June 20, 2022

MarineFisheries Advisory

Limited Access Commercial Menhaden Fishery Closure
Effective Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Massachusetts’ commercial menhaden fishery is projected to have harvested 100% of the state’s 5,417,812-pound quota for 2022. Accordingly, the Commonwealth’s Quota Managed Menhaden Fishery will close effective at 12:01am on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 (Closure Notice).

When the Quota Managed Fishery is closed, commercial fishing for menhaden may continue under the Incidental Catch and Small-scale Fishery. This allows any commercial fisherman to continue to retain, possess, land and sell up to 6,000 pounds of menhaden per trip or calendar day, whichever period of time is longer.

The Incidental Catch and Small-scale Fishery will continue throughout 2022 unless Massachusetts obtains a transfer of menhaden quota from another Atlantic coastal state or is granted access to the Episodic Event Set Aside Fishery by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. The Division of Marine Fisheries expects to make an additional announcement about the status of the menhaden fishery later this week and a possible reopening of the limited access fishery at a 25,000-pound daily limit.

For more information about the management of menhaden in Massachusetts, contact DMF at 617-626-1520 or visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.