



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

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September 30, 2021

### Marine Fisheries Advisory

#### **2021 Commercial Striped Bass Fishery to Close After Friday, October 1**

Massachusetts 2021 commercial striped bass fishery will close effective 0001 hours on Saturday, October 2, 2021 ([Closure Notice](#)) due to the projected full utilization of the 735,240-pound 2021 quota. Consistent with existing commercial striped bass regulations adding Thursday and Fridays as open fishing days beginning on October 1, this Friday (October 1) will be open as the last commercial fishing day of the 2021 season. Unless otherwise notified, the commercial striped bass fishery will remain closed through Sunday, June 19, 2022. During this closed period, it is unlawful for fishermen to retain, possess, or land striped bass for commercial purposes or in a manner that does not comply with the state's recreational fishing regulations for the species.

For seafood dealers, during this closure period it is unlawful to purchase or receive striped bass from fishermen. Dealers may continue to possess striped bass, import striped bass from dealers operating in another state, and sell lawfully possessed striped bass. All striped bass in the possession of dealers must comply with the commercial striped bass tagging requirements. Dealers are also reminded that the Division of Marine Fisheries will be providing them with a written request to return all unused 2021 Striped Bass ID Tags and submit a Tag Accounting Report. If a dealer cannot account for an unused tag, they must provide this information in the Tag Accounting Report. Failure to return or account for unused tags may result in the dealer being unable to participate as a primary buyer of striped bass in future years.

Commercial fishermen are required to submit monthly trip-level [reports](#) by the fifteenth of the following month, even if their permit is 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 2022. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2021 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained on the [Trip Level Reporting website](#). Electronic reporting through SAFIS eTRIPS is encouraged.

For more information about the management of marine fisheries in Massachusetts, visit our website at [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).