



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114
p: (617) 626-1520 | f: (617) 626-1509
www.mass.gov/marinefisheries



CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lt. Governor

KATHLEEN A. THEOHARIDES
Secretary

RONALD S. AMIDON
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

October 8, 2020

Marine Fisheries Advisory

RECENT IN-SEASON ADJUSTMENTS TO COMMERCIAL SUMMER FLOUNDER LIMITS AND HORSESHOE CRAB OPEN FISHING DAYS FOR MOBILE GEAR FISHERMEN

Per our prior [Advisory](#), an in-season adjustment was made to the commercial summer flounder limits. Effective, October 4, the commercial trip limit was increased to 1,000 pounds and Fridays and Saturdays were eliminated as closed fishing days. With this action to add Fridays and Saturdays as open fishing days, DMF has received questions regarding whether the commercial retention of horseshoe crabs would also be allowed on these days. To reduce regulatory discarding, mobile gear fishermen may retain, possess, and land horseshoe crabs on Fridays and Saturdays that are caught incidentally while fishing for summer flounder ([Permit Conditions](#)). The existing horseshoe crab trip limits remain in effect. This allows limited entry permit holders to retain and land up to 300 crabs and open entry permit holders to retain and land 75 crabs.

For more information regarding the management of horseshoe crabs in Massachusetts, please visit our website (www.mass.gov/marinefisheries) or call DMF at 617-626-1520.