

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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## June 7, 2022 MarineFisheries Advisory

## SMALL MESH TRAWL FISHERY FOR SQUID EXTENDED THROUGH JUNE 15

The Division of Marine Fisheries is extending the small mesh trawl season for squid through June 15, 2022; this fishery was previously scheduled to close on June 10 (<u>Declaration Notice</u> and <u>Permit Conditions</u>). This action is consistent with state regulations allowing DMF to extend the fishing season to provide the fishery with additional opportunities to harvest this resource while it is available in our waters and to the benefit of Massachusetts seafood industry. This decision also considers current fishery economics, catch rates and composition, and diminished fishing effort this season due to poor early season weather and reduced participation.

During this six-day season extension, trawlers may continue to fish within the small mesh trawl exempted area, as described at 322 CMR 4.06(1), using net mesh that measures at least 1 7/8". Effective June 16, 2022, trawlers will be prohibited from continuing to fish small mesh for squid and will be required to fish with large mesh measuring at least 6.5" in the cod end and 6" throughout in those waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth south and west of Cape Cod that are open to trawl fishing.

For more information, please visit our website (www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).