



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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October 5, 2023

Marine Fisheries Advisory

REMINDER: COMMERCIAL SUMMER FLOUNDER LIMITS INCREASED ON OCTOBER 1

This notice serves to remind commercial fishers that the summer flounder trip limit automatically increased to 10,000 pounds for all gear types on Sunday, October 1. This trip limit applies per calendar day or per trip, whichever period of time is longer and will remain in effect until 100% of the annual summer flounder quota is taken or through December 31, 2023 if the quota is not taken.

State regulations automatically increase the commercial trip limit to 10,000 pounds for this October 1 – December 31 period when more than 5% of the annual quota is projected to be available after September 30. For 2023, the commercial summer flounder fishery landed approximately 50% of 2023 quota (1.36-million pound quota) thus allowing this automatic increase to occur.

During the October 1 – December 31 period, commercial fishers who are permitted to land summer flounder in multiple states are authorized to possess non-conforming quantities of summer flounder while in Commonwealth waters and ports. The non-conforming quantities of summer flounder must be clearly labeled with the state it is to be landed in, must comply with that state's commercial summer flounder limits, and must remain on the vessel while the Massachusetts limit is being landed. Commercial fishers are no longer required to call into the Massachusetts Environmental Police prior to landing.

For more information regarding the commercial summer flounder fishery in Massachusetts, please visit our website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries