



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

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October 20, 2022

### Marine Fisheries Advisory

#### **Reminder: Recreational Lobster and Crab Trap Fishery to Close on November 1**

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This advisory serves as a reminder to recreational lobster and crab fishers that buoyed trap gear must be removed from the water by November 1, 2022 and may not be reset until no sooner than May 16, 2023. This closure was implemented last year to ensure recreational trap gear is removed prior to the onset of poor winter weather when it is likely to become lost and abandoned. Moreover, it provides DMF and the Massachusetts Environmental Police with a seasonal opportunity to remove any remaining gear before the winter period when it may present an entanglement risk to endangered right whales or become fishing gear debris. This closure does not apply to unbuoyed trap gear fished and retrieved from the shoreline, which is a common technique in certain areas like the Cape Cod Canal.

For more information regarding the management of trap fisheries Massachusetts, please visit our website ([www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)).