



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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July 26, 2017

Notice to Atlantic Herring Harvesters

Atlantic Herring Management Plan Effort Reduction Provisions

One of the provisions of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) Atlantic herring Fishery Management Plan addresses the need to control effort in the fishery to prevent exceeding the total allowable catch for each management area and to prevent the early closure of a management area. Management Area 1A is of particular concern because in recent years the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) has been harvested before peak market demands abate in the autumn. Effort controls to extend the fishery may be implemented by states involved in the herring fishery through landing restrictions.

In accordance with Fis 603.07, the State of New Hampshire is implementing the following provision:

NH landing restrictions effective Monday, July 31, 2017 through Saturday, September 30, 2017 are as follows:

Vessels with a federal Atlantic herring Category C or D permit fishing with small mesh bottom trawl gear that have declared into the Trimester 2 fishery (June 1 through September 30) may land Atlantic herring taken from Management Area 1A seven days per week.

Vessels with a federal Atlantic herring Category A permit that have declared into the Trimester 2 fishery:

- a) Are prohibited from landing Atlantic herring taken from Management Area 1A on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. The restriction applies from 12:01 a.m. on Saturdays to midnight on Sundays.
- b) Are allowed to land an incidental catch up to a maximum of 2,000 pounds of Atlantic herring on the prohibited landing days described in a).
- c) Shall not land more than 680,000 pounds of Atlantic herring taken from Management Area 1A per harvester vessel, per week.

Carrier vessels, defined as a vessel that has received herring from another vessel and will not report that catch as its own on its Federal Vessel Trip Report, may not land Atlantic herring caught from Herring Management Area 1A in New Hampshire.

The restrictions shall remain in effect until 92% of the Total Allowable Catch for the June through September Trimester in Area 1A is projected to be exceeded, or until further amended.

The Atlantic Herring Section will meet again via conference call on August 9, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., to review and adjust "days out" measures if necessary. The public is invited to join by dialing 888-394-8197 and entering passcode 499811 as prompted.

Glenn Normandeau
Executive Director

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