



David E. Pierce
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

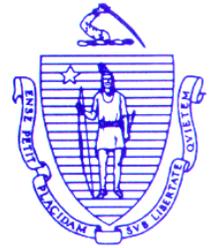
Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617)626-1520

fax (617)626-1509



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

George N. Peterson, Jr.
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

May 6, 2016

Marine Fisheries Advisory

Public Comment:

Trimester 2 Days-Out Schedule for Management Area 1A Atlantic Sea Herring Directed Fishery

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Atlantic Sea Herring Section (Section) - consisting of ASMFC Commissioners from Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts - approved a days out schedule for the Trimester 2 (June 1 – September 30) Management Area 1A Atlantic sea herring directed fishery. Pursuant to 322 CMR 9.05, the Division of Marine Fisheries will accept comment through May 20th on adopting the ASMFC-approved days out schedule for Massachusetts (instructions are provided below). Adopting this schedule will allow vessels in the Management Area 1A Atlantic sea herring directed fishery to land their catch in the Commonwealth. Following this public comment period, the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission will vote via fax poll to authorize the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries to declare days out for the Trimester 2 Management Area 1A Atlantic sea herring directed fishery.

- June 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016

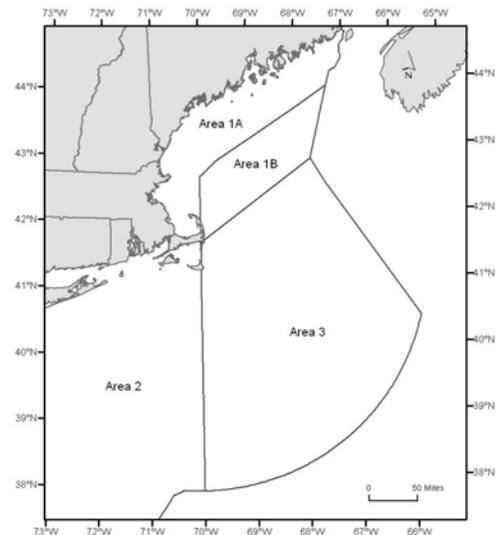
During this period, vessels in the directed fishery for Atlantic sea herring may land sea herring taken from Management Area 1A three days per week (Monday – Wednesday). Landing sea herring in Massachusetts will be unlawful from Thursday through Sunday (“days-out”). Except that a vessel may land up to 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring taken from Management Area 1A on any day-out, provided the vessel does not land more than once per day.

- July 1, 2016 – July 14, 2016

During this period, vessels in the directed fishery for Atlantic sea herring may land sea herring taken from Management Area 1A four days per week (Monday – Thursday). Landing sea herring in Massachusetts will be unlawful from Friday through Sunday (“days-out”). Except that a vessel may land up to 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring taken from Management Area 1A on any day-out, provided the vessel does not land more than once per day.

- July 15, 2016 – September 30, 2016

During this period, vessels in the directed fishery for Atlantic sea herring may land sea herring taken from Management Area 1A five days per week (Monday – Friday). Landing sea herring in Massachusetts will be unlawful on Saturdays and Sundays (“days-out”). Except that a vessel may land up to 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring taken from Management Area 1A on any day-out, provided the vessel does not land more than once per day.



The Section will meet again on July 11, 2016 to review Atlantic sea herring fishing effort and landing data from Management Area 1A and determine if the days out schedule needs to be adjusted to ensure quota remains available throughout Trimester 2. The ASMFC-approved days out schedule is found in the bullets below.

Instructions for Written Comments

Written public comments will be accepted until 4PM on Friday, May 20, 2016. Please address all comments to Director David Pierce. Comments can be sent by e-mail to marine.fish@state.ma.us or by mail to 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.