MARINE FISHERIES REGULATION SUMMARIES

as of March 2007

Updated by Melanie Griffin, Program Coordinator

These documents are updated annually to serve as a companion document to Mass. General Laws, Chapter 130 and rules and regulations 322 CMR.

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MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of March 2007)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

The following regulatory changes occurred during February of 2006 through Janaury of 2007:
(*Note:* *This is not a comprehensive list of all regulatory changes enacted during this period. It does NOT include regulations changed by emergency actions, nor does it include regulations that have been superseded by more recent changes.)* Please contact the authors for more information or suggestions.

Lobster

1. ***LCMA 2:***

   DMF assigned trap allocations for use in 2007 to eligible coastal and offshore commercial lobster trap fishermen in LCMA 2 as part of the effort control plan contained in Addendum VII to the interstate plan (322 CMR 6.13 & 7.03). The LCMA 2 Effort Control Plan affects all commercial permit holders landing lobsters taken by traps in the Commonwealth whether fishing took place in state and/or federal waters. To be eligible to receive a trap allocation, a permit holder had to have fished in LCMA 2 in at least one year from 2001 - 2003. Each eligible permit holder's Initial Trap Allocation is then assigned based on their maximum Effective Traps Fished in any one year during 2001 – 2003. Note that recreational lobster fishermen and non-trap fishermen are not targeted by this plan.

   DMF implemented a new v-notch definition in LCMA 2 to protect female lobsters through one or possibly two additional molts before they are subject to harvest, allowing each female to extrude at least one additional clutch of eggs. All commercial fishermen fishing or authorized to fish in LCMA 2 are prohibited from possessing "any female lobster that bears a notch or indentation in the base of the flipper that is at least as deep as 1/8 inch, with or without setal hairs" (322 CMR 6.02).
2. ***Outer Cape LCMA:***

   DMF decreased the commercial lobster minimum size in the Outer Cape by 1/32" to 3 3/8" in compliance with the interstate fishery management plan (322 CMR 6.01);
3. ***LCMA 3, Southeastern Recreational Lobster Management Area and Dealer Provisions:***

   DMF reinstated language regarding the absence of "setal hairs" to the v-notch definition applicable to dealers as well as commercial lobstermen in LCMA 3 and recreational fishermen in the Southeastern Lobster Management Area (322 CMR 6.02). This correction brings the Commonwealth into compliance with the interstate plan by definition a "v-notch" as a "v-shaped **straight sided traingular cut, without setal haris,** at least ¼ inch in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to and to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster when the underside of the lobster is down.

Scup, Summer Flounder (Fluke) & Black Sea Bass

4. **DMF amended no-fishing days from Friday through Sunday to Friday and Saturday during the summer period (May – October) commercial scup fishery (322 CMR 6.28);**
5. **DMF extended the recreational open season for scup by one month, through September, in compliance with the interstate fishery management plan (322 CMR 8.03)**
6. **DMF increased the minimum size for fluke caught by recreational fishermen by a half inch to 17 ½" (322 CMR 6.09);**

***Loligo* Squid**

7. **DMF enacted a 2,500-lb. *Loligo* squid daily trip limit for mobile gear when 80% of any quarterly quota has been reached (322 CMR 6.39);**

Groundfish

8. **DMF created a groundfish endorsement that authorized certain state permit holders to commercially fish in state waters for cod, haddock, Pollock, redfish, white hake, yellowtail flounder, winter flounder, windowpane flounder, American plaice, witch flounder and monkfish (322 CMR 7.01);**
9. **DMF took final action on recent emergency regulations to :**
   a) **increase the minimum size for cod caught by recreational fishermen fishing in the Gulf of Maine (see map below) to 24"** – a 2" increase (322 CMR 6.03);
   b) **prohibit for-hire vessels from possessing or landing any cod harvested from the Gulf of Maine during November through March** (322 CMR 6.03);
   c) **limit recreational fishermen fishing from shore or aboard private vessels in the Gulf of Maine to a 2-fish cod possession limit not to exceed 75-lbs. per**

vessel during November through March. DMF and the MFC determined that a complete prohibition on fishing by private anglers during the winter and spring months was not necessary to meet the Gulf of Maine's targeted catch reduction (322 CMR 6.03); and

d) **maintain the yellowtail commercial trip limit at 250-lbs. year-round.** This action complemented recent federal rule changes made under Framework Adjustment 42 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (322 CMR 6.03).

Spiny Dogfish

10. **DMF finalized a 2,000-lb. trip limit for spiny dogfish on November 10th for the remainder of the 2006/2007 Period II fishery (Nov-Dec) or until the quota available to Massachusetts is harvested (322 CMR 6.35).**

Northern Shrimp

11. **DMF finalized a 151-day commercial fishing season for Northern shrimp starting December 1st and running through April 30th (322 CMR 5.00).**

Fish Pots

12. **DMF finalized the following specifications for all fish pots fished in waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth (322 CMR 6.12 & 7.09):**
    a) at least two escape vents in the parlor section of the pot; and
    b) an increase in the minimum size of circular escape vents for pots used to harvest black sea bass from 2 3/8" to 2 1/2" (pots used in the scup fishery would retain the status quo 3.1" circular escape vent minimum size).

Pot Trawls & Gillnet Gear

13. **DMF prohibited any person from fishing, storing, or abandoning any fixed fishing gear in waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth with positively buoyant groundline (lines connecting traps in a string and lines connecting gillnets to anchors).** Any recreational or commercial fishermen using fixed gear will be required to use negatively buoyant groundline Negatively buoyant groundline is defined as line that has a specific gravity greater than that of seawater, 1.03, and does not float up in the water column.

FISHERY:	FISH WEIRS (also known as Fish Traps or Pound Nets)

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(2)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit)	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	None
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	In the following order, one must have approval from: 1) Local selectmen regarding the construction and location. 2) Division of Marine Fisheries [Ch. 130 sec.29]. 3) Division of Waterways.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports (Ch. 130 sec 33).

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Inshore and offshore ends must be marked with DMF permit numbers signs or flags; numbers must be at least 6" in height [Ch.130 sec.30]. • Division of Waterways regulates the marking of traps for navigational criteria. • To designate the "fish trap buffer zone", weir heads and leader must be marked with 12" orange inflated balls attached to anchor lines and marked with DMF assigned number. See CMR 4.04 for more details.

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	None		

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Lobster [Ch. 130 sec.37]; Striped bass [CMR 6.07], shad [CMR 4.12], smelt [Ch.130 sec.35], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

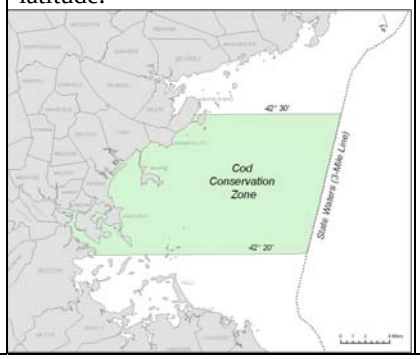
Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	**FOR-HIRE FISHING**

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	For-hire vessels	……	$10		$20
		Head boat issued to vessels carrying seven or more paying customers.				
		Charter boat issued to vessels carrying three to six paying customers.				
		Guide boat issued to vessels carrying up to two paying customers.				
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(2)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit)	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	Vessels permitted as both for-hire vessels and commercial vessels may not engage in commercial fishing activity for groundfish species while engaged in for-hire fishing activities [CMR 7.01]
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	None.

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	Cod Conservation Zone: waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of latitude 42º 20'and south of 42º 30' latitude. 	Dec. 1 – Feb 28	It is unlawful for any person to: harvest cod from the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season; to fish, set, or abandon any gear capable of harvesting cod in the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season including all gillnets, otter trawls, mid-water trawls, seines, and all hook-and-line gears including longlines, rod-and-reel, and handlines. Excludes lobster traps and drags for scallops and urchins.

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	GILLNETTING (Fishing on or near bottom)

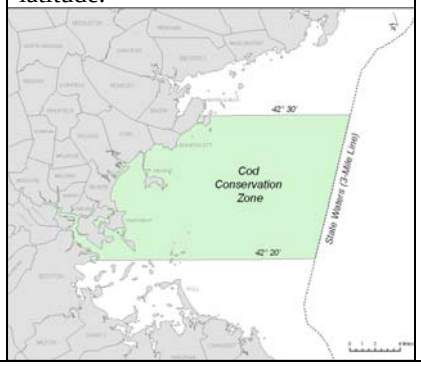
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated gillnet endorsement	.....	$30		$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(3)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit),	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	Regulated fishery gillnet endorsement limited to renewals only (limited access).
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Catch reports required (forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Mesh minimum size: 6 ½" (stretched) [CMR 8.11]. • Net maximum length: 2400 feet [CMR 4.13]. • Marking [CMR 4.13] East end – high flyer and 12" tetrahedral radar reflector. West end – high flyer, flag, and tetrahedral radar reflector. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. • Prohibition on positively buoyant groundline and buoy lines [CMR 12.03]

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, includes Buzzards Bay)	Year-round (see "Gillnetting with inshore net endorsement)	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat	Jan. 1 – May 15	CMR 12.06
	North of Cape Cod inside spawning closure line from P'town to N.H.	Feb. 1 - May 31	CMR 8.09
	Massachusetts Bay Closure	Mar. 1 - 31	CMR 4.08
	Federal Harbor Porpoise Cape Cod South Closure Area	Mar. 1 - 31	50 CFR 229.34
	South of Cape Cod line	Apr. 1 – Nov. 15	CMR 4.09

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	Groundfish Closure I: Upper Cape Cod Bay and Mass. Bay (South of Marblehead)	Apr. 1 - May 31 & Oct. 1 – Nov. 30	CMR 8.12
	Groundfish Closure II: Marblehead north to N.H.	Apr. 1- Jun. 30	CMR 8.12
	East of Cape Cod	May 1 – May 31	CMR 8.12
	Mass. Bay adjacent to Boston Harbor	May 15 – Nov. 1	CMR 4.11
	Cod Conservation Zone: waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of latitude 42º 20'and south of 42º 30' latitude. 	Dec. 1 – Feb. 28	It is unlawful for any person to: harvest cod from the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season; to fish, set, or abandon any gear capable of harvesting cod in the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season including all gillnets, otter trawls, mid-water trawls, seines, and all hook-and-line gears including longlines, rod-and-reel, and handlines. Excludes lobster traps and drags for scallops and urchins.

