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Commonwealth of Massachusetts

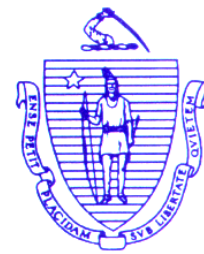
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August 31, 2016

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2016 COMMERCIAL BLACK BASS FISHERY CLOSED EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 5, 2016

The Commonwealth's 2016 commercial black sea bass quota of 352,525 pounds is projected to be taken by the end of the fishing day on Sunday, September 4, 2016. Accordingly, Massachusetts' commercial black sea bass fishery is closed effective 0001 hours on Monday, September 5, 2016 ([Closure Notice](#)). During the quota closure and until the 2017 commercial black sea bass fishery opens, it is unlawful for any commercial fisherman to harvest or land black sea bass and for any seafood dealer to purchase or receive black sea bass from any fisherman. All black sea bass pots must be removed from the waters of the Commonwealth prior to Thursday, September 8, 2016, and cannot be set until Saturday, July 29, 2017.

Commercial fisherman trip-level reports should be sent to DMF Statistics Project, 30 Emerson Ave, Gloucester, MA 01930. Reports must be submitted monthly by the fifteenth of the following month. Failure to submit these reports for all months of the year may result in the non-renewal of a commercial permit and its regulated fishery permit endorsements in 2017. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2016 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained from the *Marine Fisheries* website at: [Trip-Level Reporting](#).

Please also note that Massachusetts' 2016 recreational black sea bass fishery closes on September 1, 2016, and recreational harvest of black sea bass will be prohibited until the 2017 season opens (dates to be determined).

For more information on the management of black sea bass, contact *Marine Fisheries* at 617-626-1520 or visit our website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.