



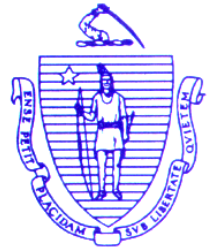
David E. Pierce, PhD.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617) 626-1520
fax (617) 626-1509



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Ronald S. Amidon
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

October 17, 2017

Marine Fisheries Advisory

EASTERN MAINE SEA HERRING SPAWNING AREA RE-CLOSED THROUGH OCTOBER 30, 2017

Coordinated sea herring sampling efforts by the states of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts indicate that sea herring in the Eastern Maine Sea Herring Spawning Area remain in spawning condition. As a result, the Eastern Maine Spawning Closure Area will be reclosed effective immediately through Monday, October 30, 2017 at 11:59 PM.

During the spawning closure, vessels in the directed Atlantic sea herring fishery cannot take, possess or land Atlantic sea herring from the Eastern Maine Spawning Closure Area spawning area. However, there is an exemption for the incidental catch of sea herring, whereby vessels may land up to 2,000 pounds of sea herring taken from the Eastern Maine Spawning Closure Area, provided the vessel is not directed fishing on sea herring and does not land more than once per day. Vessels may transit this area in possession of more than 2,000 pounds of sea herring provided the fish was caught outside of the Eastern Maine Spawning Closure Area, fishing activity is not occurring and all gear is stowed.

The Eastern Maine Spawning Closure Area includes all waters bounded by the following coordinates:

Maine coast 68° 20' W
43° 48' N 68° 20' W
44° 25' N 67° 03' W

North along the US/Canada border

This closure shall be enforceable by regulations at 322 CMR 7.01(7) and 9.03 and [permit condition](#). Any violations may result in the suspension or revocation of the commercial fishing permit, as well as the fines or penalties set forth at G.L. c. 21A §10H and G.L. c. 130.

For more information regarding the management of Atlantic sea herring in Massachusetts please visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.