



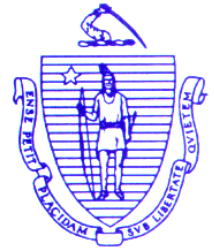
David E. Pierce
Acting Director

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

George N. Peterson, Jr.
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

July 29, 2015

Marine Fisheries Advisory

Menhaden Commercial Trip Limit Reduced to 25,000 pounds

The Acting Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries has [declared](#) that 75% of the Commonwealth's 2015 menhaden commercial quota of roughly 3.44 million pounds will have been landed on Wednesday, July 29. Accordingly, the commercial trip limit for regulated Atlantic menhaden fishery permit endorsement holders is reduced to 25,000 pounds effective 0001 hours on Thursday, July 30. Menhaden commercial trip limits are per trip or calendar day, whichever duration is longer.

This 25,000-pound trip limit will be further reduced to 6,000 pounds once the Director declares that 95% of the Commonwealth's 2015 menhaden commercial quota is taken. Commercial fishermen who have not been issued a regulated Atlantic menhaden fishery permit endorsement are held to a year-round 6,000-pound trip limit, until 100% of the annual quota is taken. At 100%, the directed menhaden fishery will be closed, and a bycatch tolerance of 1,000 pounds applies to all commercial fishermen. During the period when a bycatch tolerance is in effect, the weight of menhaden bycatch must not exceed 5% of the weight of the entire catch being landed.

Atlantic menhaden fishery permit endorsement holders are reminded of the requirement to also hold a bait dealer permit and report their landings of menhaden in the Commonwealth on a daily basis.

Contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at 617-626-1520 for more information
or refer to our website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.