



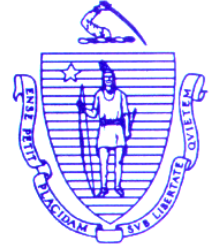
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November 1, 2018
Marine Fisheries Advisory

Emergency Regulation Adopted to Address Importation of Non-Conforming Striped Bass

An emergency regulation was recently adopted that rescinds the requirement that striped bass imported into Massachusetts, while our commercial fishery is open, conform to the Commonwealth's 34" commercial minimum size. This emergency change was implemented due to the ongoing Massachusetts commercial striped bass season, diminished local landings, and the desire of dealers to import non-conforming fish from other jurisdictions at this time of year. Accordingly, dealers may import into Massachusetts and process striped bass lawfully harvested outside of Massachusetts that do not conform to our 34" minimum size, provided they are properly tagged. With this emergency regulation in place, non-conforming striped bass may be imported into Massachusetts until the start of our 2019 commercial fishery.

For more information regarding striped bass management in Massachusetts, please view our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries