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# *Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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*Deputy Commissioner*

### **DECLARATION OF FISHERY CLOSURE**

#### **2016 COMMERCIAL TAUTOG FISHERY**

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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 2016 commercial tautog quota, as established at 322 CMR §6.40(1) is projected to be taken on October 18, 2016. In accordance with 322 CMR §6.40(1) and (4), the commercial tautog fishery in Massachusetts is closed effective 0001 hours on Wednesday, October 19, 2016. During this quota closure, and until the 2017 commercial tautog fishery opens in accordance with 322 CMR §6.40(4), it shall be unlawful for any person to possess or land tautog in a manner that does not conform with the recreational tautog limits at 322 CMR §6.40(3), or to offer for sale, barter or exchange or sell, barter or exchange any tautog. Additionally, pursuant to 322 CMR §7.07(5)(b), it is unlawful for seafood dealers, permitted in accordance with G.L. c. 130 §80 and 322 CMR §7.01(3) to purchase tautog from any fisherman during this closed period.

Dated: October 18, 2016

By: \_\_\_\_\_