



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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Scott R. Mason
Executive Director

September 17, 2024

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 (TAC) 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 TAC has been harvested before peak market demands abate in the autumn. Effort controls to extend the fishery may be implemented by states managing 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 6:00 PM, Wednesday, September 18, 2024, commercial harvesters will be prohibited from landing Atlantic herring taken from Management Area 1A Mondays through Sundays. The restriction applies from 12:01 a.m. on Mondays through midnight on Sundays. There will be seven 'days out' of the fishery.

The restrictions shall remain in effect until the end of the Season 2 period (June 1 through September 30) in Area 1A or until further amended.

Effective Monday, September 23, 2024, at 12:01 am commercial harvesters will be prohibited from fishing for, taking, or possessing unprocessed Atlantic herring within the jurisdiction of New Hampshire and possessing or landing Atlantic herring taken from the Massachusetts/New Hampshire Spawning Area. These restrictions shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. on November 3, 2024.

Exemptions:

An exception to the rule is that any vessel may land herring taken as an incidental catch in Atlantic herring Management Area 1A, up to a maximum of 2,000 pounds.

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