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September 1, 2019

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2019 COMMERCIAL BLACK SEA BASS FISHERY TO CLOSE EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2019

Massachusetts' 2019 commercial black sea bass quota of 457,600 pounds is projected to be taken after Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Accordingly, the Massachusetts commercial black sea bass fishery will be closed effective Wednesday, September 4, 2019 ([Closure Notice](#)). The fishery will remain closed until 2020. During the closed period, it is unlawful for fishermen to possess and land black sea bass for commercial purposes or in a manner that does not conform to the state's recreational fishing regulations. Additionally, it is unlawful for seafood dealers to purchase or receive black sea bass from fishermen.

Commercial fishermen are to submit monthly trip-level reports by the fifteenth of the following month, even if their permit as not fished. Reports should be sent to DMF Statistics Project, 30 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930. Failure to submit these reports for all months of the year in a timely manner may result in the non-renewal of a commercial permit and its endorsements in 2020. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2019 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained on the [Trip Level Reporting website](#).

For more information about the management of black sea bass in Massachusetts, contact DMF at 617-626-1520 or visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.