



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Marine Fisheries Advisory

DMF ADOPTS MINIMUM SIZE FOR COMMERCIAL BLUEFISH

Effective this year, DMF is establishing a 16" minimum size (total length) for the commercial bluefish fishery. This minimum size was implemented to prevent the misuse of the commercial permit to retain snapper bluefish in excess of the recreational limit for personal consumption. Therefore, all bluefish possessed by anyone commercially fishing for bluefish or commercially fishing while in possession of bluefish shall meet or exceed the 16" minimum size. Exempt from this are fishermen fishing for bluefin tuna who may retain bluefish less than 16" in length as bait provided the possession of bluefish does not exceed the recreational bag limit. The recreational bag limit for bluefish is 3-fish per angler except when onboard a for-hire vessel during a for-hire trip when the recreational bag limit is 5-fish per angler.

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