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October 18, 2016

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2016 Commercial Tautog Fishery Closed Effective October 19, 2016

The Commonwealth's 2016 commercial tautog quota of 57,985 pounds is projected to be taken by the end of the day on Tuesday, October 18, 2016. Accordingly, Massachusetts' commercial tautog fishery is closed effective 001 hours on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 ([Fishery Closure Notices](#)). During the quota closure, and until the 2017 commercial tautog fishery opens, it is unlawful for any fisherman to possess or land more than three tautog per day or to sell, barter or exchange or attempt to sell, barter or exchange any tautog. Additionally, it is unlawful for any seafood dealer to purchase or receive or attempt to purchase or receive tautog from any fishermen.

Commercial fishermen are reminded that monthly trip-level reports should be sent to the DMF Statistics Project, 30 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930. Reports must be submitted monthly by the fifteenth of the following month (e.g., the October report is due by November 15). Failure to submit these reports for all months of the year may result in the non-renewal of a commercial fishing permit and all appurtenant regulated fishery permit endorsements. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2016 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained from the [DMF Trip Level Reporting website](#).

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