



Daniel J. McKiernan
Acting Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

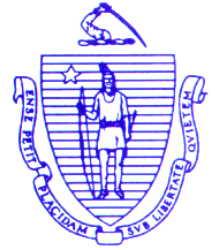
Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts, 02114

(617) 626-1520

fax (617) 626-1509



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito

Lieutenant Governor

Kathleen Theoharides

Secretary

Ronald S. Amidon

Commissioner

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February 21, 2020

Marine Fisheries Advisory

DMF TO INCREASE 2020 PERIOD I SUMMER FLOUNDER TRIP LIMITS TO 2,000 POUNDS EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 23, 2020

DMF is increasing the Period I (January 1 – April 22) commercial summer flounder trip limit from 1,000 pounds to 2,000 pounds. This change goes into effect at 6:00 AM on Sunday, February 23, 2020. This 2,000 pound limit will remain in effect through April 22nd, unless 25% of the annual summer flounder quota is taken, at which time the trip limit will be automatically reduced to 100 pounds. This action is being implemented pursuant to the Director's declaratory authority ([Legal Notice](#)) and was approved by the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission at their February 20, 2020 business meeting.

The Period I (January 1–April 22) summer flounder fishery is allocated 30% of the annual summer flounder quota. The annual quota for 2020 is 786,399 pounds, leaving the Period I fishery with a seasonal quota allocation of 235,920 pounds. To date, the reported landings for Period I are 41,486 pounds and just over 80% of the Period I quota allocation remains available. Accordingly, this trip limit adjustment is being made to provide those offshore vessels who target fluke during the wintertime with additional access to the available quota allocation.

For more information regarding the management of summer flounder in Massachusetts, please visit our website (www.mass.gov/marinefisheries) or call DMF at 617-626-1520.