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FISHERY CLOSURE NOTICE

2015 ATLANTIC SEA HERRING MANAGEMENT AREA 1A TRIMESTER III CLOSURE EFFECTIVE 1200 HOURS ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015

The Management Area 1A Trimester III quota for Atlantic sea herring, as established at 322 CMR §§ 9.01 and 9.02, is projected to be taken by 1200 hours (noon) on Monday, November 2, 2015. Accordingly, pursuant to the notice and public comment requirements of G.L. c. 30A §3 and under the authority of G.L. c.130 §§17A, 21 and 80, and 322 CMR §§ 6.41(2)(c), 7.01(7) and 9.05(2), the Atlantic sea herring fishery in Management Area 1A is closed effective 1200 hours on Monday, November 2, 2015. This fishery will remain closed until further notice.

In accordance with 322 CMR § 9.05(3), vessels are prohibited from landing more than 2,000 pounds of sea herring taken from Management Area 1A as incidental catch in other fisheries, except as otherwise authorized. This limit applies per calendar day or per fishing trip, whichever duration of time is longer. Also, vessels may transit Management Area 1A during this closure in possession of non-conforming quantities of Atlantic sea herring, provided that the fish was lawfully caught and all gear is stowed in a manner that it is unavailable for immediate use.

This closure also applies to dealers authorized in accordance with G.L. c. 130 § 80 and 322 CMR §§ 7.01(3) and 7.07(3) to purchase Atlantic sea herring directly from commercial fishermen. In accordance with 322 CMR §§ 7.01(7), 7.07(5)(b) and 9.05, these dealers are prohibited from purchasing or receiving more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring per vessel during any calendar day from a fishing trip that occurred within Management Area 1A, except as otherwise authorized.

Dated: October 29, 2015

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