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## Energy and Environmental Affairs

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### Atlantic Sea Herring Management Area 1B and 2 Directed Fishery Closures

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The National Marine Fisheries Service has determined the 2012 sub-annual catch limit allocated to Management Area 2 has been harvested. Additionally, the sub-annual catch limit allocated to Management Area 1B for 2012 will be harvested by February 24, 2012. Pursuant to 322 CMR 9.05(1)(b), it is unlawful for vessels targeting Atlantic sea herring to possess or land sea herring taken from Management Area 2 and shall be unlawful for vessels targeting Atlantic sea herring to possess or land sea herring taken from Management Area 1B beginning 0001 hours on February 24, 2012. Management Area 1B and 2 shall remain closed to the directed fishery until 0001 hours on January 1, 2013.

Vessels participating in other fisheries may retain and land an incidental bycatch of Atlantic sea herring from Management Areas 1B and 2, provided it does not exceed 2,000 lbs, as authorized at 322 CMR 9.05(3).

Further information regarding the management of Atlantic sea herring can be found at: [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries) , [www.nero.noaa.gov](http://www.nero.noaa.gov), [www.asmf.org](http://www.asmf.org)



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