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Striped bass [CMR 6.07], shad [CMR 4.12], smelt [Ch.130 sec. 35], tuna [CMR 6.04], lobster (must also have a coastal lobster permit), sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

OTHER RELEVANT RESTRICTIONS:	• Federal marine mammal regulations apply to all commercial gillnetters fishing in state waters; be mindful that these federal rules supercede state commercial fishing regulations. Also federal regulations require certain gillnet gear specifications to reduce the risk of entanglement with large whales. Visit the federal Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan (HPTRP) webpage at www.nero.noaa.gov/porptrp for further details. • "Pingers" are required in certain seasons and areas to reduce the incidental take of harbor porpoise, and these rules are subject to change.

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	GILLNETTING (Fishing on or near surface)

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated surface gillnet endorsement	.....	$30		$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(3)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit),	.....	$30		$60

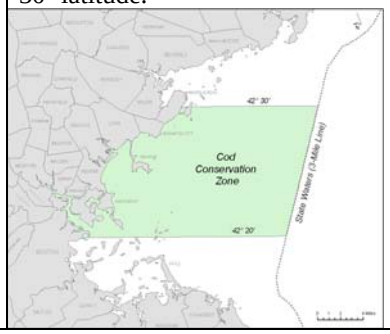
PERMIT LIMIT:	None.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Mesh minimum size: None • Net maximum length: 2400 feet [CMR 4.13]. • Marking [CMR 4.13] East end -- high flyer and 12" tetrahedral radar reflector. West end -- high flyer, flag, and tetrahedral radar reflector. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, includes Buzzards Bay)	Year-round (see "Gillnetting with inshore net endorsement)	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat	Jan. 1 – May 15	CMR 12.06
	North of Cape Cod inside spawning closure line from P'town to N.H.	Feb. 1 – May 31	CMR 8.09
	South of Cape Cod including around Martha's Vineyard & Nantucket	Apr. 1 – Nov. 15	CMR 4.09
	East of Cape Cod	May 1 - May 31	CMR 8.12

AREA/SEASON	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION

CLOSURES: (cont'd)			
	Cod Conservation Zone: waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of latitude 42º 20'and south of 42º 30' latitude. 	Dec. 1 – Feb. 28	It is unlawful for any person to: harvest cod from the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season; to fish, set, or abandon any gear capable of harvesting cod in the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season including all gillnets, otter trawls, mid-water trawls, seines, and all hook-and-line gears including longlines, rod-and-reel, and handlines. Excludes lobster traps and drags for scallops and urchins.

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Striped bass [CMR 6.07], shad [CMR 4.12], smelt [Ch.130 sec. 35], tuna [CMR 6.04], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

OTHER RELEVANT RESTRICTIONS:	• Federal marine mammal regulations apply to all commercial gillnetters fishing in state waters; these federal rules supercede state fishing regulations and require certain gear specifications. Contact NOAA Fisheries for details. • "Pingers" are required in certain seasons and areas to reduce the incidental take of harbor porpoise, and these rules are subject to change.

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	**GILLNETTING, TRAWLING, PURSE SEINING, or HAUL SEINING with inshore net regulated fishery endorsement.**

PERMIT REQUIRED: *Note: No special permit needed to fish with a net less than 200 sq. feet for baitfish for personal use [CMR 4.02]*				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated inshore net fishery endorsement	.....	$30		$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(3)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit),	.....	$30		$60

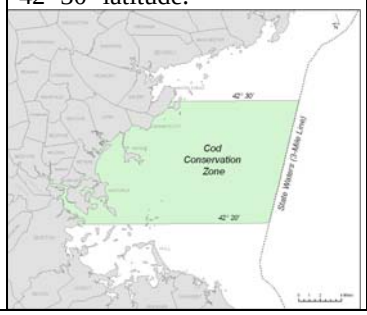
PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	The applicant must list - and is limited to – the specific species, gear type and fishing area.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Varies with fishery. Some yearly catch reports required and are available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries. Contact DMF for details.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Mesh minimum size: Variable. DMF discretion. • Net size: Variable. DMF discretion. • Gillnet marking: unless waived by DMF, CMR 4.13 applies: East end – high flyer and 12" tetrahedral radar reflector. West end – high flyer, flag, and tetrahedral radar reflector. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. • Although fishing with nets is generally prohibited in the Inshore Net Areas, permits are occasionally issued to individuals to fish for species other than flounder. • Prohibition on positively buoyant groundline and buoy lines [CMR 12.03]

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	All state waters closed to night mobile gear fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	All state waters outside of the defined inshore net areas	Year-round	See CMR 4.02 for inshore net areas

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Cod Conservation Zone: waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of latitude 42º 20'and south of 42º 30' latitude. 	Dec. 1 – Feb. 28	It is unlawful for any person to: harvest cod from the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season; to fish, set, or abandon any gear capable of harvesting cod in the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season including all gillnets, otter trawls, mid-water trawls, seines, and all hook-and-line gears including longlines, rod-and-reel, and handlines. Excludes lobster traps and drags for scallops and urchins.

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37]. Any species not listed on permit is banned. Note: winter flounder netting is banned year round in defined inshore net areas that include Mt. Hope Bay and Buzzards Bay [322 CMR 6.23].

FISHERY:	HOOK AND LINE (includes Rod and Reel)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
			Or			
		Rod & Reel (from shore or non-powered vessel only)	.....	$35		$100
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(2)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit)	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	None
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	After November 4, 2004, any person issued a commercial fisherman's permit to conduct any fishery using hook-and-line, longline, or handgear within waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth, including the commercial striped bass fishery, may be subject to eligibility criteria for determining levels of future access to and allowable harvest of these fisheries. Future entry into such fisheries may be based on historic harvest levels of a vessel, person, or other criteria.

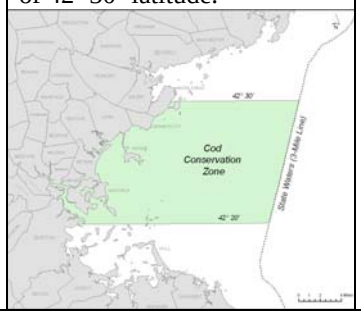
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Endorsement specific (for example striped bass and fluke permit holders must report annually to DMF), contact DMF for further details.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Hook size is restricted when longlining for cod inside the winter flounder spawning closure area from Feb 1 – May 31. Hooks must exceed 11/16" gape or circle hooks must measure at least ½" inside [CMR 8.09]. • Rod & Reel permit holders may not use handlines or longlines. • Maximum vessel size: 90 feet [CMR 8.05].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Groundfish Closure I: Upper Cape Cod Bay and Mass. Bay (South of Marblehead)	Apr. 1 – May 31 & Oct. 1 – Nov. 30	CMR 8.12
	Groundfish Closure II: Marblehead north to N.H.	Apr. 1 – June 30	CMR 8.12
	Winter flounder nearshore spawning closure from Provincetown to N.H. (exception for line trawling of cod with gear restrictions above).	Feb. 1 – May 31	CMR 8.09

AREA/SEASON	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

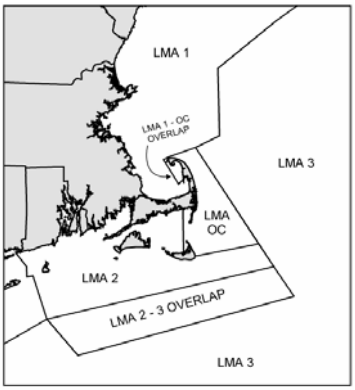
CLOSURES: **(cont'd)**	**Cod Conservation Zone:** waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of latitude 42º 20'and south of 42º 30' latitude. 	Dec. 1 – Feb. 28	It is unlawful for any person to: harvest cod from the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season; to fish, set, or abandon any gear capable of harvesting cod in the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season including all gillnets, otter trawls, mid-water trawls, seines, and all hook-and-line gears including longlines, rod-and-reel, and handlines. Excludes lobster traps and drags for scallops and urchins.

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37]. Commercial take of winter flounder is prohibited from Feb 1 - May 31 in inshore waters where netting is restricted. These areas include bays and estuaries from Provincetown, along the "backside"of Cape Cod, Buzzards Bay and west to Mount Hope Bay [CMR 6.23]. Mount Hope Bay is closed year-round [CMR 6.23]. Taking of striped bass by longline [CMR 6.07].

FISHERY:	**LOBSTERING commercially with TRAPS in state waters.** *Not including lobstering with a student permit. See other appropriate summaries for details.*

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Coastal Lobster	.....	$260		$520
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(2)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit),	.....	$30		$60

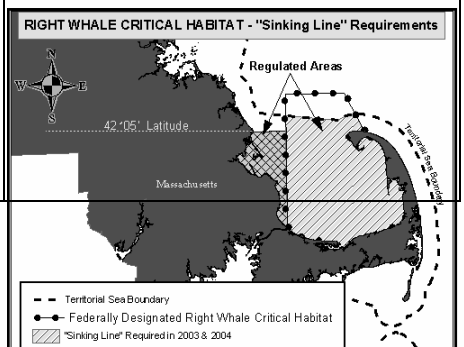
PERMIT LIMIT:	• No new permits are being issued to lobster commercially in state or federal waters with traps [CMR 7.08]; existing permits are renewable [CMR 7.03]. • Transfers of coastal permits are prohibited between areas except when transferring to an area under management of an effort control plan • Area-specific regulations, including actively fished criteria, govern the transfer of coastal permits [CMR 7.03]
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS: 	• Fishermen must declare which Lobster Conservation Management Area (LCMA) they intend to fish. [CMR 7.03] • Multiple LCMA endorsements are prohibited, except by persons with valid federal authorization for LCMA 3 who may additionally receive authorization for either LCMA 1, 2 or Outer Cape Cod. Those fishing in more than one area as designated on their permits shall observe the most restrictive of different regulations for the areas declared [CMR 7.03] • To be eligible for allocation in OCCLCMA, permit holders must have documented lawful fishing of lobster primarily in OCCLCMA during years 1999, 2000, or 2001. [CMR 6.13] • To be eligible for allocation in LCMA 2, permit holders must have documented lawful fishing of lobster primarily in LCMA 2 during years 2001, 2002, or 2003. [CMR 6.13] • Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39]. • LCMA 1 endorsed permit holders are required to v-notch and release all egg-bearing female lobsters caught in the process of lobstering [322 CMR 6.02].

