



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Marine Fisheries Advisory

HORSESHOE CRAB TRIP LIMIT REDUCTION FOR BAIT FISHERY, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 24

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that 80% of the state's 2024 bait fishery quota for horseshoe crabs will be landed on Friday, August 23, 2024. Accordingly, the commercial limited access trip limit will be reduced from 300 crabs to 200 crabs effective Saturday, August 24, 2024. The open access trip limit for trawlers remains at 75 horseshoe crabs per trip. These trip limits will remain in effect until 100% of the annual quota is taken and the fishery is closed for the year. Note, trawlers participating in the multi-day program may still retain and land horseshoe crabs provided no more than a single trip limit is retained per calendar day, no more than two daily trip limits are possessed on a multi-day trip, and catch from each day is clearly segregated and labeled.

For more information, please visit our website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.