

2024 Season Striper/Pogie Comments for Ma Division of Marine Fisheries
Capt Miles Schlichte, FV Producer II, Gloucester

Attn Director McKiernan:

After attending the Thursday Feb 9 meeting in Gloucester I have a few comments/thoughts that I would like to bring forward regarding the proposed reg amendments on Striped bass and menhaden.

Striped Bass

1. **Schedule adjustment:** I am in favor of the Tues/Weds schedule. It was painfully obvious to anyone who cared to admit it that the reason for Mon being the predominant landing day every week of the season was due to unnamed persons catching and storing fish over the weekends and taking them out on Monday. I believe that majority of those persons were weekend warriors who had to be at their real job on Monday so they either took out fish before or after their Monday work hours. This is not to say that there weren't also commercial fishermen who were holding fish over the weekend. I know that when I see a fisherman pass me in my boat at 9am going one way who then passes me again going the other way at 11am who has taken out 15 shitty looking fish at my dealer before I get in that he didn't leave-catch-return in 2hrs with his quota. I believe that he was picking up fish from somewhere where the fish had been stashed waiting for Monday. Enforcement is the only way to prevent this sort of activity.

2. **Along the lines of what time to start the 48hr time frame I would be in favor of starting in the early AM instead of midnight for a couple of reasons.**
 - a. Starting at midnight is bad for a couple reasons. First, that means that the 48hr period would begin and end at midnight. That leads to a mad rush of night fisherman roaring through the Annisquam River between sundown and 11ish to be in Ipswich Bay by midnight and then roaring back through the river to be at the dock before a midnight closure. Many of them now have bow mounted flood (not spot) lights that light up every house along the river in the middle of the night. Many residents have complained about both the wakes and the lights in the middle of the night 2-3 nights a week. It also means that the wholesalers will have to have staff at their sites to tag fish before and after their normal working hours based on the new requirement. 9AM was mentioned at the meeting as a potential start/end time. That is too late for the day fishermen. The day fishermen target sunup to catch bait that rises to the surface with the sun. Once bait is caught then they look for commercial sized bass. By 10AM most commercial day fishermen are headed in possibly to return later in the afternoon as the sun starts to set. I would suggest a 6AM start time to align with the day fisherman as well as the buyers whose day usually starts around 4-5AM. Also, while a 6AM start time would not eliminate the night boats transiting the Annisquam River in the dark but it would eliminate the tendency for boats to fly through to either catch a midnight opening or a midnight closing.

- b. If the clock starts at midnight or 6AM it's still a 48hr window for commercial fishermen. If we use dusk/dawn to roughly define night/day fishermen it breaks down as shown below.

Midnight Start:

Monday 11:59PM/Tues 00:01AM	midnight to dawn	approx 6hrs	N
Tues 6AM-6PM	dawn to dusk	approx 12hrs	D
Tues 6PM-6AM Weds	dusk to dawn	approx 12hrs	N
Weds 6AM-6PM Weds	dawn to dusk	approx 12hrs	D
Weds 6PM-11:59 PM Weds	dusk to midnight	approx 6hrs	N

48 hour window breaks down into approx 24hrs for day fishing, 24hrs for night fishing.

6AM Start:

Tues 6AM-6PM	dawn to dusk	approx 12hrs	D
Tues 6PM-midnight	dusk to midnight	approx 6 hrs	N
Weds 00:01AM-6AM	midnight to dawn	approx 6 hrs	N
Weds 6AM-6PM	dawn to dusk	approx 12hrs	D
Weds 6PM-Thurs 6AM	dusk to dawn	approx 12hrs	N

Again, the 48 hour window breaks down into approx 24hrs for day fishing, 24hrs for night fishing but instead of rushing for a 6hr window at the opening and closing night fishermen get a 12 hr window on either end which will make the entire process safer and easier for the dealers to manage.

Hopefully a schedule that can reduce the craziness that I witnessed in Ipswich Bay last summer will prevent someone from getting hurt. I'm amazed that no one was seriously hurt with all the boats running aground, cutting each other off, verbal abuse, many vessels with no running lights, etc. Also, Environmental Police and Coast Guard enforcement in Ipswich Bay after dark would certainly assist in preventing serious injury or death. There is no reason why the small boats from the Gloucester Coast Guard station can't board and enforce at least safety violations even if they don't want to get into fisheries enforcement.

3. While I prefer the flexibility of taking my fish out any time of day, I understand the desire to have the buyer immediately tag any fish they receive. I was somewhat puzzled by the story of the tub(s) of fish that were found on a dealers floor with undersized fish in the tub where the tub was unidentifiable as to who left it. I'm sure whoever left that tub was expecting to be paid for it. Whenever I left a tub of fish on the floor I (and everyone else I know of) I left a card with the boats name, # of fish, and total weight written on the card. In addition, at Ocean Crest I would hold the card up to the camera recording the same.
- I did like the measure one fisherman brought up about having the catcher self-tag any salable fish as soon as they were kept in the boat. Not only would that identify any fish, it would add one level of enforcement to persons tempted to keep fish caught on non-commercial days.

On an unrelated enforcement question, I see envelopes containing checks being mailed out to NH addresses. I'm aware that it's legal for out of state fisherman to fish in MA waters but what about the fish that are being caught in NH, ME, and RI waters and trucked to MA dealers claiming to be caught in MA waters? Tagging the fish when caught would be another way to prevent fish caught outside of MA from being sold against MA quota.

Pogies:

I have been out of the pogie business for decades but I used to crew on one of the Gloucester pogie boats that supplied the Gloucester reduction plant. Between 3-5 boats we landed between 800,000 and a million pounds a day 7 days a week. The small amount the current pogie fleet is allowed to catch is tiny in comparison to that but quotas are not what I wish to comment on.

Restrictions started to be placed on pogie seining as the Boston waterfront moved away from industry and towards residential. The first thing we lost was spotter planes over inner Boston harbor. Then restrictions were put in place over where we could go. Finally, the Gloucester plant closed. Funny how when that happened the massive die offs in the Charles and Kennebec River started and the State of Maine was begging for seiners to come catch them. Then the pogies just stopped coming into the North Shore. They passed Cape Cod and went straight to Maine for years just showing back up here a few years ago. I'm hoping that the rain last spring was the reason they were not here but I wouldn't be surprised if their migratory pattern has gone back to what it was a decade ago. Enough history.

Based on what I heard at the meeting I was surprised that one pogie fisherman said that he was blocked from transferring fish from his overloaded seine to another pogie boat. That's just stupid. We used to routinely make one set and fill all 4 Gloucester pogie boats with what was in the net. Why force everyone to set and waste fish as well as adding congestion to a harbor with multiple boats setting when they don't have to? Next, I heard a lot of comments regarding when to open their season. I am of the opinion that their season should be open as early as possible. If there are no fish here when the season opens there is no problem. If the fish are here early they can catch them before the conflicts with recreational and charter boats gets going as the weather warms up in June.

As I mentioned earlier, the pogie boats have been here far longer than any of the charter and recreational boats. Also, the charter boats get paid before they leave the dock no matter if they catch anything or not. If the pogie boats aren't allowed to catch their quota none of the crewmembers and boat owners get paid along with all the businesses they support as well as the lobstermen who depend on bait.

Thank you for your consideration.

Captain Miles Schlichte, FV Producer II

From: [Mike Alesse](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Director Daniel McKiernan comments
Date: Friday, March 8, 2024 10:38:43 AM

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Commercial Striped Bass Management
(322 CMR 6.07)

- 1) I agree that the days need to be changed to make season last longer into the fall. I would hate to lose Mondays.
- 2) I disagree with the buyer needs to be at the sale of fish. What I do agree with is each tag needs to be tracked to each license holder.

At my buyer they tag but don't write tag numbers on my slip. So no accountability for short or old fish when it gets back to the warehouse.

We actually need more drop off places with more accountability you bring in old fish, short fish, non iced fish you should be put on the bad boy list! If poachers can't sell fish to buyer they will think twice. Money is the motive hit a poacher where it hurts leave the enforcement out of the situation and let the fishermen and dealer police these fish. Rules won't work because EP is non-existent. They hit the night bite on the last day of the season! That stuff was going on all season everyone tipped them off it was easy. EP said the reason prices are so low is quality of fish. I would like to see higher standards for market fish. People do eat these. Ice should be mandatory and dealers need to be able to reject fish.

Make this a limited entry with rules like

NO OUT OF STATE PERMITS

SALE OF 100lb a year

Give tags to the harvester

Trip reports at end of week to ensure proper quota management to make in season adjustments

(322 CMR 6.21).

No comment

(322 CMR 6.22)

No comment

(322 CMR 6.34)

No comment

(322 CMR 6.37)

322 CMR 6.43

1) all the same rules as last year get these boats out of our waters and 3 miles off the shore it's not safe. What happened in Salem Harbor? 25,000lb of dead or discarded because the area is too tight to fish with these nets! Just because this is the "oldest fishery" doesn't mean they get free rein of harbors.

Team Mako commercial fishing

Did attend all meetings

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Christopher Croke](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Pogie increase. Attn: Director Dan McKienan
Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 6:27:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello - I understand that there is discussion about increasing the amount of pogie boats and/or pogie catches the pogie boats are allowed to take. As a recreational boater I want to request that we do the opposite and reduce or eliminate entirely these commercial boats coming in and disrupting our local "neighborhood" fishing and cruising areas. They do not belong in the inner harbor. Please keep them out.

Christopher Croke
Quincy, MA

From: [Michael Ludwig](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn: Director Dan Mckienan pogie increase
Date: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 1:48:38 PM

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Hello,

I am writing to oppose the commercial harvest of "pogies" or "bunker" in Boston Harbor. It is destructive to resources that are cherished by myself and many others. I have witnessed this destruction the past few years and I am vehemently opposed to any increase in this activity. I was personally harassed by these commercial fishermen and their crew with video evidence to prove it. Any increase in this activity is truly a detriment to the environment and safety of recreational boaters.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mike Ludwig
42 Winthrop St
Charlestown MA, 02129
617-480-3302

From: [ERIC LORENTZEN](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: menhaden
Date: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 11:08:28 AM

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I think the season should start June 1st to align with the inshore net opening. The triggers should stay the same as last year. I did like Jerry O'Neill's idea of opening the quota to a large limit after September 15 if there is a lot of quota left to catch. I am hesitant to allow a fast-paced landing of fish that would close the quota before September 15. My operation relies on a steady landing of fish that the local market can absorb. In a perfect scenario, I could catch the fish as they show up and finish when they leave, but I know that's not how it plays out.

From: [Maxwell Ullrich](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn Dan McKienan
Date: Monday, March 4, 2024 9:11:09 AM

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Dan,

Please, for the love of everybody that has grown up on the ocean in Massachusetts:

Do NOT increase the take of the commercial Menhaden vessels.

They destroy the population in the blink of an eye and the striped bass' source of food vanishes.

The fishery has gotten much worse from when I was a kid. And I don't want it to be gone for my kids.

You have a chance to do something meaningful and help save the our beloved New England marine ecosystem.

Any questions please let me know I would be happy to discuss. I'm 26 years old and work as an engineer in the subsea technology field. I have my USCG Master Captains license. I may be young but know my stuff.

Let's talk!

Maxwell J. Ullrich

From: [Terrence Manning](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Pogie regulators attn Dan McKienan
Date: Sunday, March 3, 2024 8:32:18 AM

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Don't increase catches and detail a harbor restriction
Thanks

From: [Sean McCormick](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: attn. Director Dan McKiernan, menhaden fishery
Date: Saturday, March 2, 2024 3:43:38 PM

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March, 1, 2024

Dan McKiernan

Director

Division of Marine Fisheries

Dear Director McKiernan:

My name is Sean McCormick. I am a lifelong resident and angler of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I wrote to you before in regards to the proposed in-season adjustment to the commercial menhaden trip limit triggers (who knows if you actually read letters from the public or comments made by the public and how much weight you assign to it. Many people think you guys only solicit public feedback as window dressing and that you already have decided what measures you are going to enact, but I digress).

I am vehemently opposed to any regulation or adjustment that would allow for any increase in menhaden harvest. In fact, I would like to see the quota reduced and more restrictions placed on the commercial harvest of menhaden. I speak for myself, other anglers in my family, and other anglers in the Greater Boston fishing community when I say we want to see commercial menhaden harvest (e.g. seine or purse net fishing) prohibited from Boston Harbor. We don't think it is fair that commercial trawlers can come in and essentially decimate a key part of the local ecosystem. **We want to see the Department of Marine Fisheries draw a line from Deer Island south or from Logan Airport south and not allow the commercial menhaden harvest in this area**

As you know, menhaden is a favored prey species of our predominant game species: the striped bass. It is discouraging to see the decimation of their forage while simultaneously enacting emergency regulations to bolster their future.

As an angler, I value the local availability of menhaden. There is no better time to fish when there is a biomass of menhaden around. Growing up, they used to say, "Stripers like structure

so fish near structure.” Well I’ve learned that the bait *is* the structure and big stripers need to feed on so many menhaden per day to maintain their weight/health.

For the last 5 years, I have been fishing exclusively in Boston Harbor and the surrounding islands. When that biomass of menhaden is around, there are always big 40”+ stripers feeding on them. Last summer was particularly spectacular. Catching large keeper stripers and big 40”+ stripers became routine on every outing, that is, until the midwater trawlers come through.

I’ve noticed it only takes two days of trawlers netting menhaden to completely ruin the fishing in the area. After the menhaden are scattered, the big bass disappear and never seem to emerge for the rest of the season. This happens practically every year they are around. This year there has been a dearth of menhaden around, but they did show up for 2 days about 3 weeks ago. But again, they disappeared *en masse* once the trawlers came by. The obliteration of local bait is one concern, but what about by-catch? How many stripers get scooped up and killed in their nets or scooped up and dumped back in the water half-dead? It is my understanding that some reasoning for striped bass regulations are based on estimated post-release mortality rates. I’m wondering if there is any data on mid-water commercial menhaden trawlers and how many striped bass and other species are affected by their nets?

Commercial menhaden harvests take a public trust resource in increments of tens of thousands of pounds meanwhile we, the recreational angler, are relegated to taking 1 fish per person in a measly 3 inch range. I just don’t see how that is fair or equitable or ethical. They take enough from the ocean; I don’t want to see any adjustments made to allow or encourage them to take more than what is already allotted in the current schedule of regulations.

We want to see the Department of Marine Fisheries draw a line from Deer Island south or from Logan Airport south and not allow the commercial menhaden harvest in this area. We want to reserve these areas for local recreational and commercial striped bass fishing. Among other things, we pay for a Massachusetts saltwater fishing license, gas, boat registration, boat insurance, dock/slip leases, City of Boston dock/slip fees, bait, tackle, etc.—all for the enjoyment of catching a nice fish (again only allowed to harvest one 28”-31” striper per person). We should be able to do this regularly in our local waterways, and an abundance of menhaden is an important part of that. We shouldn’t have to run 15-20 miles away to find bait and feeding stripers.

Commercial menhaden trawlers are built to work offshore. They are big hefty vessels capable of handling the open ocean. They should stay offshore, and fill their quota away from coastal waterways where the fishery is more readily accessible to recreational anglers. I think restricting commercial menhaden harvest from Boston Harbor and other coastal waterways would have a tremendously positive impact on recreational angling, commercial angling, local charter boats, and local fish populations that prey on menhaden. With that said, thank you for reading and for your consideration, and thanks for the work you do to support the marine

environment and fishing communities.

Regards,

Sean McCormick

From: [T.B](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 6:11:34 PM

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i support
banning all seine fishing in the inner harbors

From: [al.creech](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: pogie
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 6:05:51 PM

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Hello Dan I support the ban on all pogbie boats seine fishing in all our inner harbors thanks

From: [John Farrell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn. Director Dan McKiernan RE: Menhaden quota increase
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 1:17:56 PM

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Dear Director McKiernan,

As a local charter fisherman I would like to voice my opposition to an increase in the commercial fishing of menhaden.

Particularly for inshore fishermen as they disrupt for-hire and recreational fishermen targeting Striped Bass and Bluefish. I can attest to instances where the commercial boats forced their way into ongoing fishing of Bass and Blues to target the menhaden. Naturally in doing so they capture/kill great numbers of Bass, while destroying the recreation of others. Their actions are rarely deterred by the presence of large fleets of recreational and for-hire boaters.

I respectfully ask that you take this into consideration as you weigh new quota recommendations for menhaden.

Thank you,

Captain John Farrell

Danvers, MA

From: [Alejandro Oliver](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Pogies in Boston Harbor
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 12:53:06 PM

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Hello:

I would like to express my strong opinion that commercial netting of pogies with mechanical gear in Boston Harbor should not be allowed at all, certainly not increased. There is enough pressure on the ecosystem and the fisheries that rely on supporting species that this should really be severely restricted.

Thank you.
-Alex Oliver
Somerville, MA

From: [Ryan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: ATTN: Director Dan Mckienan - Menhaden Regs
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 11:28:18 AM

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Hello,

I was unable to attend the recent meeting but wanted to express my disagreement with the proposed earlier start times and menhaden quota increases. The Menhaden fishery and the striped bass fishery are in trouble of being overfished. Increasing the menhaden quota is not good for anything in the marine industry and goes against DMFs value of protecting the fisheries in the State. Additionally, having the boats start so early in May is bad for the environment. The bait will be gone prior to the striped bass showing up, not including the damage these net boats do.

I believe in the DMF. I work with them regularly through my job, and I participate in the citizen striped bass project. I appreciate the work they do protecting all of our marine species and I think these changes in regulations directly contradict all the good work you guys do.

Thank you,
Ryan Cavanaugh

From: [Tom Schier](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: attn. Director Dan Mckienan pogie increase
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 9:55:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please do not increase the pogie limits for commercial netters. Last year there were too few pogies in Boston Harbor as it is.

As a recreational fisherman, it is frustrating to see the commercial limits to be continually increased without any consideration to the recreational people.

Tom Schier
617-429-4254

From: [David Greenaway](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn Dan Mckienan - re: pogie quota
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 9:37:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dan,

I am writing to express my sincere disappointment of your proposed increase of menhaden quota. This is irresponsible recommendation and a decision that should be made by consensus of MA residents.

Thanks for your consideration.

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

From: joeparrish56@gmail.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Commercial pogy Fishing
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 7:18:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Director Makienan ,I'm sending this email to ask that you banned commercial pogy netting in Boston Harbor. When the commercial fisherman came into Boston, Harbor and deplete the Harbor of pogies, they take a bait fish which stops the migrating stripers from coming into the harbor, this depletes, the harbor of all stripers and the Harbor lays Barron for all fisherman. In my many in my many is a Fishing, Boston, Harbor I know if there's no Bait there's gonna be no fish, so please stop the co commercial Fishman from depleting the Harbor of the pogies. I can remember just two or three years ago. When the bait fish were plentiful, the stripers were abundant in fishing was bountiful throughout the harbor. It was so great that even the wheels came into the harbor. I remember Fishing off of spectacle Island me and the wheel was 50 feet away and it was wonderful. Please keep keep this wonderful resource open for all to enjoy thank you Joe Parrish my iPhone

From: [Fred Huber](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Proposed Menhaden/Pogie Fishing Increase for 2024 - ATTN: Dan McKiernan
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 7:08:46 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. McKiernan,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed increase in menhaden/pogie fishing in and around the Boston Harbor area. This plan raises significant environmental concerns, particularly its potential to harm the striped bass fishery. Striped bass are not only crucial to our local ecosystem but also represent an important recreational fishing resource. The depletion of pogie, a key forage species for striped bass, could lead to a decline in the striped bass population, adversely affecting biodiversity and the balance of our marine habitats.

Furthermore, the introduction of large pogie fishing vessels into the inner harbor poses a serious disruption to recreational boating, an activity enjoyed by many in our community. The increased traffic and navigational hazards could compromise safety and diminish the quality of the boating experience in this cherished area. It is crucial to consider the broader impacts of expanding pogie fishing operations, not only on our marine environment but also on the recreational activities that contribute to the vitality and well-being of our community.

I urge you to reconsider the proposed expansion of pogie fishing activities in Boston Harbor. Protecting our marine ecosystems and preserving the enjoyment of our natural resources should be a priority. Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Fred Huber
Cell: 617-595-6477
Sent from my iPad

From: [Matt Ackerman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attention director Dan McKeinan
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 7:00:28 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Director,

Respectfully the poagie catch limit is harmful to the oceans ecosystem. Not only are the boats a safety hazard to recreational/charter boats the poagie itself is far too important to all of the fish in the sea. Please consider decreasing the amount allowed and/or stopping altogether. Increasing is a slap in the face to the people you are supposed to represent (not the \$ from big business). I am confident you will do the right thing!

Thanks,

Matt

From: [Maxwell Ullrich](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn Dan McKienan
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 6:54:05 AM

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Dan,

Please, for the love of everybody that has grown up on the ocean in Massachusetts:

Do NOT increase the take of the commercial Menhaden vessels.

They destroy the population in the blink of an eye and the striped bass' source of food vanishes.

The fishery has gotten much worse from when I was a kid. And I don't want it to be gone for my kids.

You have a chance to do something meaningful and help save the our beloved New England marine ecosystem.

Any questions please let me know I would be happy to discuss. I'm 26 years old and work as an engineer in the subsea technology field. I have my USCG Master Captains license. I may be young but know my stuff.

Let's talk!

Maxwell J. Ullrich

From: [gary trenholm](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn Director Dan Mckeanan
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 6:11:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I've been fishing boston harbor for 50 years,and the pogie boats have been a problem since day one.If there's any way we can keep them outside that would be great. Thank you Gary Trenholm

From: [Mark Aliberti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Pogie boats in Boston harbor attn. Director Dan McKienan
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 5:04:56 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Sir, I've been fishing Boston and Harbor for over 35 years and the effect that the pogie boats have on the fishery is immensely obvious. I respectfully request the pogie boats are not allowed into Boston, Harbor the effector devastating.

Thank You
Mark Aliberti
Winthrop Ma
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brian Blair](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Menhaden net boats Attn. Director Dan Mckiensn
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 4:55:41 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am a commercial striped bass fisherman and emailing in regards to pogie boats in All harbors.

These boats come in and scoop up all the bait destroying my daily efforts at catching bass. It needs to stop. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Brian Blair

From: [Alexey Kolishchak](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: attn. Director Dan Mckienan pogie increase
Date: Friday, March 1, 2024 3:57:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I don't know much about this but I will say this: Keep Commercial and Recreational fishing separate. But keep both in mind. There's plenty of ocean for the net boats to find fish in. What the hell is the point of letting them take even more even closer to shore? What??? are you trying to wipe out the bass fishery? You will have a hoot and a holler from EVERYONE if you do. Think about what you are actually doing before accepting whatever they're paying you to do this.

I will also say this, I am 21, and as a local young fisherman with limited boat access, having pogies reach shore lines in huge. It's a thrill I live for. It's a thrill I've driven hours on hours to chase. So before you make this stupid rule change and wipe out the logies entirely. Take a moment to fuckin think. Having a "meeting" with the decision being pre-determined isn't democratic. It's bullshit. Listen to us for once.

From: [Chris Bonacorso](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Director Dan Mckienan pogie increase
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 11:09:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Dan,

Im a small business owner in the marine industry and avid bass fishermen here in boston.

Its disheartening to think we would increase the pogie quota and allow these massive net boats inside the inner harbors and deplete the bait. Its not worth destroying bass fishing so we can sell fish oil pills.

The fishing last year was a horror show. 250 hours fishing nantasket to marblehead i saw 3 pogie schools all year. 5 years ago we could walk on them.