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports [Ch.130 sec.38B].

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of March 2007)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39] • LCMA 1: Pot limit of 800 [CMR 6.13] • OCCLMA and LCMA 2 pot limits based on individual's initial trap allocation [CMR 6.13] and trap allocation transfers [CMR 7.03], not to exceed limit of 800 traps [CMR 6.13] • Year-specific trap tags required on all traps [CMR 6.31] • Degradable 'ghost' panels required [CMR 6.02]: 1. rectangular opening covered by panel at least 3 ¾ x 3 ¾ inches located in outer parlor allowing unobstructed exit of lobsters from trap; 2. panel to be fastened to trap by either wood lath; cotton, hemp, sisal, or jute twine not greater than 3/16" in diameter; or non-stainless, uncoated ferrous metal not greater than 3/32" in diameter; 3. door of trap may serve as ghost panel if fastened to trap with material specified above; 4. escape vent may serve as ghost panel if incorporated into a panel constructed of, or attached to the trap with a material specified above, and upon breakdown of the degradable materials, will create an opening at least 3 3/4" square. 5. traps constructed entirely or partially of wood shall be considered to be in compliance if constructed of wood lath to the extent that deterioration of wooden component(s) will result in unobstructed opening at least 3 3/4" square. • All traps, buoys and lobster cars must bear fisherman's license number not less than ½" in height nor less than 1/8" in thickness or width of line (for purposes of complying with this requirement, wire traps tagged with trap tags in accordance with 322 CMR 6.31 will be considered sufficient) [Ch. 130 sec.38 and CMR 3.07]. • Fisherman's buoy colors must be displayed on vessel [Ch.130 sec.38A]. • Surface Marking [CMR 4.13]: Traps require a single 7"x 7" or 5" x 11" buoy; stick is optional. Trawls: East end (South) - double buoy and one or more 3' sticks. West end (North) - single buoy with 3' stick and flag. Note Boston Harbor exemption. • Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13]. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. • Use of multiple pot strings (trawls) is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold (Southeastern Buzzards Bay and upper Vineyard Sound) [Ch.130 sec.37]. • Use of buoyed lobster cars is prohibited except in "inshore net areas" [CMR 6.14]. • Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03]. • Outer Cape: all fishermen must haul-out traps during January 15 – March 15 [CMR 6.02].

WHALE PROTECTION RULES		
YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN ALL STATE WATERS	It shall be unlawful for any person to fishm stock or abandon fixed fishing gear with: • Lines floating at the water's surface; • Positively buoyant groundline; and • Buoy lines comprised of positively buoyant line except the bottom portion of the line which may be a section of floating line, not to exceed 1/3 overall length of the buoy line [CMR 12.03]	
CAPE COD CRITICAL HABITAT GEAR RESTRICTIONS (from Jan 1 – May 15)	• 500-lb breakaway link on buoy line required [CMR 12.05] • Lines between traps must be negatively buoyant [CMR 12.05] • Single traps prohibited, must be at least 4-pot trawls with two buoy lines or two-pot "doubles" with just one buoy line [CMR 12.05]	

	• Buoys must be marked with "twin orange markers" [CMR 12.05 & 4.13] • Unlawful to mark fixed gear as required in [CMR 4.13] if traps are not properly rigged with features required in [CMR 12.05] • Floating line may be used on lower one-third of buoy line [CMR 12.05]	

	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (**Note:** No landing of lobster Feb 1 - Apr 30 from 8:00 PM through 6:00 AM [CMR 6.25])	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Greater New Bedford Harbor north of a line from Ricketson's Point (Dartmouth) to Wilbur Point (Fairhaven)	Year-round	CMR 6.29
	Eastern portion of Upper Cape Cod Bay Whiting Area	Oct 1-Nov 20	CMR 8.14

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Edible crabs from Jan 1 - April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40]; Egg-bearing lobsters [Ch.130 sec.41A]; V-notched female lobsters [CMR 6.02]; The catch of finfish and conch must not exceed the catch of lobster by weight, else a regulated fish pot fishery permit is required [CMR 7.09]. Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS [CMR 6.01]:

LCMA	MINIMUM SIZE	MAXIMUM SIZE
1	3 ¼"	5"
2	3 $^{3}/_{8}$"	
3	• 3 3/8" until 6/30/05; • 3 13/32"from 7/1/05 – 6/30/06; • 3 7/16" from 7/1/06 – 6/30/07; • 3 15/32" from 7/1/07 – 6/30/08; • 3 ½" from 7/1/08 and beyond.	
OCC	3 3/8"	

ESCAPE VENT MINIMUM SIZES [CMR 6.02]:

LCMA	RECTANGULAR	TWO CIRCULAR
1	1 15/16" x 5 3/4"	2 7/16"
2, 3, & OCC	2" x 5 3/4"	2 5/8"

V-NOTCH REGULATIONS

LCMA	REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER	RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER
1	Commercial fishermen fishing in LCMA 1 are required to carve a v-shaped notch in any egg-bearing female lobster at least ¼" and not greater than a ½" in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to and to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female	"ZERO TOLERANCE" applies. Fishermen may not possess a female lobster with a "v-shaped notch" of any size with or without setal hairs on the flipper right of the center flipper. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or

	lobster when underside is down.	obliterate a v-shaped notch.
2	No requirement	Commercial fisherman fishing or authorized to fish in LCMA 2 may not possess any female lobster that bears a notch or indentation in the base of the flipper that is at least as deep as 1/8 inch, with or without setal hairs.
3, & OCC	No requirement	Commercial fishermen fishing or authorized to fish in LCMA 3 or OCCLCMA and dealers may not possess a female lobster if it possesses a "v-shaped notch" defined as a straight-sided triangular cut, without setal hairs, at least ¼" in depth and tapering to a point. The flipper right of the center flipper will be examined when the underside of the lobster is down and its tail is toward the person making the determination. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	**LOBSTERING commercially with TRAPS - using STUDENT lobster permit**

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Student Lobster	.....	$65		$130

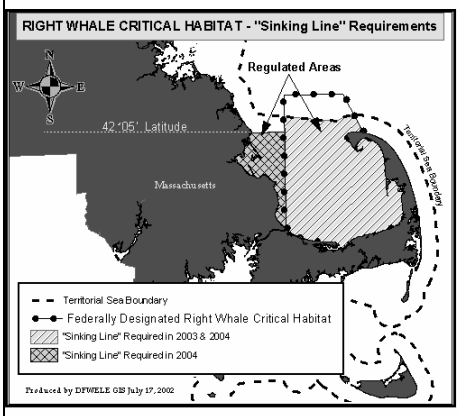
PERMIT LIMIT:	Permits are granted **only** to full-time students over the age of 12, but are not limited.
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	• Fishermen must declare which Lobster Conservation Management Area (LCMA) they intend to fish. [CMR 7.03] • Multiple LCMA endorsements are prohibited [CMR 7.03] • Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39]. • Fishing only allowed from June 15 - Sept. 15 [Ch. 130 sec.38] • No more than 25 traps may be set [Ch. 130 sec.38]. • Night fishing is prohibited [Ch. 130 sec.39]. • Permit holder not allowed to tend traps authorized under recreational permit (e.g. another family member's traps). • LCMA 1 endorsed permit holders are required to v-notch all female lobsters caught in the process of lobstering [322 CMR 6.02].

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports [Ch.130 sec.38B] supplied by DMF and available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39] • LCMA 1 and 2: Pot limit of 800 [CMR 6.13] • OCCLMA pot limit based on individual's initial trap allocation [CMR 6.13] and trap allocation transfers [CMR 7.03], not to exceed state water's limit of 800 traps [CMR 6.13] • Year-specific trap tags required on all traps [CMR 6.31] • Degradable 'ghost' panels required [CMR 6.02]: 1. rectangular opening covered by panel at least 3 ¾ x 3 ¾ inches located in outer parlor allowing unobstructed exit of lobsters from trap; 2. panel to be fastened to trap by either wood lath; cotton, hemp, sisal, or jute twine not greater than 3/16" in diameter; or non-stainless, uncoated ferrous metal not greater than 3/32" in diameter; 3. door of trap may serve as ghost panel if fastened to trap with material specified above; 4. escape vent may serve as ghost panel if incorporated into a panel constructed of, or attached to the trap with a material specified above, and upon breakdown of the degradable materials, will create an opening at least 3 3/4" square. 5. traps constructed entirely or partially of wood shall be considered to be in compliance if constructed of wood lath to the extent that deterioration of wooden component(s) will result in unobstructed opening at least 3 3/4" square. • All traps, buoys and lobster cars must bear fisherman's license number not less than ½" in height nor less than 1/8" in thickness or width of line (for purposes of complying with this requirement, wire traps tagged with trap tags in accordance with 322 CMR 6.31 will be considered sufficient) [Ch. 130 sec.38 and CMR 3.07]. • Fisherman's buoy colors must be displayed on vessel [Ch.130 sec.38A].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS: (cont'd)	• Surface Marking [CMR 4.13]: Traps require a single 7"x 7" or 5" x 11" buoy; stick is optional. Trawls: East end (South) - double buoy and one or more 3' sticks. West end (North) - single buoy with 3' stick and flag. Note Boston Harbor exemption. • Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13]. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. • Use of multiple pot strings (trawls) is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch.130 sec.37]. • Use of buoyed lobster cars is prohibited except in "inshore net areas" [CMR 6.14]. • Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03].

WHALE PROTECTION RULES		
YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN ALL STATE WATERS	It shall be unlawful for any person to fishm stock or abandon fixed fishing gear with: • Lines floating at the water's surface; • Positively buoyant groundline; and • Buoy lines comprised of positively buoyant line except the bottom portion of the line which may be a section of floating line, not to exceed 1/3 overall length of the buoy line [CMR 12.03]	
CAPE COD CRITICAL HABITAT GEAR RESTRICTIONS (from Jan 1 – May 15)	• 500-lb breakaway link on buoy line required [CMR 12.05] • Lines between traps must be negatively buoyant [CMR 12.05] • Single traps prohibited, must be at least 4-pot trawls with two buoy lines or two-pot "doubles" with just one buoy line [CMR 12.05] • Buoys must be marked with "twin orange markers" [CMR 12.05 & 4.13] • Unlawful to mark fixed gear as required in [CMR 4.13] if traps are not properly rigged with features required in [CMR 12.05] • Floating line may be used on lower one-third of buoy line [CMR 12.05]	

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (**Note:** No landing of lobster Feb 1 - Apr 30 from 8:00 PM through 6:00 AM [CMR 6.25])	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Greater New Bedford Harbor north of a line from Ricketson's Point (Dartmouth) to Wilbur Point (Fairhaven)	Year-round	CMR 6.29
	Eastern portion of the Upper Cape Cod Bay Whiting Area	Oct 1-Nov 20	CMR 8.14

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Egg-bearing lobsters [Ch.130 sec.41A], v-notched female lobsters [CMR 6.02(3)], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS [CMR 6.01]**:**

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of March 2007)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

LCMA	MINIMUM SIZE	MAXIMUM SIZE
1	3 ¼”	5”
2	3 $^{3}/_{8}$”	
3	• 3 3/8” until 6/30/05; • 3 13/32”from 7/1/05 – 6/30/06; • 3 7/16” from 7/1/06 – 6/30/07; • 3 15/32” from 7/1/07 – 6/30/08; • 3 ½” from 7/1/08 and beyond.	
OCC	3 3/8”	

ESCAPE VENT MINIMUM SIZES [CMR 6.02]**:**		
LCMA	**RECTANGULAR**	**TWO CIRCULAR**
1	1 15/16” x 5 3/4"	2 7/16”
2, 3, & OCC	2” x 5 3/4"	2 5/8"

V-NOTCH REGULATIONS		
LCMA	**REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER**	**RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER**
1	Commercial fishermen fishing in LCMA 1 are required to carve a v-shaped notch in any egg-bearing female lobster at least ¼” and not greater than a ½” in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to and to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster when underside is down.	“ZERO TOLERANCE” applies. Fishermen may not possess a female lobster with a “v-shaped notch” of any size with or without setal hairs on the flipper right of the center flipper. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.
2	No requirement	Commercial fisherman fishing or authorized to fish in LCMA 2 may not possess any female lobster that bears a notch or indentation in the base of the flipper that is at least as deep as 1/8 inch, with or without setal hairs.
3, & OCC	No requirement	Commerical fishermen fishing or authorized to fish in LCMA 3 or OCCLMA and dealers may not possess a female lobster if it possesses a “v-shaped notch” defined as a straight-sided triangular cut, without setal hairs, at least ¼” in depth and tapering to a point. The flipper right of the center flipper will be examined when the underside of the lobster is down and its tail is toward the person making the determination. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	**LOBSTERING commercially with SCUBA in state waters.**

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Coastal Lobster	.....	$260		$520

PERMIT LIMIT:	No new permits are being issued to lobster commercial in state waters. Existing permits are renewable and permit transfers area limited [CMR 7.03]
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	• Fishermen must declare which Lobster Conservation Management Area (LCMA) they intend to fish. [CMR 7.03] • Multiple LCMA endorsements are prohibited [CMR 7.03] • Night fishing for lobsters is prohibited [Ch. 130 sec.39].

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports [Ch. 130 sec.38b].

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	Scuba tank **and** floating marker must display permit numbers. Permit numbers shall be not less than 3 inches in height nor less than ½ inch in thickness or width of line [Ch. 130 sec. 38A and CMR 3.07].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: **(Note:** No landing of lobster Feb 1 - April 30 from 8:00 PM through 6:00 AM ([CMR 6.25])	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Greater New Bedford Harbor north of a line from Ricketson's Point (Dartmouth) to Wilbur Point (Fairhaven)	Year-round	CMR 6.29

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Edible crabs from Jan 1 - April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40], egg-bearing lobsters [Ch.130 sec.41A], v-notched female lobsters [CMR 6.02], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS [CMR 6.01]**:**		
LCMA	**MINIMUM SIZE**	**MAXIMUM SIZE**
1	3 ¼"	5"
2	3 $^{3}/_{8}$"	
3	• 3 3/8" until 6/30/05; • 3 13/32"from 7/1/05 – 6/30/06; • 3 7/16" from 7/1/06 – 6/30/07; • 3 15/32" from 7/1/07 – 6/30/08; • 3 ½" from 7/1/08 and beyond.	
OCC	3 3/8"	

V-NOTCH REGULATIONS

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

LCMA	REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER	RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER
1	Commercial fishermen fishing in LCMA 1 are required to carve a v-shaped notch in any egg-bearing female lobster at least ¼" and not greater than a ½" in depth and tapering to a sharp point in the flipper next to and to the right of the center flipper as viewed from the rear of the female lobster when underside is down.	"ZERO TOLERANCE" applies. Fishermen may not possess a female lobster with a "v-shaped notch" of any size with or without setal hairs on the flipper right of the center flipper. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.
2	No requirement	Commercial fisherman fishing or authorized to fish in LCMA 2 may not possess any female lobster that bears a notch or indentation in the base of the flipper that is at least as deep as 1/8 inch, with or without setal hairs.
3, & OCC	No requirement	Commerical fishermen fishing or authorized to fish in LCMA 3 or OCCLMA and dealers may not possess a female lobster if it possesses a "v-shaped notch" defined as a straight-sided triangular cut, without setal hairs, at least ¼" in depth and tapering to a point. The flipper right of the center flipper will be examined when the underside of the lobster is down and its tail is toward the person making the determination. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	**LOBSTERING recreationally with TRAPS or SCUBA using the Non-Commercial Lobster Permit.**

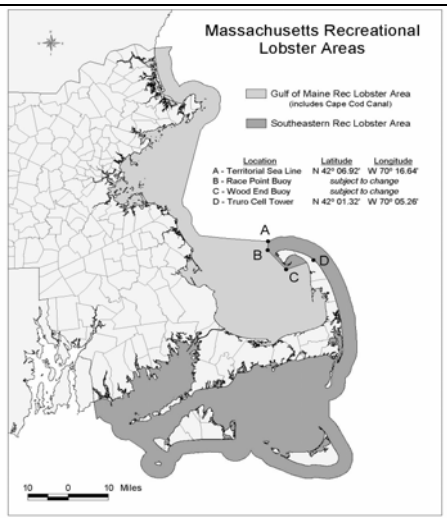
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Non-Commercial Lobster	.....	$40		$60

PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	• Sale of lobsters and crabs prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 38]. • No more than 10 traps may be set [Ch. 130 sec. 38]. • 15 lobster possession limit [322 CMR 6.02]. • Trap hauling at night prohibited [Ch. 130 sec. 39]. • Non-residents must own $5,000 in MA real estate and temporarily reside in a MA coastal town [Ch. 130 sec. 38]. • Non-residents may only use the permit during Jun - Sep.
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual Catch Report: number of traps set or hours diving and number of lobsters taken must be reported.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:

- Escape vent required in trap's parlor section and degradable 'ghost' panels required. Min. size requirements based on specific area fished [CMR 6.02]:

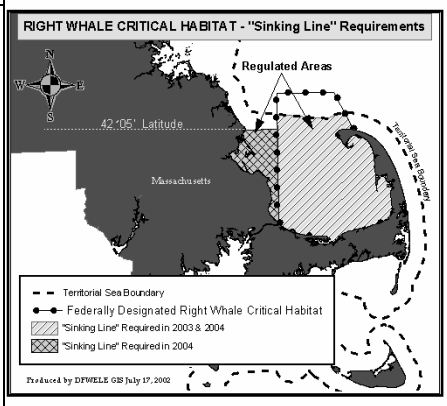
Recreational Lobster Area	Escape Vent Minimum Size
Gulf of Maine	1-15/16" x 5-3/4" or two circular vents at least 2-7/16" diameter
Southeastern	2" x 5-3/4" or two circular vents at least 2 5/8" diameter



- Degradable 'ghost' panels required [CMR 6.02].
- All traps and lobster cars must bear the letter "N" followed by the fisherman's license number. All buoys must be marked with the letter "N" prior to the 4-digit permit # and a dash with a single digit (0-9) indicating the sequential pot number [Ch. 130 sec.38 and CMR 3.07].
- Fisherman's buoy color scheme must be displayed on vessel [Ch.130 sec.38A].
- Marking [CMR 4.13]:
  Traps require a single 7"x 7" or 5" x 11" buoy; stick is optional.
  Trawls: East end - double buoy and one or more 3' sticks.
  West end - single buoy with 3' stick and flag.
  Note Boston Harbor exemption.
- Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13].
- Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].
- Use of trawls is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch. 130 sec.37].
- Use of buoyed lobster cars is prohibited except in "inshore net areas" [CMR 6.14].
- Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03].

