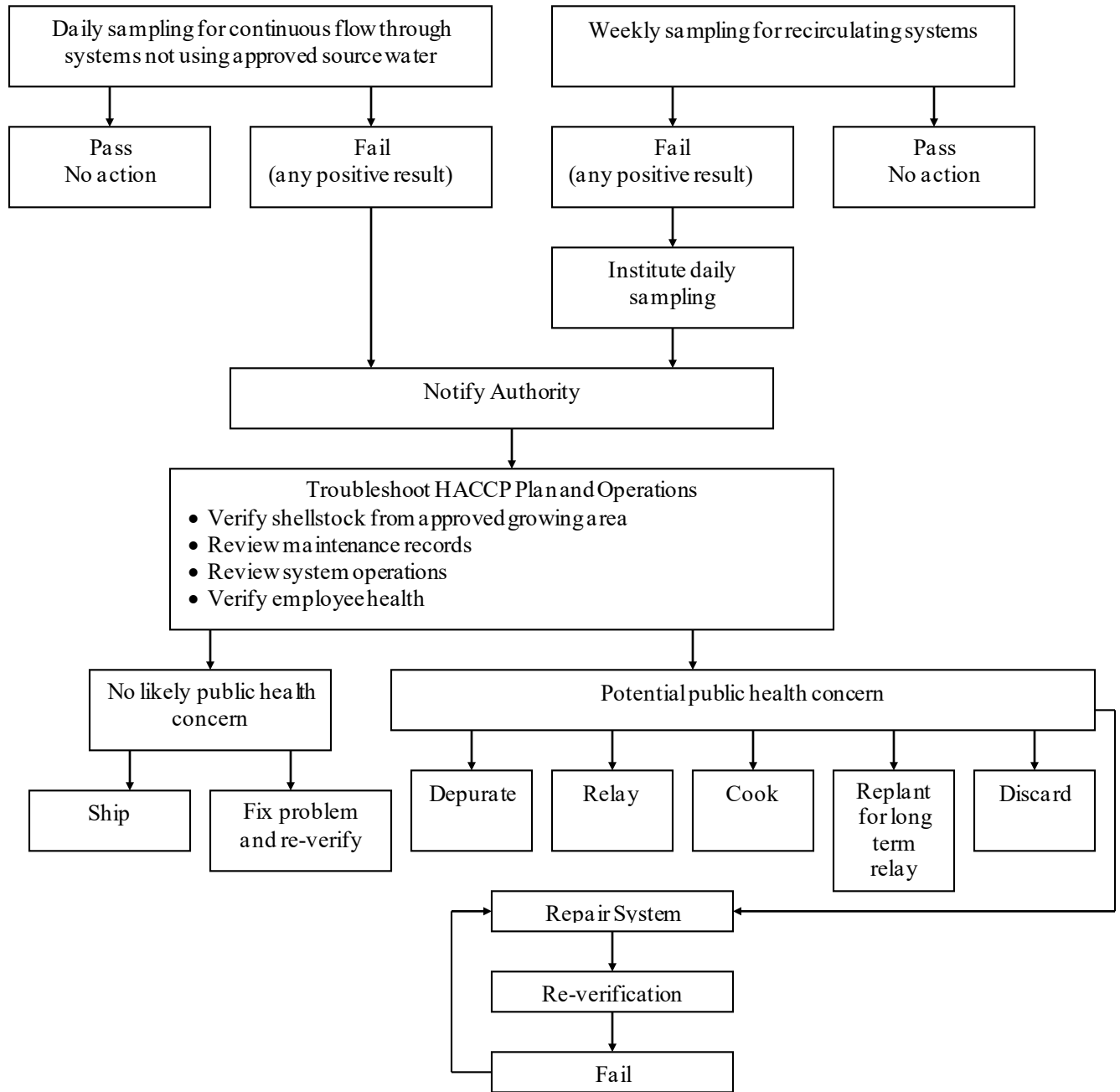


.05 Protocol for Addressing Positive Coliform Sample in an Artificial Wet Storage Water Body



National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish: 2023 Revision

Description: Flow chart showing the protocol for addressing positive coliform results in artificial wet storage water bodies.

Collect weekly water samples for recirculating systems and daily samples for continuous flow through systems not using an approved water source.

If the water sample is negative for coliforms in either system, no action is required.

If the water sample is positive for coliforms in the recirculating system, institute daily sampling.

The authority should be notified of a failure in either system.

Troubleshoot the HACCP Plan and operations by (1) Verifying that shellstock is from an approved growing area, (2) Reviewing maintenance records, (3) Reviewing system operations, (4) Verifying employee health, (5) Reviewing the sampling protocol, (6) Looking for an obvious reason for in-plant re-growth, (7) Determining that UV lamps are operating properly, and (8) Confirming the quality of the source water.

If no likely public health concern is found after troubleshooting, the product may be shipped and the problem causing the positive coliform result shall be fixed. Once fixed, re-verify through sampling that the system's water quality is acceptable.

If a potential public health concern is found after troubleshooting, the product may be depurated, relayed, cooked, replanted for long-term relay, or discarded and the problem causing the positive coliform result shall be repaired. Once repaired, re-verify through sampling that the system's water quality is acceptable. If the system fails after re-verification, attempts to repair the system must be made until the re-verification demonstrates acceptable water quality.