



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Marine Fisheries Advisory

Commercial Black Sea Bass Fishery to Close Effective November 3, 2020

Massachusetts' 2020 commercial black sea bass quota of 728,565 pounds is projected to be taken on Monday, November 2, 2020. Accordingly, the Massachusetts commercial black sea bass fishery will be closed effective Tuesday, November 3, 2020 ([Closure Notice](#)).

The fishery will remain closed through December 31, 2020. During the closed period, it is unlawful for fishermen to possess and land black sea bass for commercial purposes and for seafood dealers to purchase or receive black sea bass from fishermen. Black sea bass pot fishermen are reminded that their pot gear must be removed from the waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth by the end of the day on Thursday, November 5, 2020 and may be set again no sooner than July 6, 2021.

Commercial fishermen are required to submit monthly trip-level reports by the fifteenth of the following month, even if their permit was not fished. Reports should be sent to DMF Statistics Project, 30 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930. Failure to submit these reports for all months of the year in a timely manner may result in the non-renewal of a commercial permit and its endorsements in 2021. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2020 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained on the [Trip Level Reporting website](#).

For more information about the management of black sea bass in Massachusetts, contact DMF at 617-626-1520 or visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.