



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
**Division of Marine Fisheries**  
(617) 626-1520 | [mass.gov/MarineFisheries](http://mass.gov/MarineFisheries)



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March 13, 2026  
*Marine Fisheries Advisory*

**NOAA Fisheries to Close Federal Winter I Scup Fishery Effective March 16**

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NOAA Fisheries has announced the closure of the 2026 Winter I (January 1–April 30) Commercial Scup Fishery for federal permit holders (see [Bulletin](#) for more details). Accordingly, beginning on Monday, March 16, 2026, vessels issued a commercial federal fisheries permit for scup are prohibited from landing scup through Thursday, April 30, 2026. This closure does not apply to state-only permitted commercial fishers who may continue to retain, possess, and land up to 2,000 pounds of scup caught exclusively within the waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth throughout the remainder of the Winter I Fishery.

Please visit our website: [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)