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**FISHERY CLOSURE NOTICE:
2017 MASSACHUSETTS/NEW HAMPSHIRE
SEA HERRING SPAWNING CLOSURE**

Pursuant to the notice and public comment requirements of G.L. c. 30A § 3 and under the authority of G.L. c. 130 §§ 2, 17A, 80 and 104 and 322 CMR §§ 9.03 and 7.01(7), the Massachusetts/New Hampshire Sea Herring Spawning Area (Area) is closed to the directed sea herring fishery effective 0001 hours on October 29, 2017 through 2359 hours on November 11, 2017. The Area consists of all marine waters north of Cape Cod bounded by 43°30' north latitude to the north and 70°00' west longitude.

In accordance with 322 CMR §9.03(1)(f), vessels are prohibited from taking, possessing or landing more than 2,000 pounds of sea herring from the Area during this closure period. Vessels may transit the Area during the closure in possession of more than 2,000 pounds of sea herring, provided that fish was taken outside of the Area, no fishing activity is occurring and all gear is stowed.

This closure also applies to dealers authorized to purchase sea herring directly from commercial fishermen, in accordance with G.L. c. 130 §80 and 322 CMR §§7.01(3) and 7.07(3). Pursuant to 322 CMR §§7.01(7) and 7.07(5)(b), these dealers are prohibited from purchasing or receiving more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring taken from the Area during any calendar day.

Dated: October 27, 2017

By: 