

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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Matthew A. Beaton Secretary Ronald S. Amidon Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

August 31, 2017

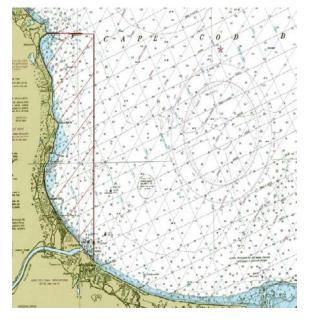
## Statement of Permit Conditions Temporary Closure to Surf Clam/Ocean Quahog Dredge Fishing in Western Cape Cod Bay

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF), with the approval of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission, has taken action to temporarily close a discrete nearshore area in Western Cape Cod Bay to surf clam and ocean quahog dredge fishing. This temporary closure will remain in effect through October 31, 2017. The action was taken in accordance with the Director's declaratory authority at 322 CMR §4.06(7) in order to alleviate continued conflicts with fixed gear fishermen and to protect new shell lobsters from mobile gear impacts.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority at, G.L. c. 130 §§ 2 and 80 and 322 CMR §§4.06(7) and

7.01(7), commercial fisherman permits with surf clam and ocean quahog dredge regulated fishery permit endorsements are hereby conditioned:

• From August 28, 2017 through October 31, 2017 permit holders are prohibited from fishing with surf clam and ocean quahog dredge gear within an area of Western Cape Cod Bay beginning at Manomet Point in Plymouth, at 41° 55' latitude and 70°32.2' longitude; thence heading due east for 2.5 miles to where it intersects with a point at 41°55' latitude and 70°29' longitude; thence due south along the 70°29' longitudinal line to where it intersects with the shoreline in the town of Sandwich; thence following the shoreline back to the initial point.



Any violation of the above stated permit condition is subject to the fines and penalties set forth at G.L. c. 130 §§ 2, 17A and 80, G.L. c. 21A § 10H and 322 CMR 7.01(9), including but not limited to an administrative hearing to suspend or revoke your commercial fisherman permit.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter,

David Sierce

David E. Pierce, PhD Director

August 31, 2017

Effective Date