



David E. Pierce, PhD.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

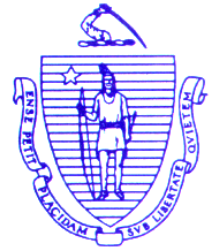
Division of Marine Fisheries

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 18, 2017

Marine Fisheries Advisory

Adjustments to Trimester 2

New Measures for Trimester 3

Atlantic Sea Herring Fishery Management in Area 1A

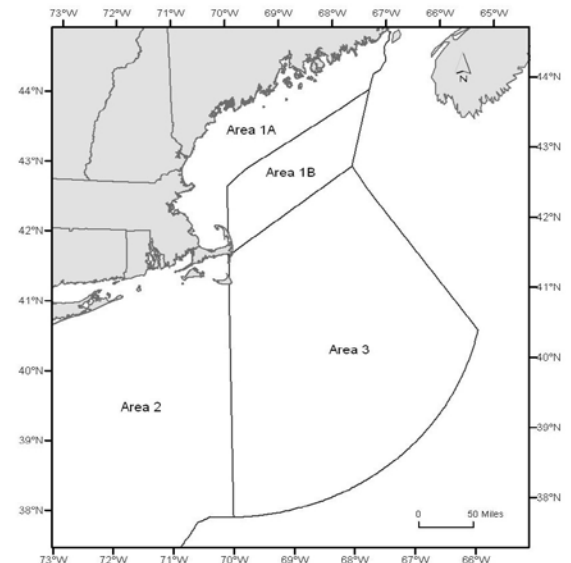
The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's has adjusted the days-out and landing limit measures for federal Category A permit holders during the Trimester 2 Atlantic Sea Herring Fishery in Management Area 1A, as well as set measures for Trimester 3. To participate in this fishery, federal "Category A" permit holders had to submit a declaration of intent to DMF in May. Participating vessels will receive [permit conditions](#) from DMF establishing these new limits. These changes become effective immediately.

Trimester 2 (ending September 30, 2017)

- Participating vessels may fish for, possess and land sea herring taken from Management Area 1A **seven (7) consecutive days per week, one landing per 24 hour period.**
- Participating vessels may land up to **1,000,000 pounds (25 trucks)** of sea herring per week. A week is defined as Sunday – Saturday. A harvester vessel can transfer herring at-sea to another catcher vessel.
- The use of carrier vessels is authorized. Carrier vessels are limited to receiving at-sea transfers from one catcher vessel per week and can land once per 24 hour period. Carrier vessels are limited to landing up to **120,000 pounds (3 trucks)** of sea herring per week. The carrier vessel's weekly landing is counted towards the harvester vessel's weekly limit. A carrier vessel is a vessel with no gear on board capable of catching or processing fish.

Trimester 3 (October 1 – December 31, 2017)

- Participating vessels may fish for, possess and land sea herring taken from Management Area 1A **beginning at 0001 hours on Monday through 2359 hours on Wednesday.**
- Participating vessels are prohibited from fishing for, possession or landing sea herring taken from Management Area 1A from **Thursday at 0001 hours through Sunday at 2359 hours.**



Federal Category A permits are issued to large scale sea herring harvesters, including mid-water trawl and purse seine vessels. While Category A permits may be issued to mid-water trawl vessels, the use of this gear is prohibited during the Trimester 2 fishery. Federal regulations at 50 CFR §648.202 establish Management Area 1A as a purse seine and fixed gear only area from June 1 through September 30.

Undeclared vessels, including federal Category C and D permit holders (e.g., small mesh bottom trawlers), are authorized to participate in the Trimester 2 Management Area 1A fishery under the exempted sea herring limit [322 CMR 9.05(3)]. This allows these vessels to fish for, possess and land sea herring seven (7) days per week.

For more information, please contact Cate O'Keefe by phone (617-626-1512) or by e-mail (catherine.o'keefe@state.ma.us).