



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Director

NOTICE OF FISHERY CLOSURE

2020 LIMITED ACCESS QUOTA MANAGED COMMERCIAL MENHADEN FISHERY

Pursuant to the notice and public comment requirements of G.L. c. 30A § 3 and under the authority of G.L. c. 130 §§ 17A, 21 and 80 and 322 CMR §§6.41(2)(c) and 7.01(7), the Commonwealth's 2020 commercial menhaden quota, as established at 322 CMR §6.43(2), is projected to be taken on Thursday, August 6, 2020. In accordance with 322 CMR §6.43(4)(a)(3), the limited access quota managed commercial menhaden fishery in Massachusetts will be closed effective Friday, August 7, 2020.

Unless otherwise notified, the limited access quota managed commercial menhaden fishery will remain closed until 2021. During this period, it shall be unlawful for any fisherman to retain, possess, land, offer for sale or sell menhaden in a manner that does not conform with the incidental catch and small scale fishery limits for menhaden set forth at 322 CMR 6.43(3)(b). Additionally, pursuant to 322 CMR 7.07(5)(b), it shall be unlawful for bait dealers, permitted in accordance with G.L. c. 130 § 80 and 322 CMR §7.01(3), to purchase any menhaden from any fisherman during this closed period in quantities that exceed the above stated incidental catch and small scale fishery limits for menhaden.

Dated: August 6, 2020

By: 

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director