WHALE PROTECTION RULES

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN ALL STATE WATERS	It shall be unlawful for any person to fishm stock or abandon fixed fishing gear with: • Lines floating at the water's surface; • Positively buoyant groundline; and • Buoy lines comprised of positively buoyant line except the bottom portion of the line which may be a section of floating line, not to exceed 1/3 overall length of the buoy line [CMR 12.03]	
YEAR-ROUND GEAR RESTRICTIONS IN CAPE COD BAY	Groundlines composed of negatively buoyant line [CMR 12.07]	
CAPE COD CRITICAL HABITAT GEAR RESTRICTIONS (from Jan 1 – May 15)	• 500-lb breakaway link on buoy line required [CMR 12.05] • Lines between traps must be negatively buoyant [CMR 12.05] • Single traps prohibited, must be at least 4-pot trawls with two buoy lines or two-pot "doubles" with just one buoy line [CMR 12.05] • Buoys must be marked with "twin orange markers" [CMR 12.05 & 4.13] • Unlawful to mark fixed gear as required in [CMR 4.13] if traps are not properly rigged with features required in [CMR 12.05] • Floating line may be used on lower one-third of buoy line [CMR 12.05]	

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (**Note:** No landing of lobster Feb 1 - Apr 30 from 8:00 PM through 6:00 AM [CMR 6.25])	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Greater New Bedford Harbor north of a line from Ricketson's Point (Dartmouth) to Wilbur Point (Fairhaven)	Year-round	CMR 6.29
	Eastern portion of the Upper Cape Cod Bay Whiting Area	Oct 1-Nov 20	CMR 8.14

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Edible crabs from Jan 1 - April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40], egg-bearing lobsters [Ch.130 sec.41A], v-notched female lobsters [CMR 6.02], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SIZE LIMITS [CMR 6.01]**:**		
RECREATIONAL LOBSTER AREA	**MINIMUM SIZE**	**MAXIMUM SIZE**
Gulf of Maine	3 ¼"	5"
Southeastern	3 $^{3}/_{8}$"	

V-NOTCH REGULATIONS

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

RECREATIONAL LOBSTER AREA	REQUIREMENT TO V-NOTCH FEMALE LOBSTER	RULES PERTAINING TO POSSESSION OF A V-NOTCHED FEMALE LOBSTER
Gulf of Maine	No requirement	"ZERO TOLERANCE" applies. Recreational fishermen may not possess a female lobster with a "v-shaped notch" of any size with or without setal hairs on the flipper right of the center flipper. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.
Southeastern	No requirement	Recreational fishermen and dealers may not possess a female lobster if it possesses a "v-shaped notch" defined as a straight-sided triangular cut, without setal hairs, at least ¼" in depth and tapering to a point. The flipper right of the center flipper will be examined when the underside of the lobster is down and its tail is toward the person making the determination. Also it is prohibited to possess a female lobster that is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure or obliterate a v-shaped notch.

FISHERY:	**MOBILE GEAR: Mid-water Trawls, Otter and Beam Trawls, Scallop Dredges, Bottom Pair Trawls, Scottish/Danish Seines and**

	Pair Seines. *(With **NO** Regulated fishery endorsements for small mesh fishing, north shore mobile gear, or inshore net. See separate sheets for other permits.)*

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Mobile Gear Coastal Access Endorsement	.....	$30		$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(3)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit)	.....	$30		$60

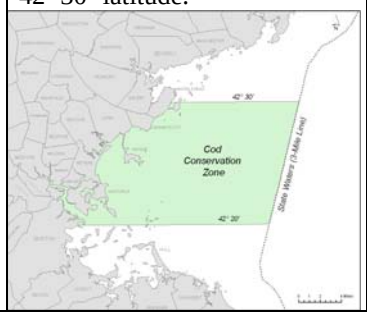
PERMIT LIMIT:	• Mobile Gear Coastal Access Permits limited to those who held permit in 1994 [CMR 7.05]. • Coastal Access Permits are transferable [CMR 7.05 & 7.06]
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Mesh minimum size [CMR 8.07] (See chart for boundaries): North & east of Cape Cod – 6½" in codend and 6" in body of net; South of Cape Cod – 6½" in codend and 6" in body of net Nov. 1 – Apr. 22; **Exception for squid trawling:** mesh less than 6½" in codend and 6" in body of net may apply for vessels permitted under 322 CMR 8.08(5) during Apr. 23 – Jun 9; **Note:** No mesh less than 6½" in codend and 6" in body of net shall be possessed by vessels: 1. during Jun. 10 – Apr. 22; and 2. during Apr. 23 – Jun. 9 when more than a total of 100 lbs. of winter flounder, yellowtail flounder, summer flounder (fluke), or windowpane flounder, in any combination, is in possession. • Vessel maximum size: 72 feet length overall except as noted in [CMR 7.05]. • Net rollers: 12" maximum diameter [CMR 8.04]. • Scallop dredge - Combined maximum 10-foot width in possession [CMR 4.10] - 3 ½" minimum ring size [CMR 4.10]. • Net strengtheners: Alterations which obstruct or diminish meshes prohibited, including the use of "twisted mesh" [CMR 8.07].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	All state waters closed to night mobile gear fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03

	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, includes Buzzards & Mt Hope Bays)	Year-round	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	North Shore state waters (Broad Sound to New Hampshire) except for Areas 5 & 6 where Regulated fishery endorsement is required.	Year-round	CMR 3.04
	North of Cape Cod inside spawning closure line from P'town to N.H.	Feb. 1 - May 31	CMR 8.09
	Area 3 from Plymouth to Hull	Apr. 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 3.04
	Area 4 off outer Boston Harbor	Apr. 1 – Dec. 31	CMR 3.04
	Nantucket Sound (1A) (Off Nantucket Island)	Apr. 1 – Apr. 30	CMR 3.04
	Nantucket Island (1B) (Great Pt. to Nant. Harbor)	Apr. 1 – Apr. 30 & Jun. 1 – Sep. 15	CMR 3.04
	Groundfish Closure I: Upper Cape Cod Bay and Mass. Bay (South of Marblehead)	Apr. 1 – May 31 & Oct. 1 – Nov. 30	CMR 8.12
	Groundfish Closure II: Marblehead north to N.H.	Apr. 1 – Jun. 30	CMR 8.12
	Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee to Nobska Pt., Falmouth (1/4 mile)	Apr. 23 - May 31	CMR 3.04
	Cape Cod backside (2A): from Nauset Light around Monomoy to Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee	May 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 3.04
	Area 2B from Provincetown to Plymouth	May 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 3.04
	Nobska Pt., Falmouth to Cuttyhunk (1/4 mile)	May 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 3.04
	East of Cape Cod	May 1 – May 31	CMR 8.12

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee to Nobska Pt., Falmouth (½ mile)	Jun. 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 3.04

	Cod Conservation Zone: waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of latitude 42º 20'and south of 42º 30' latitude. 	Dec. 1 – Feb. 28	It is unlawful for any person to: harvest cod from the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season; to fish, set, or abandon any gear capable of harvesting cod in the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season including all gillnets, otter trawls, mid-water trawls, seines, and all hook-and-line gears including longlines, rod-and-reel, and handlines. Excludes lobster traps and drags for scallops and urchins.

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Lobster [Ch. 130 sec. 37]. Note [CMR 4.06] which restricts mobile gear fishermen seen fishing in state waters to only 100 lobsters (taken from federal waters) in possession. Striped bass [CMR 6.07], shad [CMR 4.12], smelt [Ch.130 sec.35], tuna [CMR 6.04], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	**MOBILE GEAR: Otter and Beam Trawls, Bottom Pair Trawls, Scottish/Danish Seines and Pair Seines.**
	• With Regulated fishery endorsements for the following (permits required for each): **(A) North Shore Mobile Gear: access to Areas 5 & 6** **(B) Small-mesh fishing for whiting** **(C) Small-mesh fishing for squid** • Coastal Access Permit may be endorsed for North Shore Mobile Gear access or for the use of small mesh for pout, whiting, dogfish, or squid.

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Mobile Gear Coastal Access Endorsement	.....	$30		$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed (CAP can be endorsed for one of the regulated fisheries at no charge, each additional endorsement costs):					
	(3)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit),	.....	$30		$60

(A)	**North Shore Mobile Gear Endorsement**
PERMIT LIMIT:	• Coastal Access Permits limited to those who held permit in 1994 [CMR 7.05].
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual reports of monthly catch required. Catch reports are available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Mesh minimum size: 6" diamond or 6½" square unless use of smaller mesh is permitted. See (B) Small mesh permits. • Trawl sweep (footrope) maximum length: 80 feet [CMR 3.04]. • Vessel maximum size: 72 feet length overall except as noted in [CMR 7.05]. • No rollers: Only chain, wire or disk sweeps allowed [CMR 3.04].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night mobile gear fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	When permitted to fish in areas 5 & 6 the following closures apply:		
	Area 5 off Rockport	Apr. 1 – Jun 14 & Oct. 1 – Jan. 31	CMR 3.04
	Area 6 from Rockport to New Hampshire	Apr. 1 – Dec. 14	CMR 3.04

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Lobsters [CMR 3.04], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

(B)	Small-Mesh Endorsement for Whiting:
PERMIT LIMIT:	• **Whiting** permit valid during Sep 1 – Nov 20 in upper Cape Cod Bay Whiting Area [CMR 8.14] and only September 1 - 30, in Area 5 off Cape Ann.
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Catch reports may be required and are available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries. Contact DMF for details.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	**Upper Cape Cod Whiting Area:** • Mesh Minimum Size: 2 1/2" • Vessel Maximum Size: 72 feet length overall except as noted in [CMR 7.05]. • Groundgear: Raised footrope trawl required; also required for September in Cape Ann Whiting Area [CMR 8.14].

	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	Fishing for whiting in Cape Cod Bay is allowed only in the approved portion of Cape Cod Bay.	Fishing allowed only during Sep. 1 – Nov. 20.	CMR 8.14

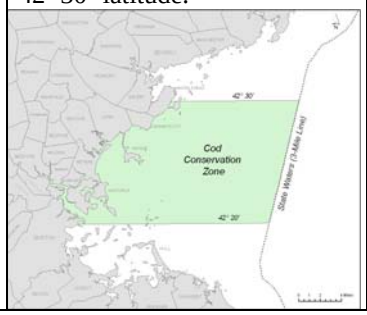
PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Regulated groundfish species (types of flounders, cod, haddock, or pollack) unless authorized by Director [CMR 8.07], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

(C)	Small-Mesh Permits for Squid:
PERMIT LIMIT:	• Permit only valid April 23 – June 9 [CMR 8.08]. Fishery limited to waters south of Cape Cod [CMR 8.07]. • Possession limit of 100 lbs. combined of winter flounder, summer flounder, yellowtail flounder, or windowpane flounder [CMR 8.07].
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Mesh Minimum Size: May be established as permit condition. • Vessel Maximum Size: 72 feet length overall [CMR 7.05]. • Net Rollers: 12" diameter [CMR 8.04].

