

Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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FISHERY CLOSURE

COMMERCIAL TAUTOG FISHERY

The commercial tautog spring quota allocation, as established by 322 CMR §6.40(1)(f), is projected to be taken on Sunday, May 8, 2016. Pursuant to the notice and public comment requirements of G.L. c.30A, §3 and under the authority of G.L. c.130, §17A and 322 CMR §§ 6.41(2)(c) and 7.01(7),the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries is enacting a commercial fishery closure for the Commonwealth's 2016 commercial tautog fishery effective 0001 hours on Monday, May 9, 2016. The commercial tautog fishery will re-open on September 1, 2016.

During the interim period, 322 CMR §6.40(3) and (4)(b) prohibit any fisherman from possessing tautog for commercial purposes or in a quantity that exceeds the 3-fish recreational bag limit. Moreover, 322 CMR §7.07(5)(b) prohibits any primary buyer from purchasing any tautog.

Dated: <u>May 6, 2016</u>