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MENHADEN: Harvest resumes under Episodic Event Fishery Monday, June 29, 2020

Maine Department of Marine Resources sent this bulletin at 06/26/2020 12:13 PM EDT



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Notice to all Commercial Pelagic and Anadromous License holders targeting Menhaden:

Maine DMR has been approved to participate in the Episodic Event Set Aside program (EESA) by ASMFC. Please review and adhere to the following regulatory provisions for the EESA fishery:

- Harvest to resume on Monday, June 29, 2020
- Harvest schedule will be reduced to **Mondays** and **Thursdays**, only
 - 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.

- Reporting of landings will be required **SAME DAY**, promptly after landing on **Mondays** and **Thursdays**
 - Positive landing reports are required electronically either through [LEEDS](#) or [FISH ONLINE](#).
- Daily landing limit is 120,000 lbs and weekly cap is 160,000 lbs for both **harvester** and **carrier** vessels
 - **ALL VESSELS ARE RESTRICTED TO ONE LANDING PER CALENDAR DAY**

Episodic Event Set Aside program (EESA) has an available 4.7 million pounds of menhaden quota for harvest. DMR has increased reporting requirements to same day reporting, as it has become necessary to collect landings information on a more timely basis to ensure that the quota available to Maine through the EESA is not exceeded.

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 41 Menhaden Open EESA

CONCISE SUMMARY:

The fishery for Atlantic menhaden is managed through the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC). Maine's allocated quota share for FY2020 was 2,438,696 pounds, which was fully consumed by June 18, 2020. Department of Marine Resources (DMR) requested, and was granted, approval to participate in the Episodic Event Set Aside program to access an available 4.7 million lbs of menhaden quota. Beginning Monday, June 29, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., the harvest and landing is permitted on Mondays and Thursdays, 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. only. Reporting will now be required on the same day as fish are landed. The Commissioner has determined that it is necessary to take emergency action to reduce harvest days and provide more timely reports to prevent unusual damage to the menhaden resource by exceeding available quota. The Commissioner hereby adopts this emergency regulation as authorized by 12 M.R.S. §6171(3)(A).

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 27, 2020

Additional information:

[Reporting through LEEDS](#)

[Reporting through NOAA FISH ONLINE](#)

[DMR Menhaden Webpage](#)

Need help with electronic reporting? Please contact Marissa.L.DeCosta@maine.gov or 207-633-9566 or Rob.Watts@maine.gov or 207-633-9412

For questions on menhaden fishery regulations, please contact your [local patrol officer](#), or your Division Lieutenants:

Division 1 - Lt Danny White at 207-633-9596

Division 2 - Lt Troy Dow at 207-664-2393

For questions on menhaden fishery management, please contact Melissa.Smith@maine.gov or 207-624-6558.

- [File Negative Landings Report.pdf](#)
- [File Positive Landings Report_Menhaden.pdf](#)

Fair winds to you and yours.

Melissa D. Smith

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