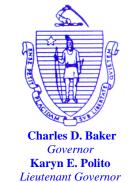


## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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December 21, 2015

MarineFisheries Advisory

## DECLARATION TO ESTABLISH 2016 WINTER I COMMERCIAL SCUP LANDING LIMITS

With the approval of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission (MFC), the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) has issued a <u>Declaration</u> to establish trip limits for the Winter I (January 1<sup>st</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup>) commercial scup fishery at 50,000 pounds per trip. This limit matches the federal limit established by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Setting a complementary landing limit allows commercial fishermen to land quantities of scup in Massachusetts that were lawfully taken from federal waters.

This trip limit will be in effect on January 1, 2016 and will remain in effect through April 30, 2016 or until 80% of the federal Winter I quota allocation has been landed coast-wide. The 2016 coast-wide Winter I quota allocation is approximately 9.2 million pounds. If the Winter I quota allocation is uncaught, NMFS may rollover the uncaught quota into the 2016 Winter II (November 1 – December 31) coast-wide commercial scup quota allocation

The complete text of Massachusetts commercial scup regulations can be found at 322 CMR 6.28 and more information regarding the management of scup in Massachusetts can be found on the *MarineFisheries* website:

www.mass.gov/marinefisheries