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Director

2026 Statement of Permit Conditions
Participation in the Commercial Menhaden Purse Seine Fishery

You are receiving this because you hold a regulated fishery permit endorsement that allows you to participate in the state's commercial purse seine fishery for menhaden (CAP, CAP-Purse Seine, Inshore Net). This fishery is managed pursuant to the laws and regulations at G.L. c. 130, §31 and 322 CMR 4.02, 4.06, 6.43, and 7.01. However, consistent with 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 renew this annual **Statement of Permit Conditions** to further manage this fishery to prevent potential conflicts with recreational fishers, boaters, and other stakeholders.

Effective from May 15 through December 31, 2026, the **Statement of Permit Conditions** enumerated below shall apply to your 2026 commercial fishing permit:

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 in another jurisdiction (e.g. federal waters) 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. However, 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.
5. This Statement of Permit Conditions must be onboard the fishing vessel named on your commercial fishing permit when any menhaden purse seine fishing activity is 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.

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
Division of Marine Fisheries