

David E. Pierce, PhD. Director

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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Charles D. Baker Governor Karyn E. Polito Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Theoharides Secretary Ronald Amidon Commissioner Mary-Lee King Deputy Commissioner

September 19, 2019

## <u>Statement of Permit Conditions:</u> Limited Entry Commercial Menhaden Fishery to Re-Open at 25,000-pound Trip Limit

The purpose of this Statement of Permit Conditions is to re-open the limited entry commercial menhaden fishery at the 25,000-pound trip limit authorized at 322 CMR 6.43(4)(a)(2). On September 6, 2019, the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) reduced the limited entry commercial menhaden fishery trip limit to 6,000 pounds in accordance with 322 CMR 6.43(4)(a)(3). However, subsequent to this action, DMF received a transfer of 2019 commercial menhaden quota. With the receipt of this quota transfer, state landings are now between 85–95% of the adjusted quota, enabling a return to the 25,000-pound trip limit authorized at 322 CMR 6.43(4)(a)(2).

Pursuant to the authority of G.L. c. 130 § 80 and 322 CMR § 7.01(7), the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that the **Statement of Conditions** enumerated below shall apply to all 2019 commercial fishing permits and limited entry regulated fishery permit endorsements for menhaden. This letter <u>does not</u> exempt you from any existing laws or regulations governing the commercial menhaden fishery.

1. <u>Trip Limit</u>: Effective September 20, 2019, it shall be unlawful to retain, possess or land more than 25,000 pounds of menhaden in the waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth during any calendar day or trip, whichever duration is longer. This trip limit shall remain in effect until 95% of the adjusted 2019 commercial menhaden quota is taken and the trip limit is reduced to 6,000 pounds, as provided at 322 CMR 6.43(4)(a)(3).

Violation(s) of any condition or restriction as contained herein or any provision of 322 CMR 6.43 may result in the suspension or revocation of the commercial fishing permit and any other fines and penalties as provided in G.L. c.130. The Director may amend this Statement of Permit Conditions at any time.

June

September 19, 2019

Effective Date

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