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December 28, 2018

Statement of Permit Conditions: 2019 Winter I Commercial Scup Trip Limits

The Division of Marine Fisheries, with the approval of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission, has taken action to establish the state's commercial scup possession and landing limits during the 2019 Winter I period (January 1–April 30). These limits are designed to match the federal limits established by the National Marine Fisheries Service for the Winter I period.

Pursuant to the authority at, G.L. c. 130 §§ 2, 17A and 80 and 322 CMR §§ 6.41(2)(d) and 7.01(7), all 2019 commercial fisherman permits with regulated fishery permit endorsements for scup have been hereby conditioned to establish the 2019 Winter I commercial scup fishery limits at 322 CMR §6.27(2)(c):

1. From 0001 hours on January 1, 2019 until 2359 hours on April 30, 2019 or until 80% of the 10.82 million pound 2019 Winter I commercial scup quota allocation is taken, commercial fishermen who hold a commercial scup regulated fishery permit endorsement may possess and land up to 50,000 pounds of scup per trip or calendar day, whichever period is longer.
2. When 80% of the 2019 Winter I commercial scup quota allocation is taken, commercial fishermen who hold a commercial scup regulated fishery permit endorsement may possess and land up to 1,000 pounds of scup per trip or calendar day, whichever period is longer.
3. These permit conditions do not exempt the permit holder from any superseding state or federal regulations governing scup possession limits during the Winter I period for vessels fishing with nets that have less than 5-inches mesh applied throughout the codend of the net.

Any violation of the above stated permit condition is subject to the fines and penalties set forth at G.L. c. 130 §§ 2 and 80, G.L. c. 21A § 10H and 322 CMR 7.01(9), including but not limited to an administrative hearing to suspend or revoke your commercial fisherman permit.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

David E. Pierce, PhD
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Effective Date