



David E. Pierce, PhD.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

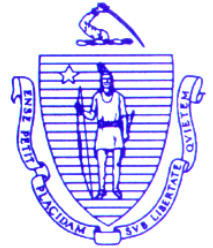
Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617) 626-1520

fax (617) 626-1509



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Ronald S. Amidon
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

September 13, 2017

Marine Fisheries Advisory

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 14, 2017:

COMMERCIAL LIMITED ACCESS MENHADEN FISHERY

TRIP LIMIT REDUCED TO 6,000 POUNDS

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that 95% of the 2017 commercial menhaden quota will be landed by Wednesday, September 13, 2017. Accordingly, the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries has declared that the commercial limited access menhaden fishery trip limit will be reduced from 25,000 pounds to 6,000 pounds, effective at 0001 hours on Thursday, September 14, 2017 ([Declaration Notice](#)). Menhaden trip limits are possession and landing limits and apply per calendar day or per trip, whichever period is longer. This 6,000 pound trip limit is now commensurate with the open access trip limit and shall apply to any commercial fisherman retaining or landing menhaden.

This 6,000-pound limit will remain in effect until 100% of the 2017 commercial quota is taken. Once 100% of the quota is taken a bycatch allowance will be allowed for the commercial fishery (both limited access and open access participants). This bycatch allowance authorizes any commercial fisherman to possess and land up to 1,000 pounds of menhaden per trip, provided the weight of menhaden does not exceed 5% the overall weight of the catch.

Commercial fishermen are required to submit monthly trip-level reports by the fifteenth of the following month, even if their permit is 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 2018. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2017 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained on the [Trip Level Reporting website](#).

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