



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

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Director

### **2024 Letter of Authorization and Statement of Permit Conditions** **Use of Carrier Vessels in the Limited Entry Menhaden Fishery**

Regulations at 322 CMR 6.43 state that the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries must annually authorize the use of carrier vessels in the limited entry menhaden fishery. Accordingly, pursuant to the authority of G.L. c. 130, §80 and 322 CMR 6.43 and 7.01(7), the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries hereby establishes this **Letter of Authorization and Statement of Permit Conditions** for the use of carrier vessels in the limited entry menhaden fishery in 2024. This **Letter of Authorization and Statement of Permit Conditions** must be carried onboard the carrier and fishing vessels named below whenever menhaden fishing is occurring.

This authorization allows the Carrier Vessel ("C/V")—operating under the authority of Bait Dealer Permit—to receive and carry menhaden for the Fishing Vessel—operating under the authority of Commercial Fishing Permit—during the limited entry purse seine fishery for menhaden in Massachusetts; the Carrier Vessel shall not receive or carry menhaden harvested by any other fishing vessel. The use of carrier vessels in the limited entry menhaden fishery is subject to all regulations established at 322 CMR 6.43, except as enumerated below:

1. If the aggregate holding capacity of the Carrier Vessel and the Fishing Vessel, as determined by the vessel capacity certification requirement at 322 CMR 6.43(4)(c)(4), is less than the applicable trip limit then both vessels may possess, transport, and land menhaden on the same calendar day provided that both vessels only land once per day.

Pursuant to G.L. c. 130 §80 and 322 CMR §7.01(7), this Statement of Permit Condition is enforceable by law. Violations of any provisions set forth in this Statement of Permit Conditions or of any marine fisheries law (G.L. c. 130 et seq.) or regulation (322 CMR) may result in the termination of this Letter of Authorization, and an administrative action on the named Bait Dealer Permit and Commercial Fishing Permit, as well as any other applicable fines and penalties. The Director may revise or discontinue the provisions set forth herein at any time.

**This Letter of Authorization and Statement of Permit Conditions is valid through December 31, 2024, unless sooner revoked for cause.**

**Effective Date:** May 15, 2024

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director  
Division of Marine Fisheries