	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	All state waters closed to night fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	Inshore Net Areas (estuaries and harbors, and includes Buzzards Bay)	Year-round (See "Trawling with Inshore Net Permit)	CMR 4.02
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	Nantucket Sound (1A) (Off Nantucket Island)	Apr. 1 – Apr. 30	CMR 3.04
	Nantucket Island (1B) (Great Pt. to Nant. Harbor)	Apr. 1 – Apr. 30 & Jun. 1 – Sep. 15	CMR 3.04

AREA/SEASON	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION

CLOSURES: **(cont'd)**	Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee to Nobska Pt., Falmouth (1/4 mile)	Apr. 23 - May 31	CMR 3.04
	Cape Cod backside (2A): from Nauset Light around Monomoy to Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee	May 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 3.04
	Nobska Pt., Falmouth to Cuttyhunk (1/4 mile)	May 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 3.04
	Succonnessett Pt., Mashpee to Nobska Pt., Falmouth (½ mile)	Jun. 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 3.04
	Cod Conservation Zone: waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of latitude 42º 20'and south of 42º 30' latitude. 	Dec. 1 – Feb. 28	It is unlawful for any person to: harvest cod from the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season; to fish, set, or abandon any gear capable of harvesting cod in the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season including all gillnets, otter trawls, mid-water trawls, seines, and all hook-and-line gears including longlines, rod-and-reel, and handlines. Excludes lobster traps and drags for scallops and urchins.

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	May not exceed total of 100 lbs. of winter flounders, yellowtail flounder, fluke, or windowpane flounder, in any combination when using mesh size less than 6 ½" in the cod end (6" throughout the remainder of the net [CMR 8.07], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	NORTHERN SHRIMP: Small-mesh Fishing in Federal Waters

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Northern Shrimp regulated fishery endorsement	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Codend Mesh Minimum Size: 1 3/4" [322 CMR 5.05]. • Nordmore grate (single or double) or other approved finfish excluder device required [CMR 5.05 & 5.06]. • Maximum distance between trawl doors and trawl wings, including ground cables, bridles, etc. shall not exceed 15 fathoms. Bottom legs bare wire or chain [CMR 5.05]. • Chafing gear and cod-end net strengtheners now allowed. *Other restrictions may apply. Shrimp regulations are amended by the states of Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts each fall for this winter/spring fishery. Contact DMF for details.*

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters	Year-round	CMR 8.07
	Federal waters	May 1 – November 30	CMR 8.07 CMR 5.04

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Regulated groundfish species bycatch [CMR 5.06 & 5.02], striped bass [CMR 6.07], shad [CMR 4.12], smelt [Ch. 130 sec. 35] tuna [CMR 6.04], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	**POTTING for SEA BASS**

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated black sea bass fish pot endorsement	.....	$30		$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed					
	(3)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit),	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	Permits limited to those fishermen who held a 1987 regulated black sea bass fish pot endorsement & reported activity in this fishery within 1988 - 1993 [CMR 6.12]. Permits are transferable. Fishermen who possess Coastal Lobster permit may take finfish in their traps as long as the weight of fish and conch does not exceed the weight of lobster [CMR 6.12].
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	Night fishing (½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise) is prohibited [CMR 6.15].

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Annual catch reports required (forms supplied by DMF, available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Year specific trap tag with permit number must be attached to trap's cross member. • Pot Limit of 200 combined sea bass and scup, or 350 if two permit holders fish from the same vessel [CMR 6.15]. • Two unobstructed escape vents or openings in the parlor section measuring at least 2 1/2" in diameter, two inches square, or 1 3/8" by 5 ¾" required [CMR 6.12]. • All buoys and traps must bear fisherman's permit number [CMR 6.12]. • Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03]. • Positively buoyant groundline prohibited [CMR 12.03]. • Buoy lines comprised of positively buoyant line except the bottom portion of the line which may be a section of floating line, not to exceed 1/3 overall length of the buoy line [CMR 12.03] • Marking [CMR 4.13]: 1) Traps require a single buoy (7"x 7"or 5"x 11"); stick optional with no flag. 2) Trawls: East end – double buoy and one or more 3' sticks. West end – single buoy with 3' stick and flag. • All fish traps require ghost panel [CMR 6.12]. • Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13]. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. • Use of trawls is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch. 130 sec.37]. • All vessels must display buoy color scheme [CMR 6.12].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Edible crabs from January 1- April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40], lobster (a commercial lobster permit is needed to take lobster) [CMR 7.01], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

FISHERY:	**POTTING for Conch, Scup, or other species (excluding SEA BASS)**

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
			or			
		Shellfish	.....	$40		$80
	(2)	Regulated conch and scup fish pot endorsements	.....	$30		$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(3)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit),	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	Permits are limited to those fishermen who held a regulated endorsement for scup and for conch prior to August 17, 1990 and are transferable [CMR 6.12].
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	• Conch pot fishery closed from Dec. 15 - April 14 [CMR 6.12]. • All conchs must be landed whole in the shell [CMR 6.21]

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	Pot fishermen must submit catch reports annually. Available online at www.mass.gov.marinefisheries.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Year specific trap tag with permit number must be attached to trap's cross member. • Pot Limit of 200 conch traps; 50 scup traps [CMR 6.15]. • Conch traps defined as lacking side heads or horizontal laths [CMR 6.12] • All buoys and traps must bear fisherman's permit number [CMR 6.12]. • Marking [CMR 4.13]: 1) Traps require a single buoy (7"x 7"or 5"x 11"); stick optional with no flag. 2) Trawls: East end – double buoy and one or more 3' sticks. West end – single buoy with 3' stick and flag. • All fish traps require accepted ghost panel [CMR 6.12]. • Two unobstructed escape vents or openings in the parlor section measuring at least 3.1" in diameter or 2.25" square required [CMR 6.12]. • Trawl maximum length: 2000 feet [CMR 4.13]. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. • Use of trawls is prohibited in the waters of Gosnold [Ch. 130 sec.37]. • All vessels must display buoy color scheme [CMR 6.12]. • Use of floating line at the surface prohibited [CMR 12.03]. • Positively buoyant groundline prohibited [CMR 12.03]. • Buoy lines comprised of positively buoyant line except the bottom portion of the line which may be a section of floating line, not to exceed 1/3 overall length of the buoy line [CMR 12.03]

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Edible crabs from Jan 1 - April 30 [Ch. 130 sec.40], lobster (commercial lobster permit needed) [CMR 7.01], black sea bass (black sea pass pot permit needed) [CMR 7.01], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	PURSE SEINING for SEA HERRING or MENHADEN.

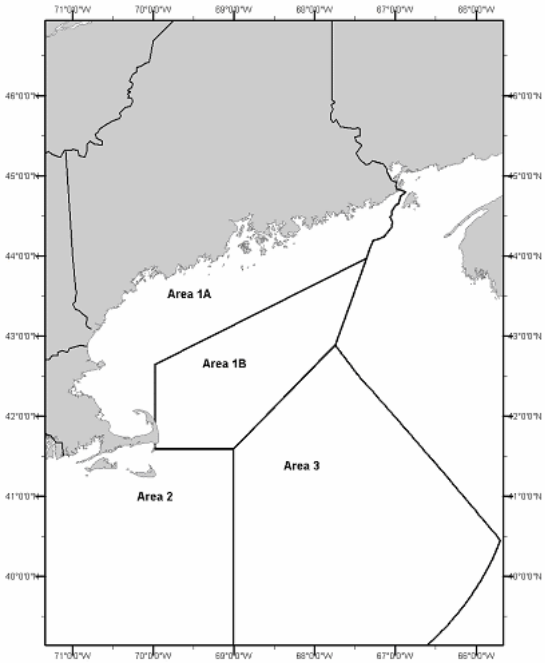
PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated sea herring fishery endorsement	.....	$30		$60
	If certain species are being taken or landed:					
	(3)	Species-specific regulated fishery endorsement, including groundfish (if vessel has no federal groundfish or monkfish permit)	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	No catch reports are presently required.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	The 90' vessel size limit [CMR 8.05] does **not** apply to vessels fishing in state waters, but vessels >165 feet - 3,000 HP cannot land herring in the Commonwealth [CMR 9.03].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All State Waters* (closed to sea herring)	Aug. 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 9.02
	Inshore Net Areas** (estuaries and harbors, and includes Buzzards Bay)	Year-round	CMR 4.02
	Eastern Cape Cod Bay*** (Dennis to Wellfleet)	Year-round	CMR 4.01
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	* During the annual sea herring spawning closure, vessels fishing in other fisheries are allowed a by-catch of 10 % herring by weight. **Inshore Net Regulated fishery endorsement required to gain access to these areas year-round. *** Regulated fishery endorsement may be issued to fish in this area. Vessels seeking to fish in a restricted area from Rock Harbor, Orleans to Jeremy Point, Wellfleet are further restricted. See CMR 4.01.		

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

MANAGEMENT AREAS & ANNUAL SPECIFICATIONS		
	COMMERCIAL LIMITS	
Management Area 1A	Landing and possession of herring prohibited: 1. on Saturdays and Sundays; 2. on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays when 75% of the Management Area 1A quota is taken or projected to be taken on or before September 1; and 3. when 100% of the Management Area 1A is taken or projected to be taken.	
Management Area 1B	Landing and possession of herring prohibited when 100% of the Management Area 1B is taken or projected to be taken.	
Management Area 2	Landing and possession of herring prohibited when 100% of the Management Area 1B is taken or projected to be taken.	
Exception: Vessels may land or possess up to 2,000 lbs. of sea herring during times the directed fishery is closed as described in CMR 9.05.		

