

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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December 5, 2025 MarineFisheries Advisory

DMF Proposals Affecting the Period I Commercial Summer Flounder Fishery

The Division of Marine Fisheries is accepting written public comment on a proposal to use the agency's in-season adjustment authority to increase the 2026 Period I (January 1 – April 23) commercial summer flounder trip limit from 2,000 pounds up to 4,000 pounds. Please submit written comment by e-mail (marine.fish@mass.gov) to the attention of Director McKiernan. DMF will accept written comment through 5PM on Friday, December 19, 2025.

The Commonwealth's commercial summer flounder quota will increase by 75% for 2026, moving from roughly 600,000 pounds in 2025 to just over 1 million pounds. This responds to the most stock assessment's indication of increasing biomass, as well as a larger share of the coastwide quota for Massachusetts. At this quota level, the Period I fishery will be allocated about 150,000 pounds (15%) in 2026. In 2025, under a 2,000-lb trip limit, the Period I fishery landed about 45,000 pounds. Accordingly, the proposed trip limit increase will provide larger vessels fishing offshore in federal waters during the winter period with greater access to the available quota and support its utilization to the benefit of our seafood industry at large.

For more information, please visit our website:

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