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DECLARATION OF FISHERY CLOSURE

2018 COMMERCIAL BLACK SEA BASS 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 2018 commercial black sea bass quota, as established at 322 CMR § 6.28(1), is projected to be taken on Sunday, September 9, 2018. In accordance with 322 CMR §6.28(2)(c)(6), the commercial black sea bass fishery in Massachusetts will be closed effective Monday, September 10, 2018.

The commercial black sea bass fishery will remain closed until it reopens in 2019. During this period, it shall be unlawful for any fisherman to possess or land black sea bass in a manner that does not conform with the recreational black sea bass limits at 322 CMR 6.28(3), or to offer for sale or sell any black sea bass. Additionally, pursuant to 322 CMR 7.07(5)(b), it is unlawful for seafood dealers, permitted in accordance with G.L. c. 130 § 80 and 322 CMR §7.01(3) to purchase black sea bass from any fisherman during this closed period.

Dated: September 5, 2018

By: 