

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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MarineFisheries Advisory

Update and Q&A Session for Commercial Lobster Trap, Fish Pot, and Whelk Pot Fishermen.

On Tuesday March 23rd at 5 PM, DMF will host a Zoom webinar for all commercial lobster trap, fish pot, and whelk pot fishermen. This webinar will provide updates and clarification from DMF staff regarding how to comply with the new gear modification regulations, specifically the use of 1,700-pound "weak rope" and the installation of contrivances in the buoy line to meet the 1,700-pound breaking strength standard. The webinar will feature a question and answer section that will provide permit holders with an opportunity to ask clarifying questions.

In order to attend the webinar, participants are required to register in advance. To register for this webinar, click <u>here</u>. Once you register, you will receive and confirmation e-mail containing your login information for the webinar.

Additionally, DMF has developed a <u>webpage</u> that serves as a warehouse for all information regarding these new gear modification regulations. This includes a list of approved weak rope contrivances. If you have any questions regarding the webinar or the new trap gear regulations, reach out to <u>conservationsolutions@mass.gov</u>.