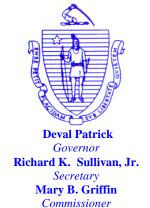


Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

Division of Marine Fisheries

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September 13, 2013 *MarineFisheries* Advisory

Commercial Striped Bass Fishery to Remain Closed

The Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that the Commonwealth's 2013 commercial striped bass quota of 997,869 pounds has been taken. In accordance with 322 CMR 6.07(7)(t), Massachusetts fishermen are prohibited from possessing and landing striped bass for commercial purposes until the 2014 commercial striped bass season opens. The recent Sundaysonly re-opening of the fishery on September 1 and 8 helped accomplish the completion of the quota.

Dealers may import striped bass legally taken from out-of-state fisheries, provided fish are whole and individually tagged with state of origin, as allowed under current rules (322 CMR 6.07(6)(f)). Tags shall remain attached to fish if re-sold whole. If fish are processed after importation, all containers of fillets must meet labeling requirements and tags be retained for 30 days.

Commercial fishermen are reminded that trip-level reports covering the month of September are due no later than October 15. Harvesters who pre-submitted their trip-level report covering the month of September and then participated in the re-opened fishery need to submit an amended report for September (or enter their positive trip(s) if reporting electronically). Failure to submit these reports in a timely manner for all months of the year, regardless of whether the permit was fished, may result in the delay of the renewal of your commercial fishing permit and its endorsements in 2014. Paper based trip-level reports should be sent to: DMF Statistics Project, 30 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out with your 2013 commercial permit; additional copies and other helpful info can be obtained at: Trip-Level Reporting.

For additional information, contact *MarineFisheries* at 617-626-1520 or refer to our website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries