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FISHERY CLOSURE NOTICE

2016 ATLANTIC SEA HERRING MANAGEMENT AREA 1A TRIMESTER II CLOSURE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

The Management Area 1A Trimester II quota allocation for Atlantic sea herring, as established at 322 CMR §§ 9.01 and 9.02, is projected to have been taken. Accordingly, 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), 7.01(7) and 9.03(3), the Atlantic sea herring fishery in Management Area 1A is closed effective 0001 hours on Thursday, September 15, 2016. The directed sea herring fishery in Management Area 1A will remain closed through September 30, 2016.

In accordance with 322 CMR § 9.05(3), vessels may take and land a 2,000 lb incidental catch of sea herring from the closed management area during the quota closure period. This limit applies per calendar day or per fishing trip, whichever duration of time is longer. Also, vessels may transit Management Area 1A during this closure in possession of non-conforming quantities of Atlantic sea herring, provided that the fish was lawfully caught and all gear is stowed in a manner that it is unavailable for immediate use.

This closure also applies to dealers authorized in accordance with G.L. c. 130 §80 and 322 CMR §§7.01(3) and 7.07(3), to purchase Atlantic sea herring directly from commercial fishermen. In accordance with 322 CMR §§7.01(7), 7.07(5)(b) and 9.05 these dealers are prohibited from purchasing or receiving more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring per vessel during any calendar day from a fishing trip that occurred within Management Area 1A, except as otherwise authorized.

Dated: September 14, 2016

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