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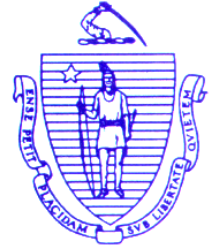
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September 19, 2019

Marine Fisheries Advisory

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 20, 2019: COMMERCIAL LIMITED ACCESS MENHADEN FISHERY TRIP LIMIT INCREASED TO 25,000 POUNDS

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has received a transfer of commercial menhaden quota enabling the limited access fishery trip limit to be increased back to 25,000 pounds, effective at 0001 hours on Friday, September 20 ([Re-Opening Notice](#) and [Permit Conditions](#)). This 25,000-pound limited access fishery trip limit will remain in effect until 95% of the adjusted 2019 commercial quota is taken, at which time it will be reduced to 6,000 pounds.

The 2019 commercial menhaden fishery opened with a 6,045,252-pound annual quota. By regulation, the commercial limited access menhaden fishery trip limit starts at 125,000 pounds and is reduced to 25,000 pounds when 85% of the quota is taken and 6,000 pounds when 95% of the quota is taken. Due to reaching these landings thresholds, the trip limit was reduced to 25,000 pounds on August 9 and 6,000 pounds on August 16. DMF then received a combined transfer of 500,000 pounds of additional menhaden quota from the states of Rhode Island and Connecticut. This resulted in landings being between 85–95% of the adjusted quota, allowing DMF to reopen the fishery on August 22 with a 25,000-pound trip limit. The trip limit was again reduced to 6,000 pounds on September 6 after 95% of the adjusted quota was taken. DMF has since received an additional quota transfer from the state of Connecticut. Landings are again between 85–95% of the adjusted quota, allowing the fishery to reopen at a 25,000-pound trip limit. This trip limit increase will allow both small-scale and mid-sized fishery participants continued access to the menhaden population that remains abundant in our state waters.

For more information regarding the management of marine fisheries in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, please visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.