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Commonwealth of Massachusetts

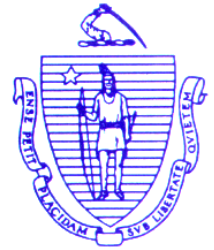
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September 16, 2015

MarineFisheries Advisory

2015 COMMERCIAL BLUEFISH FISHERY TO CLOSE EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 19

Massachusetts' 2015 commercial bluefish quota is projected to be harvested by the end of the day on Friday, September 18, 2015. Consequently, the commercial bluefish fishery will close effective 0001 hours on Saturday, September 19, 2015 ([Closure Notice](#)). Massachusetts' initial 2015 quota allocation of 352,036 pounds was increased to 602,036 pounds through two quota transfers from other Atlantic coast states in order to extend the open season.

From September 19, 2015 through December 31, 2015, it is unlawful for commercial fishermen to land or possess bluefish, and for seafood dealers to purchase bluefish from Massachusetts commercial fishermen. The recreational bluefish fishery remains open with a daily limit of 10 fish per angler, as specified in 322 CMR 6.18.

Commercial fishermen are reminded that trip-level reports are due monthly by the fifteenth of the following month, even if their permit was 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 2016. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2015 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained from the *MarineFisheries* website at: [Trip-Level Reporting](#).

For more information on the management of bluefish in Massachusetts, contact *MarineFisheries* at 617-626-1520 or visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.