



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Director

July 8, 2020

Notice of Virtual Public Hearing: Closure of Cape Cod Canal to Commercial Striped Bass Fishing

Under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A and pursuant to the authority found at M.G.L. c. 130 §§ 2, 17A, 80 and 104, the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is taking public comment on recently enacted emergency regulations at 322 CMR 6.07 to close the Cape Cod Canal (“Canal”) to commercial striped bass fishing. All materials for this public hearing, including the strikethrough regulatory language, may be found on [DMF’s website](#) or may be acquired by contacting Jared Silva by e-mail at jared.silva@mass.gov.

The regulation prohibits any angler from retaining any striped bass at the Canal that do not conform to the recreational striped bass slot limit (28” to less than 35”) and daily bag limit (1-fish per angler). Additionally, persons may not possess any commercial sized striped bass (35” or greater) within 1,000 feet of the Canal, unless that fish was lawfully caught elsewhere and is being actively transported by vessel or vehicle to a seafood dealer for sale. The regulation defines the Canal as all waters and shoreline bounded by the seawardmost extent of the state pier at Taylor’s Point to the seawardmost extent of the northern breakwater jetty at the east end to the seawardmost extent of the southern breakwater jetty at the east end to the northernmost tip of the peninsula at the end of President’s Road in Bourne.

Public Comment Period and Public Hearing Schedule

DMF will accept written public comment through 5 p.m. on Friday August 14, 2020. Please address all written comments to Director Daniel McKiernan. Comments may be e-mailed under the subject “Public Comment on Cape Cod Canal” and sent to marine.fish@mass.gov or sent via post to the attention of Jared Silva at 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.

DMF has also scheduled a virtual public hearing for Monday, August 3, 2020 at 6 p.m.. The public hearing will be held virtually via Zoom. To attend the Zoom hearing, please use the login or call in information provided below. Immediately following the public hearing, a recording will be published to [DMF’s YouTube channel](#).

Public Hearing Login Information:

- Login Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84361223942?pwd=cG5YbFdJYmdvckVFYS9tcGRSVkR6dz09>
- Call In Number: 1-312-626-6799
- Login and Call In Password: 959101