



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

George N. Peterson, Jr.
Commissioner

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Deputy Commissioner

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Marine Fisheries Advisory

Reminder:

Commercial Striped Bass Open Fishing Days

Marine Fisheries has received recent reports regarding commercial fishermen possessing striped bass and dealers purchasing striped bass during the early morning hours of a closed fishing day that follows an open fishing day. These activities are unlawful and this Advisory serves as a reminder on how commercial fishing days apply.

The open commercial striped bass fishing days are Mondays and Thursdays. From 12:00AM (midnight) to 11:59PM on these open fishing days, permitted fishermen may harvest, possess, land, and sell up to the commercial striped bass limit authorized by their permit type. Effective 12:00AM (midnight) on Tuesday and Friday mornings, the commercial striped bass fishery is closed until the next open fishing day. When the fishery is closed, fishermen are prohibited from being in possession or landing more than the 1-fish recreational limit or selling any quantity of striped bass. Similarly, dealers are prohibited from purchasing any striped bass from fishermen on all closed fishing days.

If night fishing is occurring during an open fishing day, commercial striped bass fishermen must provide themselves with ample time to land and sell their catch, as all fish must be sold by 11:59PM on an open fishing day. Any fisherman who lands more than one fish prior to midnight on a Monday or a Thursday, but is unable to sell that fish before midnight that day, will be in violation of state regulations. Similarly, all dealers must discontinue purchases of striped bass from fishermen after 11:59PM.

Regulations relevant to the commercial striped bass fishery can be found at: 322 CMR [6.07](#), [6.41](#) and [7.07](#).

Please visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries