



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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June 5, 2024

Marine Fisheries Advisory

LIMITED ACCESS MENHADEN TRIP LIMIT REDUCED TO 25,000 POUNDS EFFECTIVE JUNE 7

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that 50% of the state's 10,838,902-pound 2024 Atlantic menhaden quota will have been landed on Thursday, June 6. Accordingly, the commercial limited access trip limit will be reduced from 120,000 pounds to 25,000 pounds effective Friday, June 7. This trip limit applies to any commercial fisher with a limited entry menhaden endorsement and shall remain in effect until 90% of the annual quota is taken, at which time (provided it is prior to September 1) the trip limit will be reduced to 6,000 pounds. The open access trip limit remains at 6,000 pounds.

At the 25,000-pound trip limit, purse seiners may fish for menhaden on Fridays (in addition to Mondays–Thursdays), except within the waters of Beverly Harbor which remains closed to purse seining on Fridays. In addition to Saturdays and Sundays, purse seining is prohibited statewide on the 4th of July (a Thursday this year) and on Labor Day (Monday, September 2 this year). The use of authorized carrier vessels may continue until the trip limit is reduced to 6,000 pounds. Carrier vessels are not allowed within Boston Harbor. Additionally, carrier vessels may not possess menhaden on any day closed to purse seining, receive menhaden from more than one harvester vessel during a day, land more than once per day, possess more than the trip limit, and if both the harvester vessel and the carrier vessel are in possession of menhaden, the aggregate weight of menhaden may not exceed the 25,000-pound trip limit.

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