

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, Massachusetts 02114 (617) 626-1520 fax (617) 626-1509



Matthew A. Beaton Secretary **Ronald Amidon** Commissioner **Mary-Lee King**

Deputy Commissioner

March 20, 2018 *MarineFisheries* Advisory

Declaration to Fish Area 1A for Trimester 2

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Addendum I to Amendment 3 of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Herring requires harvesters to declare their intent to fish in Management Area 1A during Trimester 2. Harvesters must notify states of their intent to fish in Area 1A and the gear type they will be using at least 45 days prior to the start of the fishing season.

To opt-in, you must submit a completed declaration form and return it to the Division of Marine Fisheries. The completed form must be returned via e-mail (catherine.o'keefe@state.ma.us), by post to DMF c/o Cate O'Keefe, 836 S. Rodney French Blvd. New Bedford, MA 02744, or by fax to 508-990-0449.

r "Category A" federal permit holders, your declaration form must be received by DMF by no later than 5:00pm Friday April 13, 2018. For those small mesh

available on the ASMFC Calendar soon.

bottom trawl vessels with a "Category C" or "Category D" federal permit, your declaration form must be received by DMF by no later than 5:00pm May 31, 2018.

An ASMFC Days-Out Meeting to consider potential closed fishing and landing days and weekly catch limits is scheduled for April 25th, 2018 at 10:00am. Additional meeting details will be

For more information, please contact Cate O'Keefe by phone (508-742-9744) or by e-mail (catherine.o'keefe@state.ma.us). Additional information about the requirements for participating in the Trimester 2 Atlantic sea herring fishery in Management Area 1A may also be found in Addendum I to Amendment 3 on the ASMFC website.