



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

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October 28, 2022

*Marine Fisheries Advisory*

### **Commercial Tautog Fishery to Close Effective Monday, October 31, 2022**

Massachusetts' 2022 commercial tautog quota of 60,986 pounds is projected to be taken on Sunday, October 30, 2022. Accordingly, the Massachusetts commercial tautog fishery will be closed effective Monday, October 31, 2022 ([Closure Notice](#)). The commercial fishery will remain closed through August 31, 2023. During the closed period, it is unlawful for fishermen to possess and land tautog for commercial purposes, and for seafood dealers to purchase or receive tautog from fishermen.

In the coming weeks, commercial fishermen will receive a letter from DMF describing how to return all unused Tautog ID Tags and how to submit a Tautog ID Tag Accounting Report. Seafood dealers are reminded that they must sell off all tautog that bear a 2022 MA Tautog ID Tag prior to Monday, November 14, 2022. If such fish cannot be sold off, they must be discarded, and the tag(s) disposed of. Lastly, before February 28, 2023, all seafood dealers and purveyors are required to liquidate all tautog with a 2022 Tautog ID, regardless of state of origin.

Commercial fishermen are required to submit monthly trip-level reports by the fifteenth of the following month, even if their permit is 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 2023. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2022 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained on the Trip Level Reporting [website](#).

For more information about the management of tautog in Massachusetts, contact DMF at 617- 626-1520 or visit our website at [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).