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Charles D. Baker Governor Karyn E. Polito Lieutenant Governor Matthew A. Beaton Secretary Ronald S. Amidon Commissioner Mary-Lee King Deputy Commissioner

## **DECLARATION OF FISHERY CLOSURE**

## 2018 COMMERCIAL TAUTOG FISHERY

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) and 7.01(7), the Commonwealth's 2018 commercial tautog quota, as established at 322 CMR § 6.40(1), is projected to be taken on Wednesday, November 21, 2018. In accordance with 322 CMR §6.40(4)(d) the commercial tautog fishery in Massachusetts will be closed effective Thursday, November 22, 2018

The commercial tautog fishery will remain closed until Sunday, September 1, 2019. During this period, it shall be unlawful for any fisherman to possess or land tautog in a manner that does not conform with the recreational tautog limits at 322 CMR 6.40(3), or to offer for sale or sell any tautog. Additionally, pursuant to 322 CMR 7.07(5)(b), it is unlawful for seafood dealers, permitted in accordance with G.L. c. 130 § 80 and 322 CMR §7.01(3) to purchase tautog from any fisherman during this closed period.

Dated: November 19, 2018

Bv: