



David E. Pierce, PhD.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

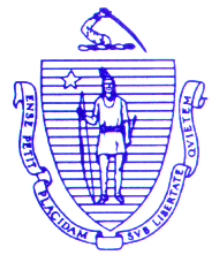
Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617) 626-1520

fax (617) 626-1509



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito

Lieutenant Governor

Kathleen Theoharides

Secretary

Ronald Amidon

Commissioner

Mary-Lee King

Deputy Commissioner

May 14, 2020

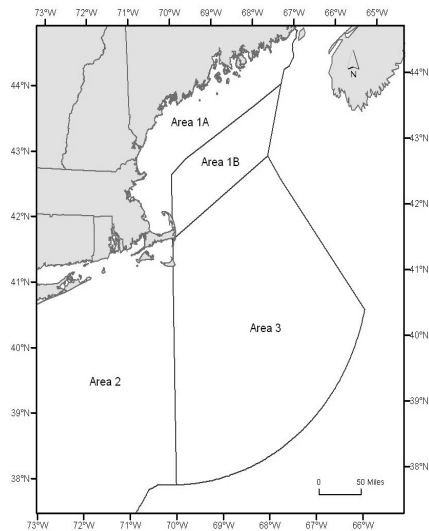
Marine Fisheries Advisory

Atlantic Herring Management Area 1A Effort Management Controls for Season 1

On May 12, 2020 the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Atlantic Sea Herring Board member states of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts set effort management controls for Season 1 (June 1 – September 30) in the inshore Gulf of Maine Area 1A. These measures are designed to control the harvest of the 2,152 metric ton sub-ACL for Season 1 and ensure bait availability throughout the period. The ASMFC will monitor the quota and may make adjustments to these effort controls during the season.

To start Season 1, the effort control measures are:

- Closed Period. During the period of June 1 – July 19, the directed fishery in Area 1A is closed.
- Category A Directed Fishery Controls. Beginning on July 20, authorized federal Category A permit holders that have declared into the fishery in Massachusetts may land sea herring taken from Area 1A from 0001 hours on Monday through 2359 hours Thursday. During these open landing days, the landing of sea herring is only allowed to occur once during any 24-hour period. The weekly aggregate landing limit for any participating vessel is 240,000 pounds (six trucks). The directed fishery is closed from 0001 hours on Friday through 2359 hours on Sunday. During this closed period, the possession and landing of sea herring is prohibited. The at-sea transfer of sea herring from one harvester vessel to another harvester vessel or from a harvester vessel to a carrier vessel is prohibited.
- Category C and D Directed Fishery Controls. Beginning on July 20, small mesh bottom trawlers with a federal Category C and D permit that have declared into the fishery in Massachusetts may land sea herring taken from Area 1A from 0001 hours on Monday through 2359 hours Friday. Category C permit holders are subject to a 55,000 pound trip limit and Category D permit holders are subject to a 6,600 pound trip limit. The directed fishery is closed from 0001 hours on Saturday through 2359 hours on Sunday. During this closed period, the possession and landing of sea herring is prohibited.
- Incidental Catch and Small-Scale Fishery Allowance. The possession and landing of up to 2,000 pounds of sea herring is allowed during any closed period, on any closed fishing day, or by any vessel that is not authorized to participate in the directed sea herring fishery in Massachusetts, including state-only permitted vessels.



DMF will implement these effort control measures in Massachusetts through a Statement of Permit Conditions enforceable by law. Per our April 13, 2020 [Advisory](#), federal permit holders are to declare into the directed fishery using the [embedded form](#). All forms are to be submitted to DMF by no later than Friday, May 29, 2020. Please submit the form to the attention of Jared Silva by e-mail (jared.silva@mass.gov), fax (617-626-1509), or mail (Attn: Jared Silva, Division of Marine Fisheries, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114). In turn, DMF will provide eligible vessels with the Statement of Permit Conditions authorizing their participation in the directed fishery in Massachusetts. Please note that there may be delays in processing Declaration Forms sent by mail or fax due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Electronic submission of this form will ensure a more expedient response.

For more information regarding the management of sea herring in Massachusetts, please visit our website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries