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October 17, 2017

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2017 COMMERCIAL TAUTOG FISHERY TO CLOSE EFFECTIVE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017

Massachusetts' 2017 commercial tautog quota of 64,643 pounds is projected to be taken on Wednesday, October 18, 2017. Accordingly, the Massachusetts commercial tautog fishery is closed effective Thursday, October 19, 2017 ([Closure Notice](#)).

The Massachusetts commercial tautog fishery is scheduled to reopen on September 1, 2018. During the closed period, it is unlawful for fishermen to possess and land tautog for commercial purposes or in a manner that does not conform to the state's recreational fishing regulations. Additionally, it is unlawful for seafood dealers to purchase or receive tautog from fishermen.

Commercial fishermen are 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 2018. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2017 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained on the [Trip Level Reporting website](#).

For more information about the management of tautog in Massachusetts, contact DMF at 617-626-1520 or visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.