



David E. Pierce, PhD.  
Director

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

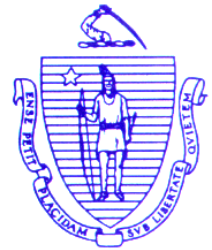
## Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617) 626-1520

fax (617) 626-1509



Charles D. Baker  
Governor

Karyn E. Polito  
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton  
Secretary

Ronald S. Amidon  
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King  
Deputy Commissioner

July 26, 2017

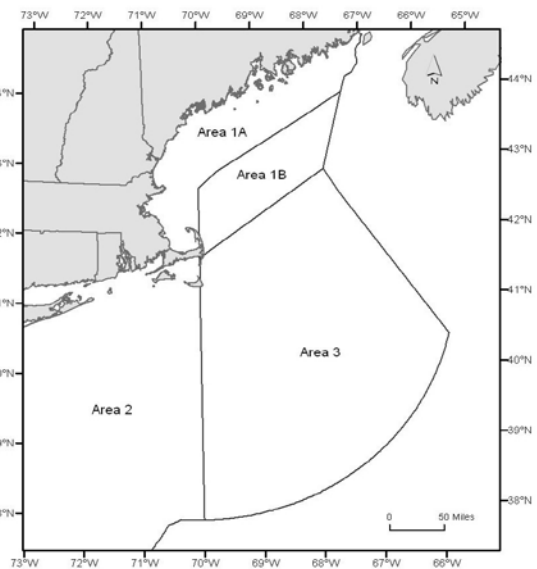
### Marine Fisheries Advisory

### Adjustments to Trimester 2

### Atlantic Sea Herring Fishery Management in Area 1A

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's has adjusted the days-out and landing limit measures for federal Category A permit holders during the Trimester 2 Atlantic Sea Herring Fishery in Management Area 1A. To participate in this fishery, federal "Category A" permit holders had to declare into this fishery in May. The Category A permit holders who have declared into this fishery ("participating vessels") will receive new permit conditions from DMF establishing these new limits. The below listed changes become effective on July 30, 2017:

- Participating vessels may fish for, possess and land sea herring taken from Management Area 1A **beginning at 0001 hours on Monday through 2359 hours on Friday.**
- Participating vessels are prohibited from fishing for, possession or landing sea herring taken from Management Area 1A from **Saturday at 0001 hours through Sunday at 2359 hours.**
- Participating vessels may land up to **680,000 pounds (17 trucks)** of sea herring per week. A week is defined as Sunday – Saturday. The use of carrier vessels is authorized. Carrier vessels are limited to receiving at-sea transfers from one catcher vessel per week and can land once per 24 hour period. Carrier vessels are limited to landing up to **120,000 pounds (3 trucks)** of sea herring per week. The carrier vessel's weekly landing is counted towards the vessel's weekly limit. A carrier vessel is a vessel with no gear on board capable of catching or processing fish.
- The at-sea transfer of sea herring between fishing participating vessels is **no longer prohibited**. Transfer of catch of sea herring taken from Management Area 1A to another vessel involved in the catching of sea herring within Area 1A **is allowed**.



Federal Category A permits are issued to large scale sea herring harvesters, including mid-water trawl and purse seine vessels. While Category A permits may be issued to mid-water trawl vessels, the use of this gear is prohibited during the Trimester 2 fishery. Federal regulations at 50

CFR §648.202 establish Management Area 1A as a purse seine and fixed gear only area from June 1 through September 30.

Undeclared vessels, including federal Category C and D permit holders (e.g., small mesh bottom trawlers), are authorized to participate in the Trimester 2 Management Area 1A fishery under the exempted sea herring limit [[322 CMR 9.05\(3\)](#)]. This allows these vessels to fish for, possess and land sea herring seven days per week.

The Section is scheduled to meet again on August 9, 2017. The purpose of the meetings will be to review landings data and determine if adjustments to fishing limits are necessary to optimize quota availability throughout the remainder of Trimester 2.

For more information, please contact Cate O'Keefe by phone (617-626-1512) or by e-mail ([catherine.o'keefe@state.ma.us](mailto:catherine.o'keefe@state.ma.us)).