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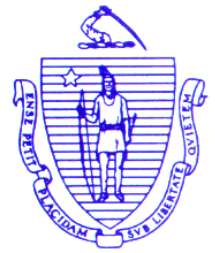
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November 19, 2018
Marine Fisheries Advisory

2018 COMMERCIAL TAUTOG FISHERY TO CLOSE EFFECTIVE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2018

Massachusetts' 2018 commercial tautog quota of 62,945 pounds is projected to be taken on Wednesday, November 21, 2018. Accordingly, the Massachusetts commercial tautog fishery will be closed effective Thursday, November 22, 2018 ([Closure Notice](#)). The Massachusetts commercial tautog fishery is scheduled to reopen on September 1, 2019. During the closed period of November 22, 2018 through August 30, 2019, it is unlawful for fishermen to possess and land tautog for commercial purposes or in a manner that does not conform to the state's recreational fishing regulations. Additionally, it is unlawful for seafood dealers to purchase or receive tautog from fishermen.

Commercial fishermen are to submit monthly trip-level reports by the fifteenth of the following month, even if their permit was not fished. Reports should be sent to DMF Statistics Project, 30 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930. Failure to submit these reports for all months of the year in a timely manner may result in the non-renewal of a commercial permit and its endorsements in 2019. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2018 fishing season; additional copies can be obtained on the [Trip Level Reporting website](#).

For more information about the management of tautog in Massachusetts, contact DMF at 617-626-1520 or visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.