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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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> October 8, 2014 MarineFisheries Advisory

## Commercial Tautog Fishery Closed Effective Saturday, October 11, 2014

The Commonwealth's 2014 commercial tautog quota of 53,350 lbs is projected to be taken on Friday, October 10, 2014. Accordingly, the 2014 Massachusetts' commercial tautog fishery is closed effective 0001 hours on Saturday, October 11, 2014 (Closure Notice). Until further notice, Massachusetts commercial fishermen will be prohibited from possessing and landing tautog for commercial purposes until the 2015 commercial tautog season opens. Similarly, effective 0001 hours on Saturday, October 11, 2014, the purchase or receipt of any tautog by a Massachusetts primary buyer from any commercial fisherman is prohibited.

Commercial fishermen are reminded that even if their permit was not fished, October 2014 triplevel reports are due no later than November 15, 2014. Failure to submit these reports for all months of the year in a timely manner may result in the non-renewal of your commercial permit and its endorsements in 2015. Trip level reports should be sent to DMF Statistics Project, 30 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930. Blank forms and instructions were mailed out prior to the beginning of the 2014 commercial fishing season and additional copies can be obtained at: <u>Trip-Level Reporting</u>.

The complete text of Massachusetts' tautog regulations is found at 322 CMR 6.40 and more information regarding the management of tautog in Massachusetts is found on the *MarineFisheries* website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries



Deval Patrick Governor Maeve Vallely Bartlett Secretary Mary B. Griffin Commissioner