



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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May 2, 2022

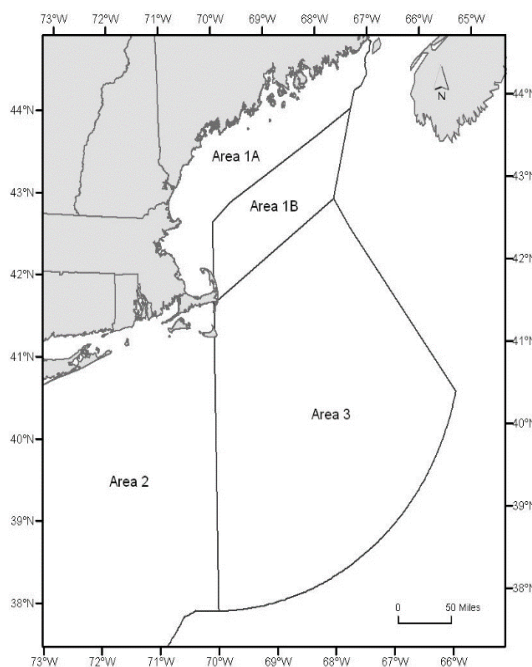
Marine Fisheries Advisory

Atlantic Sea Herring Area 1A Effort Controls for 2022 and Declaration to Participate in the Directed Atlantic Sea Herring Fishery in Area 1A

Initial Effort Control Measures

On April 26, 2022, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Atlantic Herring Management Board ("Board") met to set the initial effort control measures for the 2022 Area 1A directed fishery for June 1 to September 30 (Season 1). The Board approved the following effort control measures to managed the Area 1A quota of 700 mt for Season 1:

1. **Season Start Date.** The fishery shall open on Sunday, July 10, 2022 at 6PM. From June 1, 2022 through 6PM on July 10, 2022, the directed fishery in Area 1A will remain closed.
2. **Open Days.** Beginning at 6PM on Sunday, July 10, 2022:
 - i. Federal Category A permit holders that have declared into the Area 1A fishery may land herring five consecutive days per week with no more than one landing per 24-hour period. The fishing week shall begin at 6PM on Sundays and conclude at 6PM on Fridays. Vessels are prohibited from landing or possessing herring taken from Area 1A during a day out of the fishery.
 - ii. Federal Category C/D Small-mesh bottom trawl (SMBT) permit holders that have declared into the differential SMBT Days Out program in Area 1A may land herring six consecutive days per week. The week shall begin at 6PM on Sundays and conclude at 6PM on Saturdays.



3. Weekly Landing Limits. Category A permit holders that have declared into the Area 1A fishery may not harvest or land in excess of 240,000 pounds (six trucks) of herring per harvester vessel per calendar week starting at 6PM on Sunday, July 10, 2022.
4. At-Sea Transfers. Category A permit holders landing herring caught in Area 1A may transfer herring at-sea to another harvester vessel, but may not make any at sea transfers to a carrier vessel. Carrier vessels are prohibited from receiving any at sea transfers from a harvester vessel of herring taken from Area 1A.
5. Incidental Catch. All fishermen are prohibited from landing more than 2,000 pounds of herring from Area 1A during any closed period.

Declaration Process

Category A, C, and D permit holders seeking to participate in the 2022 directed commercial Atlantic sea herring fishery in Management Area 1A must obtain a Letter of Authorization (LOA) from the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF). To obtain this LOA, please complete the [embedded form](#) and return it to DMF via e-mail (jared.silva@mass.gov) prior to 5:00PM on May 15, 2022.

State-Only Fishermen

State-only permit holders do not need to submit a form to DMF. Nor do state only permit holders need to obtain a Letter of Authorization from DMF. Instead, these permit holders may fish under the 2,000-pound incidental catch and small scale fishery trip limit.

For more information regarding the management of Atlantic sea herring in Massachusetts, please visit www.mass.gov/marinefisheries and www.asmfc.org.