



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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NOTICE OF FISHERY CLOSURE

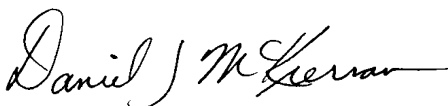
2020 MANAGEMENT AREA 1A COMMERCIAL SEA HERRING CLOSURE NOTICE FOR PERIOD II

The Management Area 1A Period 2 (June 1 – August 31) quota allocation of Atlantic sea herring, as established at 322 CMR §§ 9.01 and 9.02, is projected to be fully taken as of Sunday, August 23, 2020. Accordingly, 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), 7.01(7) and 9.05(3)(a), the Atlantic sea herring fishery in Management Area 1A is closed effective 0001 hours on Monday, August 24, 2020.

In accordance with 322 CMR § 9.05(4), vessels that have declared into the Management Area 1A fishery and hold a Letter of Authorization issued by the Division of Marine Fisheries may continue to take and land a bycatch of up to 2,000-pounds of Atlantic sea herring when fishing within Management Area 1A during this quota closure. This limit applies per calendar day or per fishing trip, whichever duration of time is longer. Also, vessels may transit Management Area 1A during this closure in possession of non-conforming quantities of Atlantic sea herring, provided that the fish was lawfully caught and all gear is stowed in a manner that it is unavailable for immediate use.

This closures also applies to dealers authorized in accordance with G.L. c. 130 § 80 and 322 CMR §§ 7.01(3) and 7.07(3), to purchase Atlantic sea herring directly from commercial fishermen. In accordance with 322 CMR §§ 7.01(7), 7.07(5)(b) and 9.05 these dealers are prohibited from purchasing or receiving more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring per vessel during any calendar day from a fishing trip that occurred within Management Area 1A, except as otherwise authorized.

Dated: August 21, 2020

By: 

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director

