



David E. Pierce, PhD.  
Director

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

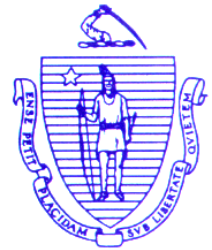
## Division of Marine Fisheries

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April 11, 2017

### Statement of Permit Conditions: Mobile Gear Closures in Massachusetts Bay

These permit conditions are being issued to delineate the spatial coordinates of the seaward boundary of the state's mobile gear closures in Massachusetts Bay. 322 CMR §4.06 establishes three spatial/temporal mobile gear closures in the area. In many places the seaward boundary for these closures is described as the Line of 1881. The coordinates for this line are not easily found nor are they readily available on NOAA charts or GPS plots. Accordingly, DMF is issuing these permit conditions to reduce gear conflicts and enhance enforcement. The boundaries of these closures are captured in the bullets below, as well as the attached map.

Pursuant to the authority of 322 CMR §7.01(7), the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that the following Statement of Conditions shall apply to all 2017 commercial fisherman permits with a regulated fishery permit endorsement for the Coastal Access Permit. Effective immediately it shall be unlawful to conduct mobile gear fishing shoreward of the boundaries described below during the times when such activity is prohibited by regulation at 322 CMR §§4.06(2)(a)-(c). This shall not apply to the lawful use of surf clam and ocean quahog dredges, dredge gear utilized in a municipally managed shellfish fishery and purse seines.

1. The seaward boundary of the North Shore Region Year Round Closure, as described at 322 CMR §4.06(2)(a), follows an imaginary straight line draw through the following points:
  - a. 42°24'23.340"N and 70°49'32.862"W;
  - b. thence following NNW at 345° magnetic to 42°24'26.692"N and 70°49'34.041"W;
  - c. thence following NE at 040° magnetic to 42°25'46.257"N and 70°48'02.871"W;
  - d. thence following NE at 040° magnetic to 42°26'58.971"N and 70°46'39.481"W;
  - e. thence following NE at 033° magnetic to 42°28'28.890"N and 70°45'17.685"W;
  - f. thence following NE at 033° magnetic to 42°29'38.186"N and 70°44'14.547"W;
  - g. thence following NE at 033° magnetic to 42°29'43.232"N and 70°44'09.951"W;
  - h. thence following NE at 054° magnetic to 42°30'00.764"N and 70°43'36.035"W;
  - i. thence following NE at 055° magnetic to 42°31'38.627"N and 70°40'26.529"W;
  - j. thence following E at 083° magnetic to 42°31'48.119"N and 70°38'26.915"W;
  - k. thence following NE at 062° magnetic to 42°32'26.903"N and 70°36'45.509"W;
  - l. thence following NE at 046° magnetic to 42°32'55.206"N and 70°36'04.705"W; and
  - m. thence following NE along the territorial seas line to the MA/NH border.
2. The seaward boundary of the Area 4 Outer Boston Harbor Closure, as described at 322 CMR §4.06(2)(b), follows an imaginary straight line draw through the following points:
  - a. 42°18'43.824"N and 70°45'18.605"W;
  - b. thence following WNW at 301° magnetic to 42°20'06.295"N and 70°48'20.596"W;
  - c. thence following N 004° magnetic to 42°20'45.002"N and 70°48'16.161"W; and
  - d. thence following NNW 345° magnetic to 42°24'23.340"N and 70°49'32.862"W.

3. The seaward boundary of the Area 3 Hull to Plymouth Closure, as described at 322 CMR §4.06(2)(c), follows an imaginary straight line draw from following the territorial seas line from east of Gurnet Point in Plymouth to:
  - a. 42°15'54.829"N and 70°41'19.034"W;
  - b. thence following NW at 323° magnetic to 42°17'45.963"N and 70°43'11.104"W; and
  - c. thence following NW at 301° magnetic to 42°18'43.824"N and 70°45'18.605"W.

**Any amendments shall become effective upon written notice to the permit holder. Any violation of the permit condition above is subject to the fines and penalties set forth at G.L. c. 130 §§ 2 and 80, G.L. c. 21A § 10H and 322 CMR 7.01(9), including but not limited to an administrative hearing to suspend or revoke your commercial fisherman permit.**



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David E. Pierce, Ph.D, Director

April 11, 2017

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Effective Date