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Marine Fisheries Advisory

COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS, SUMMER FLOUNDER AND SPINY DOGFISH FISHERIES TO CLOSE

Current dealer reporting data indicates quotas for striped bass, summer flounder and dogfish, will be realized next week.

The 2010 commercial striped bass quota (1,128,577 lbs) will be reached by Sunday, August 22nd, prompting a **closure effective Monday, August 23rd, at 0001 hours**. This fishery will re-open in July, 2011. Dealers are reminded that all striped bass imported into Massachusetts shall meet or exceed 34" through August 31st. After August 31st all striped bass imported into Massachusetts must be tagged designating the state of origin and shall meet or exceed the minimum size in place for the state of origin.

The 2010 commercial summer flounder quota (846,667 lbs.) will be obtained by the end of the fishing day, 2000 hours (8:00 PM), on Tuesday, August 24th. **This fishery will be closed from Wednesday, August 25, 2010 through January 31, 2011.** The 2011 Period I fishery is scheduled to open on February 1, 2010 with a 500-lb. daily possession limit for net gears.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Northern Region 2010/2011 quota for spiny dogfish (8,272,448 lbs) is expected to be reached on Tuesday, August 24, 2010. The commercial possession and landing of spiny dogfish is **prohibited effective 0001 hours on Wednesday, August 25, 2010**. The spiny dogfish fishery in the Northern Region is scheduled to re-open May 1, 2011, further information regarding the 2011/2012 quota and annual specification will be provided once determined.

Commercial fishermen are reminded that August, 2010 trip-level reports are due by September 15, 2010, even if the permit was not fished. Please ensure that trip-level reports are received by *Marine Fisheries* no later than the deadline. Failure to submit these reports in a timely manner may result in the non-renewal of a permit or permit endorsement in 2011. Take notice that beginning in 2010, monthly trip-level reports have taken the place of annual catch reports; annual catch reports no longer need to be provided to *Marine Fisheries*.

Trip level reports should be sent to DMF Statistics Project, 30 Emerson Ave, Gloucester, MA 01930. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2010

commercial fishing season, and additional copies can be obtained from the *Marine Fisheries* web site at: http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf/commercialfishing/trip_level.htm

For further information on closures and reporting contact DMF at 617-626-1520 or please visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.