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Deval Patrick Governor Ian Bowles Secretary

December 18, 2007 MarineFisheries Advisory

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

As specified in 322 CMR 6.28, the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) may, by declaration, establish and adjust the manner and times of taking scup, and the legal size limits, numbers and/or quantities of scup to be taken as prescribed by M.G.L. c.130 §17A and specified by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. As required, prior to any such declaration, DMF has established a public comment period on the following measures for the 2008 commercial scup fishing season:

1. <u>Winter I fishing period from January through April 2008</u>: It is unlawful for a commercial fisherman to possess greater than 30,000-lbs. of scup per 24-hour trip to be reduced to 1,000-lbs. of scup per 24-hour trip when 80 percent of the quota is projected to be reached.

Written comments may be received by e-mail, (<u>marine.fish@state.ma.us</u>), fax (617.626.1509), or mail (DMF; 251 Causeway St., Suite 400; Boston, MA 02114) and will be accepted until 5PM on Monday, January 7, 2008