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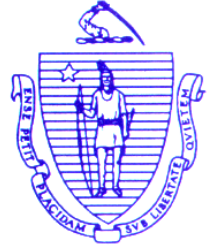
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Marine Fisheries Advisory

COMMERCIAL MENHADEN FISHERY PERMITTING GUIDELINES

Due to concerns regarding potential baitfish shortages this summer, interest in the state's commercial menhaden fishery has been amplified. The management of this fishery has evolved over time and depending on the location fished, the gear used and the quantity of fish to be retained fishermen may need up to five different regulated fishery permit endorsements to retain and land menhaden commercially.

In response, DMF has published a [new policy document](#) that provides guidelines to commercial menhaden fishery permitting rules. This policy does not alter the existing menhaden permitting or management structure, but instead succinctly describes the various permit classes and the tiers of fishing opportunities permit holders are authorized to engage in based on the permit endorsements held.

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