

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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MAURA T. HEALEY Governor KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL Lt. Governor REBECCA L. TEPPER Secretary THOMAS K. O'SHEA Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN Director

July 10, 2023 MarineFisheries Advisory

IN-SEASON ADJUSTMENT TO INCREASE SMOOTH DOGFISH TRIP LIMIT

At their July 10 business meeting, the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission voted unanimously in support of DMF's in-season adjustment recommendation to increase the 2023 smooth dogfish trip limit from 100 pounds to 300 pounds. <u>Therefore, effective July 11, 2023, the commercial smooth dogfish trip limit will be 300 pounds</u> (see <u>Declaration Notice</u>).

This action is designed to take advantage of the state's available commercial smooth dogfish quota by reducing discards and increasing landings relative to the current regulatory environment. Since 2017, Massachusetts only annually utilizes less than 25% of its 17,195-pound quota. Based on performance of the fishery this year, DMF may consider adopting this adjustment as a regulation for 2024.

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