



Paul J. Diodati
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Marine Fisheries
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 626.1520
Fax (617) 626.1509



Deval Patrick
Governor
Ian Bowles
Secretary
Mary B.
Griffin
Commissioner

January 5, 2009
Marine Fisheries 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:

Winter I fishing period from January through April 2009: It is unlawful for a commercial fisherman to possess greater than 30,000-lbs. of scup in aggregate over any two-week period to be reduced to 1,000-lbs. of scup per two-week period when 80 percent of the period quota is projected to be reached. Two-week periods shall be based on calendar weeks and begin on any Sunday at 12:00 AM and end on the second following Saturday at 11:59 PM . For purposes of enforcing this provision, enforcement officers may use federal vessel trip reports or dealer records.

Written comments may be received by e-mail, (marine.fish@state.ma.us), fax (617.626.1509), or mail (DMF; 251 Causeway St., Suite 400 ; Boston , MA 02114) and will be accepted until 5PM on Friday, January 23, 2009.

For further information please visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.