



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)



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### NOTICE OF FISHERY CLOSURE

#### **2023 COMMERCIAL TAUTOG FISHERY**

Pursuant to the notice and public comment requirements of G.L. c. 30A, §3 and under the authority of G.L. c. 130, §§ 17A, 21 and 80 and 322 CMR §§ 6.41(2)(c) and 7.01(7), the Commonwealth's 2023 commercial tautog quota, as established at 322 CMR § 6.40(2), will be taken on Friday, October 13, 2023. In accordance with 322 CMR §6.40(5)(d), the 2023 commercial tautog fishery in Massachusetts will be closed effective 0001 hours on Saturday, October 14, 2023.

Unless otherwise notified, the commercial tautog fishery will remain closed until it reopens in 2024. During this closure period, it shall be unlawful for any fisher to retain, possess, or land tautog in any manner that does not conform with the recreational tautog limits at 322 CMR §6.40(4) or to offer or attempt to offer any tautog for sale, barter, or exchange. Additionally, pursuant to 322 CMR §7.07(5)(b), it is unlawful for seafood dealers to purchase tautog from any fisher during this closure period. However, dealers may continue to possess lawfully obtained fish and import tautog from dealers in other states for processing or resale, provided the fish comply with all relevant tautog tagging regulations at 322 CMR §6.40(6).

Dated: October 12, 2023

By: