



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

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January 24, 2022

### Marine Fisheries Advisory

#### **DMF Offering Free Buoy Line Marking Materials and Additional Free Weak Rope**

This advisory serves to provide you with information regarding upcoming free gear distribution events across Massachusetts in February and March 2022. To assist commercial trap fishermen in complying with the new buoy line marking regulations implemented on Feb 1, 2022, the Division of Marine Fisheries will be supplying gear marking materials to the industry at no cost, including appropriately colored heat shrink tubing and twine. In addition, DMF has a limited supply of red rope, candy cane rope and Novabraid sleeves to distribute to the industry. The limited weak rope materials will be given out on a first come, first serve basis at two coils per fishermen.

If you are interested in obtaining these materials during gear distribution events, please contact DMF at [conservationsolutions@mass.gov](mailto:conservationsolutions@mass.gov) with your name and homeport, so we can track the number/location of interested fishermen and provide you with detailed information about the nearest event. We plan to conduct a handful of dedicated gear distribution events across the state in the coming months but you can also arrange to pick up weak rope and marking materials any time at DMF's Gloucester and New Bedford facilities. Please contact Justin Wilson (508) 468-6451 for pick up in New Bedford and Anna Dorrance (518) 645-4255 for pick up in Gloucester.

All current information regarding these gear modifications, approved weak contrivances, and gear distribution events will be posted on DMF's [Trap Gear Modification webpage](#). If you have any questions, please e-mail us at [conservationsolutions@mass.gov](mailto:conservationsolutions@mass.gov).