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Striped bass [CMR 6.07] and shad [CMR 4.12], smelt [Ch.130 sec. 35], tuna [CMR 6.04], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	COMMERCIAL SHELLFISHING (OTHER THAN DREDGING FOR SURF CLAM, OCEAN QUAHOGS OR POTTING CONCHS)

PERMIT REQUIRED:

In approved waters:

(1) License from respective coastal municipality [Ch. 130, § 52 & 53]

(2) Commercial fishermen license endorsed for shellfish required to sell shellfish harvested from approved waters [Ch. 130, § 75 & 83]

Licenses endorsed for Commercial Shellfish		Resident		Non-Resident
Coastal Lobster	.....	$260		$520
Large Boat (60' – 90')	.....	$195		$390
Small Boat (0' – 59')	.....	$130		$260
Individual (from shore or non-powered vessel only)	.....	$65		$130
Shellfish	.....	$40		$80
Rod & Reel – Shellfish (from shore or non-powered vessel only)	.....	$55		$130

In certain restricted or conditionally restricted areas, as designated by DMF:
(Note: As of 1997, DMF no longer permits harvest of contaminated soft shelled clams for bait)

(1) License from respective coastal municipality [Ch. 130, § 52 & 53]

(2) Special license to harvest, possess, and sell shellfish from restricted areas [CMR 7.01 & 7.02]

Special Shellfish Permits		Resident		Non-Resident
Master Digger	.....	$130		$260
Subordinate Digger	.....	$40		$80

PERMIT LIMIT: None.

PERMIT RESTRICTIONS: None.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

- Yearly catch reports required for shellfishermen harvesting in approved waters.
- Cities and towns generally require a yearly catch report at the time of license renewal.
- Master diggers report as noted in the special permit requirements.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS: Subject to town authority (Ch. 130, § 52).

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:

LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04

Shellfish growing waters may be closed to the harvest of shellfish as a result of:

(1) Public health closure based upon water quality, e.g. bacteria or oil spill. (Ch. 130, § 74, 74A & 75)

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES: (cont'd)	(2)	Marine Biotoxin closure based upon the presence of toxin above NSSP closure levels in raw shellfish (Ch. 130, § 74A; 322 CMR 6.38)
	(3)	DMF Management Closure (MC) based upon the lack of a DMF shellfish sanitary survey, triennial report or NSSP required number of water samples (Ch. 130, § 2, 17, 17A, 74, 75, 80 & 104; 322 CMR 7.01)
	(4)	Municipal management closure based upon the closure of an area for management or propagation purposes (Ch. 130, § 54)
	(5)	Ch. 130, § 71 establishes a closed harvest season for bay scallops April 1 to October 1 each year. Municipalities may modify bay scallop season within the above mentioned season [Ch. 130, § 73].

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

FISHERY LIMITS:

Possession Limits – subject to town or city regulation

Minimum Size – subject to state law or regulation as listed:

INVERTEBRATES	MINIMUM SIZE	OTHER RESTRICTIONS
BLUE CRAB	4 1/8" shell width (spine to spine)	open season May 1 - Dec. 31; egg-bearers cannot be taken
LOBSTER	3¼" carapace length 5" maximum size in Area I	egg-bearers & v-notched females cannot be possessed
SEA URCHIN	2" diameter excluding spines	commercial open season Sep 1 - Apr 30
CONCH	2¾" shell width [322 CMR 6.21]	Consult town regulations
OYSTER	3" shell diameter [322 CMR 6.20]	Consult town regulations
QUAHOG	1" shell thickness [322 CMR 6.20]	Consult town regulations
SEA SCALLOP	3½" shell height [322 CMR 6.05]	
SOFT-SHELL CLAM	2" shell diameter [322 CMR 6.20]	Consult town regulations
BAY SCALLOPS	Well-defined growth ring	Consult town regulations; closed season April 1 - Oct 1
SURF CLAM	5" shell diameter, [322 CMR 6.08]	Possession limits

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	COMMERCIAL QUAHOG DREDGING

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
			or			
		Individual (from shore or non-powered vessel only)	.....	$65		$130
	(2)	Regulated quahog dredge endorsement	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	• Regulated quahog dredge endorsement limited to those who held a quahog dredging endorsement in 2001 [CMR 6.36]. • Regulated quahog dredge endorsement is transferable.
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	None.
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	All commercial quahog dredge fishermen are required to provide the Director with a monthly record of the areas fished, times fished, and a daily record of harvest by bushel [CMR 6.36]. Forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.
GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Dredge limited to 48 inches effective fishing width. [CMR 6.36] • Limited to operation of one dredge. [CMR 6.36] • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night fishing.	Year-round	[CMR 8.03]
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04
	No fishing in any area designated as contaminated and classified as PROHIBITED by DMF	Year-round	[Ch. 130 §§ 74 or 74A]
	No fishing in any area closed for management purposes. Contact DMF.	Contact DMF	[CMR 6.08]
	No fishing in any area not classified as APPROVED according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.	Contact DMF	[CMR 6.08]

SPECIES BANNED TO THIS GEAR:	Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].
FISHERY LIMITS:	Possession Limits - Limit of 40 bushels per 24 hour day [CMR 6.36].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	OCEAN QUAHOG DREDGING

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated ocean quahog endorsement	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	• Regulated ocean quahog endorsement limited to those who held a permit and can document landings from state waters prior to 6/3/93 or meet the requirements to fish for surf clams [CMR 6.08].
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	• Regulated ocean quahog endorsement is transferable.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	• All commercial ocean quahog fishermen are required to provide the Director with a monthly record of the areas fished, times fished, and a daily record of harvest by bushel [CMR 6.08]. Forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Hydraulic dredge limited to 100-inch effective fishing width [CMR 6.08]. • Limited to operation of one dredge [CMR 6.08]. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. • Pump limited to 300 GPM at a 10-ft. head.

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night fishing.	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	No fishing in any area designated as contaminated and classified as PROHIBITED by DMF	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No fishing in areas not classified as APPROVED according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.	Year-round	CMR 6.08

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Bay Scallops, and quahogs (M. mercenaria) unless licensed by town where fishing for those species [CMR 6.08], any vessel rigged for ocean quahogs may not possess surf clams [CMR 6.08], sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

FISHERY LIMITS:	Minimum Size – None Possession Limits - 26 cages (832 bushels) per 24 hour day [CMR 6.08].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	SEA URCHIN FISHERY using DREDGES

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated surf clam endorsement	.....	$30		$60
	(3)	Regulated mobile gear coastal access endorsement (if fishing with dredge greater than 48 inches in waters open to mobile gear fishing)	……	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	CAP permits are limited to those who held a permit in 1994 and are transferable [CMR 7.05].
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	None.
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Limited to single dredge of 48 inches effective fishing width if fishing in areas closed to mobile gear (spare may be stowed on board) [CMR 6.24]. • Frame constructed of ¾" (or smaller) stock with skids 3' or less. • Chain sweep constructed of no more than ¼" in a single layer square pattern less than 4.5' long. • Twine codend maximum 5' long. • Chafing gear constructed of twine or rubber mat maximum 5' long and 4' wide. • Cable for towing dredge: maximum diameter 3/8" cable or 5/8" rope. • Limited to use and possession of dredge or combination of dredges with an effective fishing width of 10 feet when fishing in areas open to mobile gear [CMR 6.24]. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 7.05].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night fishing.	Year-round	[CMR 8.03 & 6.24]
	All state waters.	Mar 1 – Oct 31	[CMR 6.24]

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37]. No bycatch of regulated species allowed, including any finfish, lobsters, or shellfish [CMR 6.24]; sub-legal urchins must be culled and returned immediately [CMR 6.24];

FISHERY LIMITS:	None.

FISHERY:	SEA URCHIN FISHERY with SCUBA

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
			or			
		Individual (from shore or non-powered vessel only)	.....	$65		$130
	(2)	Regulated sea urchin endorsement	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	None.
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	None.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	**LOCATION**	**DURATION**	**REGULATION**
	All state waters.	May 1 – Aug. 31	[CMR 6.24]
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37]. No bycatch of regulated species allowed, including any finfish, lobsters, or shellfish [CMR 6.24].Sublegal urchins must be culled and returned immediately [CMR 6.24].

FISHERY LIMITS:	None.

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	SURF CLAM DREDGING

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated surf clam endorsement	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	• Regulated surf clam endorsement limited to those who held a permit and can document landings from state waters prior to 2/4/93 [CMR 6.08]. • Regulated surf clam endorsement is transferable.
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	All commercial surf clam fishermen are required to provide the Director with a monthly record of the areas fished, ports landed, and a daily record of surf clams harvested [CMR 6.08]. Forms supplied by DMF.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Hydraulic dredge limited to [CMR 6.08]: 1. 48 inch effective fishing width except in waters noted below; 2. 100 inch effective fishing width in waters south of Chatham, then south and west within state waters to the MA/RI border; and 3. 16 inch effective fishing width in those waters of the Town of Chatham designated in [CMR 6.08(2)(j)]. • In waters of the Town of Chatham designated in [CMR 6.08(2)(j)], hydraulic dredges are to be powered by no more than a 3" pump with 300 GPM or less capacity at a ten foot head (according to manufacturer's specifications) [CMR 6.08]. • Limited to operation of one dredge. [CMR 6.08] • Vessel maximum size limited to 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05].

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night fishing	Year-round	CMR 8.03
	Any area designated as contaminated & classified as PROHIBITED by DMF	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	Any area not classified as APPROVED according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	Fish Weir Buffer Zone within the area marked by anchor buoys.	Year-round	CMR 4.04

AREA/SEASON	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION

CLOSURES: **(cont'd)**	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of the 12-foot depth contour from Point Allerton, Hull to the RI border (see CMR 6.08(2)(i-k) for exceptions regarding the Towns of Gay Head, Chatham & Nantucket).	Nov. 1 – Apr. 30	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of the 20-foot depth contour from Point Allerton, Hull to the RI border (see CMR 6.08 for exceptions regarding the Towns of Gay Head, Chatham & Nantucket).	May 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of line from Long Point, Provincetown to the "Hopper" so called in North Truro.	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of line from Jeremy Point, Wellfleet to the "Spire" in Brewster.	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of line from Seal Rocks off Scraggy Neck, Bourne to the southernmost tip of Sandy Point Dike, Wareham.	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams within area one-mile seaward from mean low water from Great Point Light to Sankaty Light, Nantucket.	May 1 – Oct. 31	CMR 6.08
	No dredging of surf clams shoreward of line from Jeremy Point, Wellfleet to the "Spire" in Brewster.	Year-round	CMR 6.08

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	Bay Scallops, and quahogs (M. mercenaria) unless licensed by town where fishing for those species [CMR 6.08]. Sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

FISHERY LIMITS:	Minimum Size - Surf clam minimum size limit 5" shell diameter [CMR 6.08]. Possession Limits - 200 bushels per 24-hour day [CMR 6.08] or 400 bushels per 48-hour trip when fishing in state waters [CMR 6.08].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

FISHERY:	**SURF CLAM DREDGING IN CONTAMINATED AREAS (Harvest for bait purposes from prohibited areas)**

PERMIT REQUIRED:				Resident		Non-Resident
	(1)	Commercial Fishermen				
		Boat 99+ feet Coastal or Offshore Lobster	.....	$260		$520
		Boat 60 - 99 feet	.....	$195		$390
		Boat 59 feet or less	.....	$130		$260
	(2)	Regulated surf clam endorsement	.....	$30		$60

PERMIT LIMIT:	None.
PERMIT RESTRICTIONS:	• Fisherman may not hold a Shellfish Transaction Card [CMR 6.08]. • Catch must be landed & distributed according to permit restrictions [CMR 6.08]. • All shellfish must be landed at a location to be named on the permit [CMR 6.08].

