



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114  
p: (617) 626-1520 | f: (617) 626-1509  
[www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)



CHARLES D. BAKER  
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO  
Lt. Governor

KATHLEEN A. THEOHARIDES  
Secretary

RONALD S. AMIDON  
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN  
Director

### Massachusetts CARES Act Fisheries Relief Program

#### Re: 2020 Relief Payments returned by recipients who were made “more than whole”

If you received a 2020 Massachusetts Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Fisheries Relief payment and at the close of 2020, you or your business has been made more than whole, you must pay back excess fisheries relief.

- **How do I determine if I have been made more than whole?**

More than ‘whole’ would mean that all COVID-related relief received in 2020 (Paycheck Protection Program [PPP] or Small Business Administration [SBA] loans, unemployment, this fisheries relief), combined with your traditional revenue, brings your business above 100% (equating to an increase in revenue as compared to an average year). Any SBA or PPP loans received should only be factored in if you do not have to pay the money back. If you have to pay the money back, it does not count towards this equation.

- **I received a relief payment from the Seafood Trade Relief Program (STRP); does this count towards the ‘make more than whole’ equation?**

No. NOAA will not consider funds provided to fishermen under USDA’s STRP in its execution of CARES Act fisheries assistance. The STRP program is unrelated to COVID: it addresses only industry impacts from retaliatory trade tariffs in 2019. As such, the STRP is providing assistance to fishermen based on landings in 2019.

- **How do I pay back excess fisheries relief received from this program?**

Make a check payable to **ASMFC** and mail it to:

**Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission**

Attn: Laura Leach

1050 North Highland Street; Suite 200 A-N

Arlington, Virginia 22201

Additionally, please email [dmf.caresrelief@mass.gov](mailto:dmf.caresrelief@mass.gov) or call (617) 418-9237 to alert the MA DMF CARES Relief team of the change in payment.

- **Will I receive an amended 1099 if I pay back some or all of this fisheries relief?**

Yes. ASMFC will be keeping records and can provide an amended 1099 at a later date. Original 1099s will be sent out to all recipients of CARES fisheries relief around mid-February 2021.