



David E. Pierce, PhD
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

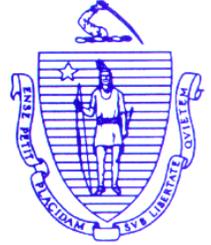
Division of Marine Fisheries

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September 24, 2019

Public Hearing: Updates to Lobster Processing Regulations

Under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A and pursuant to the authority found at M.G.L. c. 130 §§ 17A, 44, 80 and 104, the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is proposing regulatory amendments to 322 CMR §6.32 to revise its lobster processing regulations consistent with recent changes to G.L. c. 130 §44 that accommodate additional commerce in shell-on lobster parts and opportunities to process whole live lobsters into shell-on lobster parts. The proposed regulatory amendments include:

1. Authorizing permitted wholesale dealers to process whole live lobsters of legal size into shell-on lobster parts and import shell-on lobster parts into the Commonwealth for processing. All shell-on lobster tail shall weight at least 3 oz. All processing activity shall be conducted in accordance with the relevant Department of Public Health regulations.
2. Requiring all processed shell-on lobster parts and packages thereof to be labeled. Product processed in Massachusetts shall be labeled with a description of the product, the license number, the address of the facility where they are processed, and the date of processing. All imported shell-on lobster parts must be accompanied by a bill of lading, or similar documentation, describing the product, identity and address of the original processor, name of the receiving dealer in Massachusetts, and the address of the wholesale dealer in Massachusetts where processing will occur.
3. Allowing the in-state wholesale and retail distribution of shell-on lobster parts. All shell-on on lobster tail shall weight at least 3 oz.

Public Hearing Schedule

The Division of Marine Fisheries has scheduled one public hearing for:

9 AM

October 17, 2019

DFW's Field Headquarters

1 Rabbit Hill Road

Westborough, MA

Public Comment Instructions

The Division of Marine Fisheries will accept written public comment through 5PM on Wednesday, October 16, 2019. Please address all written comments to Director Pierce and submit to DMF by e-mail at marine.fish@state.ma.us or by post to 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.

For a copy of the strikethrough regulatory text please visit our [website](#) or contact Jared Silva (jared.silva@state.ma.us; 617-626-1534).