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May 21, 2015 <u>MarineFisheries Advisory</u>

Commercial Spring Tautog Fishery to Close Effective Sunday May 24, 2015

The Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) is projecting the 16,890-pound commercial spring tautog allocation will be taken by midnight on Saturday, May 23, 2015. Accordingly, the commercial spring tautog fishery will close effective 0001 hours on Sunday, May 24, 2015 (<u>Closure Notice</u>). The commercial tautog fishery will re-open on September 1, 2015 and will remain open until the remainder of the 2015 Massachusetts commercial tautog quota is caught. The overall 2015 commercial tautog quota is 54,984 pounds.

During the period of May 24, 2015 through August 31, 2015 it is illegal for any person to harvest, possess or land tautog in a manner that does not comply with the recreational fishery limits of 3 fish per angler at a minimum size of 16 inches. In addition, dealers are reminded that it is unlawful to purchase tautog from a fisherman when the fishery is closed.

For more information regarding tautog regulations, view <u>322 CMR 6.40</u> or contact *MarineFisheries* staff at 617-626-1520.

www.mass.gov/marinefisheries