



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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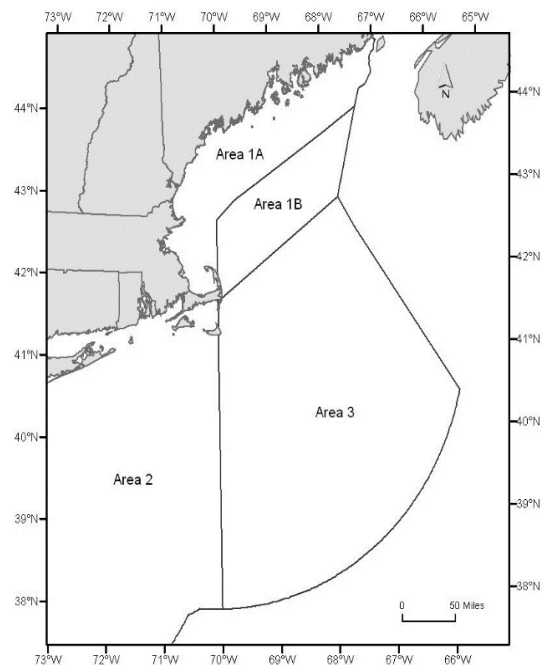
DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

September 30, 2021

Marine Fisheries Advisory **Directed Fishery for Atlantic Sea Herring in Area 1A to Remain Closed During Season 2**

The members of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Atlantic Sea Herring Management Board from Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts met virtually on Friday, September 24, 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to review the utilization of the 2021 Atlantic sea herring sub-ACL (or quota) for Management Area 1A (inshore Gulf of Maine) and set effort control measures for the Season 2 fishery (October 1 – December 31).

Due to a lack of available quota, it was determined to not set any landing days for the Season 2 fishery. This action effectively maintains a directed fishery closure in Area 1A. As a result, vessels may only retain, possess, and land sea herring taken from Area 1 as incidental catch and are to comply with the 2,000 pound possession and landing limit. Vessels may transit Area 1A with non-conforming quantities of herring on board, provided the fish were taken lawfully from outside Area 1A, all gear is stowed, and no fishing activity is occurring.



The decision to set zero landing days and maintain a fishery closure for the Season 2 directed sea herring fishery may be reconsidered should quota be reallocated from the Canadian weir fishery to the Area 1 quota.

For more information regarding the management of sea herring in Massachusetts, please visit www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.