



David E. Pierce, PhD.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

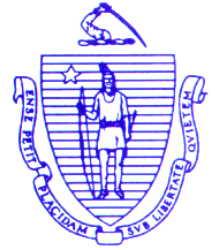
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September 20, 2019

Statement of Permit Conditions: Adjustments to Commercial Summer Flounder Limits

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF), with the approval of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission, has taken action to adjust commercial summer flounder (fluke) limits for the remainder of the 2019 commercial fishing season. This action was taken to provide commercial fishermen with additional access to the available quota and mitigate against reduced fishing opportunities due to worsening fall weather conditions. Unless further amended, these limits shall remain in place until December 31, 2019 or 100% of the 2019 commercial fluke quota is taken and the commercial fishery is closed in accordance with 322 CMR §6.41(2)(c).

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority at, G.L. c. 130 §§ 2, 17A and 80 and 322 CMR §§6.41(2)(d) and 7.01(7), all commercial fisherman permits with regulated fishery permit endorsements for fluke have been hereby conditioned to amend the Period 2 commercial fluke limits set forth at 322 CMR §6.22(2)(d)(2):

- **During the period of September 21 - October 31, the open commercial fluke fishing days shall be Saturdays - Thursdays and it shall be unlawful to fish for, retain, possess or land fluke in the waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth on Fridays.**
- **Effective November 1, the commercial fluke fishery shall be open seven days per week and it shall be unlawful for commercial fishermen using any authorized gear type to possess, retain or land more than 1,000 pounds of fluke in the waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth per calendar day or trip, whichever period is longer.**

These permit conditions do not further exempt you from any of the marine fishery laws and regulations set forth at G.L. c. 130 and 322 CMR. Any violation of the above stated permit condition or marine fishery law or regulation is subject to the fines and penalties set forth at G.L. c. 130 §§ 2 and 80, G.L. c. 21A § 10H and 322 CMR 7.01(9). In addition, non-compliance may result in an administrative hearing to suspend or revoke your commercial fisherman permit.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter,

David E. Pierce, PhD
Director