If this keeps up ill just sell my boat. Not worth the time and money.

Please consider what these net boats do to the local ecosystem.

CJB

From: [Paul Schneider](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Pogies-Boston Harbor
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 10:53:18 PM

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Attn: Dan McKienan

Mr. McKienan

It has come to my attention that rules are currently up for discussion on this year's Pogie boat quotas, etc.

Last year I was fishing in Boston Harbor and as a recreational fisherman, I was enjoying the fact that the pogies came into the harbor and the bass and blue fishing was incredible. I was out there fishing and all of a sudden we were being circled by pogie boats just waiting to make their move. I witnessed them surrounding the schools of pogies and essentially wiping out the species in Boston Harbor.

I understand that they are trying to make a living, but it shouldn't be at the expense of 100's or 1000's of recreational fisherman in the harbor. These few are ruining a wonderful sport for the many.

they should be limited to outside the harbor that I believe many other commercial fishermen are. Even if others are not, it just is the right thing to do for the many recreational fishermen who depend on the harbor to perpetuate our fishing sport and enjoyment.

Please restrict these pogie boats so they are not allowed to interfere with the Boston harbor recreational fishermen, by scooping up all the bait fish

Thank you
Paul Schneider
617-571-8460

From: [Brian O'Toole](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn director Dan Mckienan
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 10:42:45 PM

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Please consider keeping the Pogie commerical boats outside of Boston inner harbor. They create devastation to striped bass fishing in our local water. They virtually cleaned out the entire harbor last season before the bass even finished migrating. It is a staple bait source to keep our fishery alive. They can maintain their quota outside of the harbor without decimating the inner harbor, it's like shooting fish in a barrel in there. Not to mention they operate dangerously among recreational anglers, with no regard for smaller vessels. Thank you for your consideration.

Brian O'Toole

Sent from my iPhone

From: [jon.morales](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: attn. Director Dan Mckienan
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 10:31:45 PM

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Can you please keep Net boats out of Boston Harbor. Finding pogies last year was very difficult. I fished the most I've ever fished last year and caught about 8 total.

Do the right thing!

Thank you,

Jon Morales

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ed](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Pogie Increase. Attn Director Daniel J. McKiernan
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 10:24:30 PM

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I'm writing to opposition to allowing menhaden netting in Broad Sound. There is an obvious, dramatic end to recreational and commercial striped bass and blue fishing when the seiners wipe them out.

It is blatant and instant demise of sportfishing each season when they arrive.

Edward Miles
Lynn, MA
617-827-7815

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

From: [Shannon Croke](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Pogie increase. Attn: Director Dan McKienan
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 10:22:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello - I understand that there is discussion about increasing the amount of pogie boats and/or pogie catches the pogie boats are allowed to take. As a recreational boater I want to request that we do the opposite and reduce or eliminate entirely these commercial boats coming in and disrupting our local "neighborhood" fishing and cruising areas.

They do not belong in the inner harbor. Please keep them out.

Thank you,

Shannon Croke
Quincy MA

From: [Paul](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Commercial Menhaden Season and Trip Limits
Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024 11:44:19 AM

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Director Daniel McKiernan,

I have 2 concerns regarding the use of Purse Seine fishing for Menhaden:

I'm in favor of banning Purse Seining boats from fishing Fridays, Saturdays and Sunday in state waters.

I am also in favor of banning them from daily fishing in Boston Harbor inbound of the airport radar across to Castle Island.

Paul Diggins
O/O Reel Pursuit Charters
Boston, MA 02129

Sent from my iPad

I recently submitted an email proposing an earlier start date for the menhaden fishery. I neglected to give a start point, I would recommend a start date of May 15 or the second Monday in May. This start date would allow larger vessels to harvest menhaden in deeper waters while the fish are migrating north. I don't believe starting the fishery earlier than this date would be beneficial to any local businesses as it would cause a "glut" forcing truckloads of fish to be moved out of state for other purposes.

Thank you
Jon Savage
F/V Taylor Mae
Capt.sav@comcast.net