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:	• All commercial contaminated surf clam fishermen are required to provide the Director with a monthly record of the areas fished, ports landed, and a daily record of surf clams harvested by bushel [CMR 6.08]. Forms supplied by DMF & available online at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries. • In addition a daily record of sales must be kept [CMR 6.08]. • All bags and containers must be labeled at sea with red tags stating: "CONTAMINATED SHELLFISH – FOR BAIT PURPOSES ONLY" [CMR 6.08].

GEAR RESTRICTIONS:	• Hydraulic dredge limited to 16-inch effective fishing width. [CMR 6.08]. • Limited to operation of one dredge [CMR 6.08]. • Vessel maximum size: 90 feet registered length [CMR 8.05]. • Pump limited to 300 GPM at a 10-ft. head.

AREA/SEASON CLOSURES:	LOCATION	DURATION	REGULATION
	All state waters closed to night fishing.	Year-round	CMR 6.08 & 8.03
	Any area not specifically endorsed on permit	Year-round	CMR 6.08
	No fishing in areas classified as APPROVED.	Year-round	CMR 6.08

PROHIBITED SPECIES:	All other shellfish species, sturgeon [CMR 6.16], Atlantic salmon [CMR 6.06], and certain shark species including basking sharks, dusky sharks, sand tiger sharks, and white sharks [CMR 6.37].

FISHERY LIMITS:	Minimum Size - Surf clam minimum size limit 5" shell diameter [CMR 6.08]. Possession Limits - Limit of 50 bushels of shell stock or 100 gallons shucked per 24-hour trip [CMR 6.08].

If certain species are being taken or landed, commercial permits must be endorsed with the relevant species-specific regulated fishery endorsements. Each endorsement is assessed the indicated fee (**Not available for student lobster permitees**):

	Resident		Non-Resident
Regulated Fishery Endorsement (open access)	$30		$60
American Eel Black Sea Bass Dogfish Groundfish Horseshoe Crab Northern Shrimp Scup Sea Herring Sea Urchin Striped Bass Surf Clam (contaminated) Surface Gillnet Shellfish Sea Scallop Diving Sea Scallop Shucking Bay Scallop Shucking Inshore Net			
Regulated Fishery Endorsement (limited access)	$30		$60
Bluefin Tuna by Purse Seine Bluefish Gillnet Fish Pot – Black Sea Bass Fish Pot – Conch Fish Pot – Scup Fluke Gillnets Mobile Gear Coastal Access Ocean Quahog Surf Clam Quahog - Dredge			

FINFISH MINIMUM SIZE AND POSSESSION LIMITS

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
RULES & REGULATIONS SUMMARY
(as of March 2007)

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.

MINIMUM SIZE LIMITS

(1) Commercial and Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any person to possess:
- (a) Black sea bass less than 12" total length not including the tail tendril as established by 322 CMR 8.06.
- (b) Eels less than 6" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.30;
- (c) Dab less than 14" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.09;
- (d) Gray sole less than 14" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.09;
- (e) Halibut less than 36" as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (f) Monkfish less than 17" total length or monkfish tails less than 11" as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
- (g) Redfish less than 9" total length as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
- (h) Tautog less than 16" total length as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
- (i) Weakfish less than 16" total length as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
- (j) Windowpane flounder less than 12" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.09;
- (k) Winter flounder less than 12" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.09; and
- (l) Yellowtail flounder less than 13" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.03.

(2) Commercial Fishermen. It is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess:
- (a) Cod less than 22" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (b) Haddock less than 19" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (c) Pollock less than 19" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (d) Scup less than 9" total length as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
- (e) Striped bass less than 34" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.07; and
- (f) Summer flounder less than 14" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.09.

(3) Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any recreational fisherman to possess:
- (a) Cod less than 24" total length in the Gulf of Maine Cod Management Area as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (b) Cod less than 22" total length in the Cape Cod South and East Cod Mangaement Area as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (c) Haddock less than 19" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (d) Scup less than 10½ " total length as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
- (e) Striped bass less than 28" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.07;
- (f) Summer flounder (fluke) less than 17 ½" total length as established by 322 CMR 6.09; and
- (g) White perch less than 8" total length as established by 322 CMR 8.06.

POSSESSION LIMITS

(1) Commercial and Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any person to:
- (a) land or possess any Atlantic sturgeon or the endangered short-nosed sturgeon as established by 322 CMR 6.16;
- (b) attempt to harvest, or to harvest, catch, take, possess, transport, sell or offer to sell any basking shark, dusky shark, sand tiger shark, or white shark taken from the coastal waters of the Commonwealth as established by 322 CMR 6.37; and
- (c) possess, harvest, or sell river herring as established by 322 CMR 6.17.

(2) Commercial Fishermen. It is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess more than:
- (a) the daily allowance for black sea bass as established by 322 CMR 6.28;
- (b) the daily allowance for bluefish as established by 322 CMR 4.05;
- (c) 800 pounds of cod caught in waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth north of 42 00'N. latitude including all waters of Cape Cod Bay as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (d) 1,000 lbs. of cod caught in waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth South of 42 00'N. latitude excluding waters of Cape Cod Bay during a 24-hour day except that vessels with federal permits allowing the taking of cod from federal waters may possess and land more than 1,000 lbs. provided said cod were lawfully taken from federal waters [322 CMR 6.03];
- (d) Cod gonads weighing in aggregate in excess of 10% of the weight of cod aboard the vessel as established in 322 CMR 6.03;
- (e) 250 pounds of yellowtail flounder per day as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
- (f) 1 halibut per vessel per day as established by 322 CMR 6.03;

(g) the daily allowance for scup as established by 322 CMR 6.28;
(h) 30 striped bass daily during the open fishing days of Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; 5 striped bass daily during the open fishing day of Sunday [322 CMR 6.07];
(i) 40 tautog during any 24-hour period as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
(j) 6 shad as established by 322 CMR 8.06. (It is unlawful to possess shad taken by nets Ch 130, s100c);
(k) unlawful to possess sea herring during times and areas defined in 322 CMR 9.02;
(l) 1,000 horseshoe crabs during any 24-hour period starting at 12PM and no harvesting on Saturday and Sundays as established by 322 CMR 6.34;
(m) the daily allowance of spiny dogfish as established by 322 CMR 6.35;
(n) the daily allowance for fluke as established by 322 CMR 6.22; and
(o) the daily allowance for *Loligo* squid as established by 322 CMR 6.39.

(3) Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any recreational fisherman to possess at any one time more than:
(a) 20 black sea bass as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
(b) 10 bluefish as established by 322 CMR 6.18;
(c) 10 cod in the Cape Cod South and East Cod Mangaement Area as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
(d) 10 cod in the Gulf of Maine Cod Mangaement Area during April through October as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
(e) 1 halibut per person per day as established by 322 CMR 6.03;
(f) 25 scup during the open fishing period of May through August as established by 322 CMR 8.06 (50 fish/private boat; charter/party boats have 60/person from May through June);
(g) 2 striped bass as established by 322 CMR 6.07;
(h) 7 summer flounder as established by 322 CMR 6.22;
(i) 3 tautog during any 24-hour period as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
(j) 8 winter flounder in the Gulf of Maine Area & 4 winter flounder in the Southern New England Area (SNE) during the spring and fall open fishing periods beginning the 4th Saturday in April and September, respectively and lasting for 30 consecutive days [322 CMR 6.23];
(k) 6 shad as established by 322 CMR 8.06;
(l) 10 weakfish as established by 322.CMR 8.06;
(m) 25 white perch as established by 322.CMR 8.06; and
(n) 50 eels as established by 322 CMR 6.30;

It is unlawful for anglers aboard private recreational vessels or fishing from shore to possess more than 2 cod per person per day, not to exceed 75 lbs. per vessel in the Gulf of Maine Cod Management Area during November through March as established by 322 CMR 6.03.

It is unlawful for customers aboard for-hire vessels to land or possess cod harvested from the Gulf of Maine Cod Management Area during November through March as established by 322 CMR 6.03.

SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS

(1) Commercial and Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any person to:
(a) harvest cod from the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season or to fish, set, or abandon any gear capable of harvesting cod in the Cod Conservation Zone during the restricted season including all gillnets, otter trawls, mid-water trawls, seines, and all hook-and-line gears including longlines, rod-and-reel, and handlines. Excludes lobster traps and drags for scallops and urchins 322 CMR 8.15.

(2) Commercial Fishermen. It is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to possess:
(a) tautog outside of the open periods of April 16-May 15 and July 11-October 31 inclusive as established by 322 CMR 8.13;
(b) striped bass outside of the open period of July 12 until quota is reached and on no fishing days during open period as established by 322 CMR 6.07; and

(3) Recreational Fishermen. It is unlawful for any recreational fisherman to:
(a) take or possess winter flounder from the Southern New England Area outside of the spring and fall open fishing periods established by 322 CMR 6.23; and
(b) possess scup from October through April [322 CMR 8.06].

Refer to Chapter 130 and 322 CMR for details.