



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

2025 Statement of Permit Conditions **Participation in the Commercial Menhaden Purse Seine Fishery**

You are receiving this letter because you hold a regulated fishery permit endorsement that allows your participation in the state's commercial menhaden fishery with purse seines (CAP, CAP-Purse Seine, Inshore Net). The menhaden purse seine fishery is generally managed through the marine fishery laws and regulation at G.L. c. 130, §31 and 322 CMR 4.02, 4.06, 6.43, and 7.01. However, pursuant to the authority of G.L. c. 130, §80 and 322 CMR 4.02(6) and 7.01(7), the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined it is necessary and appropriate to establish this **Statement of Permit Conditions** to further manage the 2025 commercial menhaden purse seine fishery to prevent potential conflicts with recreational fishers, boaters, and other stakeholders. Accordingly, the permit conditions enumerated below shall apply to your 2025 commercial fishing permit authorizing the use of Purse Seine Gear. This Statement of Permit Conditions must be onboard the named fishing vessel when any menhaden purse seine fishing activity is occurring

1. Purse seine fishing shall avoid fixed gear.
2. Purse seine fishing shall avoid areas where recreational fishing activity is concentrated.
3. The use of spotter planes shall only occur after 8AM and away from residential areas.
4. Any permit holder fishing for menhaden by purse seine on a day closed to purse seining at 322 CMR 4.06(7) or 322 CMR 6.43(5) may not possess or land that menhaden in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Vessels may transit Commonwealth waters in possession of such catch for purposes of landing in another jurisdiction provided all gear is properly stowed and fishing activity is not occurring.

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 condition or restriction contained herein, or any provision of 322 CMR or G.L. 130 may result in the suspension or revocation of the commercial fisherman permit and any other applicable fines and penalties. The Director may revise or discontinue the provisions set forth in this Statement of Permit Conditions at any time. For more information, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at marine.fish@mass.gov.

This Statement of Permit Condition is valid through December 31, 2025, unless sooner revoked for cause.

Effective Date: May 15, 2025

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
Division of Marine Fisheries