

Reporting the Commercial Sale of Striped Bass from For-Hire Trips



MA DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES STATISTICS PROJECT

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**HTTP://WWW.MASS.GOV/MARINEFISHERIES
GO TO COMMERCIAL FISHING>>TRIP LEVEL
REPORTING**

When can I sell STB from For-Hire trips?



- **Permitted for-hire vessels may sell any striped bass caught during a for-hire trip, provided:**
 - The for-hire vessel holds a commercial striped bass regulated fishery permit endorsement;
 - All catch complies with the recreational fishing management measures; and
 - The striped bass sold complies with the commercial fishing management measures.

When can I sell STB from For-Hire trips?



- A for-hire vessel on a for-hire trip is considered to be exclusively recreational, and all **recreational** rules pertaining to striped bass and other species must be followed.
- However, if some of the striped bass catch is unwanted by the for-hire patrons **AND** these fish meet the commercial requirements, these fish can be sold by the for-hire captain if properly permitted (up to the daily commercial limit).
- See the next three slides for some example situations.

Examples



- **Example 1:**

- John Doe has a For-Hire permit and a commercial permit with a striped bass endorsement. He took 6 people out on a charter striped bass trip on a Monday in early July. His patrons caught a total of 6 fish, and decided to keep 3 of them. The three remaining fish measured 30", 35" and 40".
 - ✦ John may sell the 35" and the 40" fish to a striped bass primary buyer. These fish are of legal size and the trip occurred on an open commercial day.

Examples



- **Example 2:**

- Jane Doe has a For-Hire permit and a commercial permit with a striped bass endorsement. She took 20 people out on a striped bass party trip on the last Thursday in June. Her patrons caught a total of 18 fish, and decided to keep half of them. All of the remaining fish were over 34".
- ✦ Jane may sell all 9 of the remaining fish to a striped bass primary buyer. These fish are of legal size and the trip occurred on an open commercial day. Please note that she may only sell up to the commercial daily limit which is 15 fish for a boat permit.

Examples



- **Example 3:**

- John Doe has a For-Hire permit and a commercial permit with a striped bass endorsement. He took 4 people out on a charter striped bass trip on a Friday in July. His patrons caught a total of 3 fish, and decided to keep 2 of them. The remaining fish measured more than 34".
 - ✦ John may NOT sell this fish. While fish greater than 34" are of legal size, the trip did not occur on an open commercial day.

What do I report?



- Any striped bass caught during a for-hire trip **and** sold must be reported on commercial harvester trip-level reporting forms, either state or federal.
 - These reporting procedures are different from past practice when these for-hire trips were considered to be commercial.
 - ✦ **Fish kept by for-hire patrons should NOT be reported on commercial harvester trip level forms**, even when a portion of the striped bass catch is sold.
 - ✦ For-hire patrons' catch of striped bass (and any other species) will be estimated through MRIP (the Marine Recreational Information Program).
 - **State-reporting harvesters** (those who do not report trip-level data to NOAA Fisheries) **must report electronically, using the “For-Hire” catch source option in the SAFIS eTRIPS application.** See the next page for an example.
 - **Federal-reporting harvesters** can continue to use their current mode of reporting, either paper or electronic, being sure to report such striped bass sales as occurring from a for-hire trip.
 - Harvest from traditional commercial trips can still be reported via the eTrips application, but using the “standard” catch source instead.

How do I report the sale?



- **Reporting Con't:**

- Please use the “For-Hire” Catch Source option to note the striped bass came from a For-Hire trip. Remember to only report the sold striped bass! See the example below:



SAFIS
Electronic
Trip Reports (eTRIPS)

Fisher Information

JOHN DOE
MA DMF
999999 EXAMPLE

Home Logout

> eTRIP Menu > Trip Reports for JOHN DOE > [Create / Edit Trip Report](#)

Create / Edit Trip

Trip #						
State	Port	Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Vessel	Start Time (HH24)	Trip Type	Partner VTR
Massach	Gloucester, MA	06/23/2014	A II - MS1234BB	0600	Commercial	

1 - 1

Create / Edit Effort

Effort #	Waters Fished/ In State	Local Area Fished	Gear	LMA	Gear Quantity	Fishing Time	Hours / Days	Total # Gear In Water
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	State Waters Inshore - 2 Massachusetts	MA 3 - MA STATE WATERS - NORTH SHORE	Hook And Line (300)		1	8	Hours	1

1 - 1

[Add Additional Effort](#)

[Delete Effort](#)

Create / Edit Catches

Delete?	Effort	Species	Disposition	Reported Quantity	Unit Measure	Sales Disposition	Dealer	Market Category	Grade	Catch Source
X	1	STRIPED BASS	Food	127	pounds	Sold to Dealer	REDS BEST / WILD FISH LLC JARED AUERBACH (3748-FEDPERM)	UNCLASSIFIED	ROUND	For Hire

row(s) 1 - 1 of

- Please see the Catch Source Video Tutorial on the Marine Fisheries YouTube page for more information on the background of the catch source field.

For-Hire Regulations Reminders



- **Season:** Year-Round
- **Open Fishing Days:** No closure
- **Daily Limit:** 1 fish/person
- **Minimum Size:** 28"
- **No High-Grading**
- **Hook & Line only**

Commercial Regulations Reminders



- **Season:** The 2015 opening date is June 25. The closure is quota dependent.
- **Open Fishing Days:** Mondays and Thursdays ONLY.
- **Daily Limit:** If you have a striped bass endorsement and
 - A Commercial Lobster or Boat Permit: 15-fish DAILY limit,
 - A Commercial Individual or Rod & Reel Permit: 2-fish DAILY limit.
 - Reminder: These are daily limits per individual and/or per vessel.
 - ✦ Primary buyers cannot purchase more than one daily limit from a commercial fisherman or vessel regardless of the number of commercial Striped Bass Endorsements in the fisherman's possession or on board the vessel.
- **Striped Bass must be sold to authorized Primary Buyers of striped bass ONLY.** A list of striped bass primary buyers can be found on our website. Click on "STB" to sort the list of striped bass primary buyers by municipality. Click on a dealer's name to access address and phone number.
- Only whole fish may be commercially transacted by harvesters. Fillets cannot be sold, bartered, or exchanged.
- See [322 CMR 6.07](#) for complete regulations.

Further questions? Contact us!



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- **For more information:**

- <http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries>**

- Go to Commercial Fishing >> Trip level reporting