSP cases, contact the Alaska Department of Epidemiology at 907-269-8000, after hours 800-478-0084.

Samples are analyzed by The Sitka Tribe of Alaska Environmental Research Lab (STAERL). Contact SEATOR with additional questions at (907)-966-9650 or seator@sitkatriben-sn.gov.