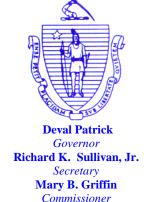


## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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## October 23, 2013 MarineFisheries Advisory

## **CLOSURE OF ATLANTIC HERRING AREA 3: OCTOBER 24**

NOAA Fisheries has projected that 95% of the Atlantic herring Total Allowable Catch (TAC) allocated to Management Area 3 will be harvested on October 24, 2013. Amendment 2 to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Herring requires states to impose restrictions on the fishery when the harvest of herring is projected to reach 95% of the TAC allocated to an area. These restrictions will cease on January 1, 2014, when new quota becomes available. Therefore, the following restrictions for Area 3 have been enacted:

- Effective 1200 hours, October 24, 2013, it is unlawful to fish, take, transport, or land Atlantic Herring taken from Management Area 3.
- Exemptions: Vessels may retain an incidental bycatch daily trip limit of sea herring from Area 3, provided it does not exceed 2,000 lbs. Herring taken legally outside Area 3 may be transported through the area, only if all fishing gear has been stowed.



For further information regarding Atlantic sea herring management, please visit the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission website (<a href="www.asmfc.org">www.asmfc.org</a>) and the Massachusetts *MarineFisheries* website (<a href="www.mass.gov/marinefisheries">www.mass.gov/marinefisheries</a>).