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April 3, 2026

Marine Fisheries Advisory

Update on Management of Area 1A Herring Fishery - Annual Participation Declaration and Upcoming ASMFC Meeting on Days Out

Guidance on Annual Declarations to Participate

Federal Category A, C, and D sea herring permit holders seeking to participate in the 2026 directed commercial Atlantic sea herring fishery in Management Area 1A are reminded of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan's requirement to notify their state of their intent to fish in Area 1A. To declare intent, please complete the [embedded form](#) and return it to DMF via e-mail (bradlie.morgan@mass.gov). **The declaration deadline for Category A permit holders is 5:00PM on April 15, 2026, whereas the declaration deadline for Category C and D permit holders is 5PM on June 1, 2026.**

State-only permit holders do not need to declare into the fishery as they may fish under the 2,000-pound incidental catch and small-scale fishery trip limit.

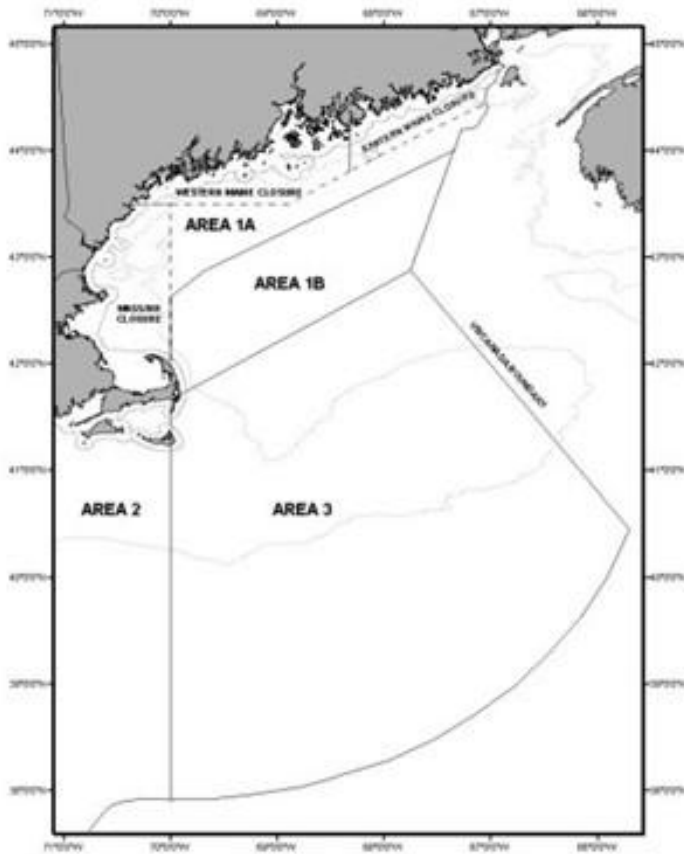
Area 1A Days-Out Meeting

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Atlantic Herring Management Board members from Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts will meet via webinar on **April 17, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**, to discuss days-out measures for Season 1 of the 2026 Area 1A (inshore Gulf of Maine) fishery. These measures include the number of consecutive landings days, weekly landings limits, and restrictions on at-sea transfers.

To join the meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, follow this link:

<https://v.ringcentral.com/join/979432908>.

Sea Herring Management Area Map



For more information, please review the announcement on the [ASMFC's website](#).