

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 626-1520

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Mobile Gear Regulated Areas



DATA SOURCES

- Fisheries Regulatory Areas**
- Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, Code of Massachusetts Regulations 322 100-1200
- State Territorial Waters**
- Muskeget Channel, 1990 NOAA CHARTS 1:80,000
 - 3 Miles off Cuttyhunk Baseline, US vs. MAINE 1981 Supplemental Decree
 - Other Areas, 1984 NOAA CHARTS 1:80,000
- Coastline**
- Coastline from USGS 1:100,000 DLG's
 - Town Boundaries automated from USGS 1:25,000 Quads



Massachusetts
Rhode Island

REGULATED AREAS

Inshore Net Areas Closed Year Round

Area Designations

AREA Closed Year Round

AREA 1a Closed April 1 - April 30

AREA 1b Closed April 1 - April 30 and June 1 - September 15

AREAS 2a and 2b Closed May 1 - October 31

AREA 3 Closed April 1 - October 31

AREA 4 Closed April 1 - December 31

AREA 5 Closed April 1 - June 14 and October 1 - January 31 *Special Endorsement Required*

AREA 6 Closed May 1 - December 14 *Special Endorsement Required*

AREA 7a Closed April 23 - October 31 out to 1/4 mile Closed June 1 - October 31 out to 1/2 mile

AREA 7b Closed May 1 - October 31

Boundary Lines

Net Mesh Size Regulations Lines

Nantucket Sound Management Line (70 W)

Flounder Spawning Closure Line

State Territorial Seas Line

FLOUNDER SPAWNING CLOSURE LINE

From February 1 to May 31 all waters are closed to commercial fishing inshore of the Flounder Spawning Closure Line from New Hampshire to Provincetown.

Exceptions: Mid-water trawling for sea herring. Special permit required. No flounder may be retained.

FISH WEIRS

No fishing may take place within 150 feet of a fish weir bowl and within 200 feet on either side of the leader extending 500 feet along the leader from the first leader pole.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS

Mobile Gear is defined as after trawl, pair trawl, beam trawl, Scottish seine, Danish seine, pair seine, or other similar devices including scallop dredges.

Maximum vessel size is 72 feet in length over all. A special permit is required to fish with mobile gear in waters under Massachusetts jurisdiction. No right fishing

ROLLERS
Net rollers must not exceed 12 inches in diameter in state waters.

DREDGES
Sea scallop dredges or combination of dredges cannot exceed 10 feet.

INSHORE NET AREAS

Estuaries, embayments, salt ponds, tidal creeks and rivers in which all fishing with any type of net is prohibited, unless a special permit is obtained from DMF. Defined in 322 CMR 4.02 or contact DMF for locations.

NET MESH SIZE

In all state waters north of Loran C line 9960-Y-43940 net mesh size must be at least 6.5" in the codend and 6" in the remainder of the net.

Between April 23rd - June 9th squid trawlers may use small mesh.

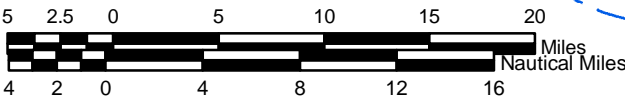
Contact DMF

"ROLLING" CLOSURES
(Compliments Federal Rule)

- AREA Between 42° 00' and 42° 30' Closed from April 1 - May 31 and from October 1 - November 30
- AREA Between 42° 30' and the border of New Hampshire Closed from April 1 - June 30
- AREA South of 42° 00' Latitude and East of 70° 00' Longitude Closed during the month of May

NOTE:
Regulations may change following the publication of this map. Contact the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries to learn about such changes. These regulations are current as of May 2005.

The coastline in the Chatham - Monomoy area is under continuous change. The coastline displayed is from October 2002. For information on how coastal changes have altered the inshore net area line contact the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries.



NOTE: This map should not be used for navigation
Map Produced on May 23, 2005
Updated April 30, 2012

