



**David E. Pierce**  
*Director*

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

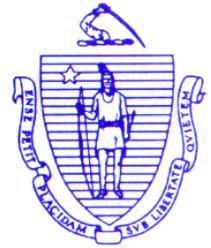
## Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617)626-1520

fax (617)626-1509



**Charles D. Baker**  
*Governor*

**Karyn E. Polito**  
*Lieutenant Governor*

**Matthew A. Beaton**  
*Secretary*

**George N. Peterson, Jr.**  
*Commissioner*

**Mary-Lee King**  
*Deputy Commissioner*

December 21, 2015

Name of Sector Manager  
Sector Name  
Address  
Address

### **RE: Phase 2 Federal Groundfish Disaster Aid Pre-qualification Notice to Sectors**

Dear <Name of Sector Manager>:

You are receiving this informational mailing because you are the manager of a Northeast Multispecies Sector. **The <Name of Sector> <is/ is not> pre-qualified to receive economic assistance from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as part of the state's Phase 2 disaster aid program.**

As part of the greater \$32.8-million federal groundfish disaster aid package, NMFS approved an \$8.3-million Phase 2 disaster aid program that has already distributed aid to eligible federal, state and for-hire permit holders, commercial and for-hire crew members and shoreside businesses. A final aspect of Phase 2 is to provide eligible Massachusetts sectors with financial support for Fishing Year (FY) 2014 administration costs.

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has pre-qualified for Phase 2 aid those Northeast Multispecies Sectors who have at least one active<sup>1</sup> member homeported in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This is consistent with the homeport formulas used throughout the disaster aid program to allocate funds among states and qualify eligible participants within Massachusetts. Lease-only sectors are ineligible.

**Based upon an audit of federal permitting and trip reporting data for FY2014, DMF has made a preliminary determination that the <Name of Sector> <is/ is not> eligible for a direct assistance payment in Phase 2.** Please note that final Phase 2 payments from MA may be reduced should your sector qualify under any other state sector subsidy program so that total Phase 2 payments to your sector do not exceed the final flat rate paid to MA-based sectors.

If you have any questions regarding your sector's pre-qualification status or believe there was an error in the data used to make this preliminary determination, please contact Samantha Andrews, DMF Program Coordinator, by phone at (617) 626-1564 or by email at [Samantha.n.andrews@state.ma.us](mailto:Samantha.n.andrews@state.ma.us). Appeals must be made in writing (c/o Samantha Andrews, 251 Causeway St., Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114; or by dated email) and must be postmarked no later than January 8, 2016. Following conclusion of all appeals, DMF will finalize your qualification status and flat rate in writing.

Sincerely,

Melanie Griffin  
Fishery Policy Analyst

<sup>1</sup> An active sector member is defined as a limited-access multispecies permit holder enrolled in a Northeast Multispecies Sector with a Massachusetts homeport as of April 30, 2015 who landed fish on at least one groundfish trip in FY2014.