



David Pierce
Acting Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

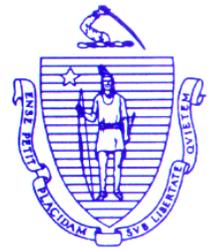
Division of Marine Fisheries

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May 12, 2015

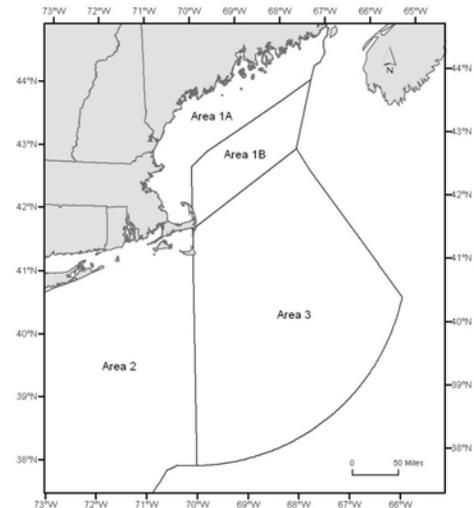
Marine Fisheries Advisory

Public Comment: Days Out Schedule for Management Area 1A Atlantic Sea Herring Directed Fishery

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Atlantic Sea Herring Section (Section) - consisting of ASMFC Commissioners from Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts - approved a days out schedule for the Trimester 2 (June 1 – September 30) Management Area 1A Atlantic sea herring directed fishery. The Section will meet again on June 29 to review Atlantic sea herring fishing effort and landing data from Management Area 1A and determine if the days out schedule needs to be adjusted to ensure quota remains available throughout Trimester 2. The ASMFC-approved days out schedule is found in the bullets below.

Pursuant to 322 CMR 9.05, the Division of Marine Fisheries will accept comment through May 27th on adopting the ASMFC-approved days out schedule for Massachusetts (instructions are provided below). Adopting this schedule will allow vessels in the Management Area 1A Atlantic sea herring directed fishery to land their catch in the Commonwealth. Following this public comment period, the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission will vote via fax poll to authorize the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries to declare days out for the Trimester 2 Management Area 1A Atlantic sea herring directed fishery.

- June 1, 2015 – July 5, 2015
During this period, vessels in the directed fishery for Atlantic sea herring may land sea herring taken from Management Area 1A Monday through Friday. The directed fishery will take days out on Saturdays and Sundays. On any day out, a vessel may possess and land up to 2,000 pounds of Atlantic sea herring taken from Management Area 1A, provided the vessel does not land more than once per day.
- July 6, 2015 – September 30, 2015
During this period, or until further notice, vessels in the directed fishery for Atlantic sea herring may land sea herring taken from Management Area 1A seven days per week; there will be no days out.



Instructions for Written Comments

Written public comments will be accepted until noon of Wednesday, May 27, 2015. Please address all comments to Acting Director David Pierce. Comments can be sent by e-mail to marine.fish@state.ma.us or by mail to 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.