



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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## MEMORANDUM

October 30, 2015

**To:** Atlantic Herring Section  
Atlantic Herring Advisory Panel  
Atlantic Herring Interested Parties

**From:** Toni Kerns, ISFMP Director *TMK*

**RE:** Directed Atlantic Herring Fishery Closure for Management Area 1A

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) projected 92% of the total allowable catch (TAC) allocated to Management Area 1A (inshore Gulf of Maine) for Trimester 3 (October-December) will be harvested by November 2, 2015. The Area 1A directed fishery will close effective 1200 hours-Noon on November 2, 2015 and remain closed until further notice. Vessels that have entered port before 1200 hours-Noon on November 2, 2015, may land and sell, from that trip, more than 2,000 pounds of herring from Area 1A.

Vessels participating in the herring Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program may continue to fish in Area 1A for the remainder of the fishing year, and land, subject to state landing restrictions, greater than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic herring provided they are on a declared herring RSA trip.

States are reminded that in accordance with Amendment 2 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Herring, once a closure has been announced by the Greater Atlantic Regional Office Regional Administrator, states must prohibit the landing of herring from a closed area and prohibit directed fishing for Atlantic herring in state waters of a closed area. During a closure, vessels participating in other fisheries may retain and land an incidental catch of herring that does not exceed 2,000 pounds per trip or calendar day. In addition, all vessels traveling through Area 1A must have all fishing gear stowed.

If you have any questions please contact Ashton Harp at [aharp@asmfc.org](mailto:aharp@asmfc.org) or 703.842.0740.

M15-95



# Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

NOAA Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

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<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/>  
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## **ATLANTIC HERRING FISHERY**

Management Area 1A Sub-ACL Harvested  
Herring catch limited to 2,000 lb per trip/day  
*Effective date: 1200 hr-Noon, November 2, 2015*

As of November 2, 2015, 1200 hr-noon, vessels issued Federal Atlantic herring permits may not fish for, possess, transfer, receive, land, or sell more than 2,000 lb of herring in or from Area 1A per trip or calendar day, beginning November 2, 2015, through December 31, 2015, except that vessels that have entered port before 1200 hr-noon on November 2, 2015, may land and sell, from that trip, more than 2,000 lb of herring from Area 1A.

Please note that due to state landing restrictions, all herring vessels must land in accordance with state regulations, including no landing days (currently Thursday through Sunday).

Federally permitted dealers may not receive more than 2,000 lb of herring per vessel harvested from Area 1A, per trip or calendar day, from 1200 hr-noon on November 2, 2015, through December 31, 2015, unless it is from a trip by a vessel that entered port before 1200 hr-noon on November 2, 2015, and catch is landed in accordance with state regulations.

During the closure, from November 2, 2015, through December 31, 2015, vessels may transit through Area 1A with more than 2,000 lb of herring on board, provided all herring onboard was caught outside Area 1A and all fishing gear is stowed and not available for immediate use.

As a reminder, vessels may not fish for, possess, transfer, receive, land, or sell herring from Area 1A from January 1, 2016, through May 31, 2016, and federally permitted dealers may not receive any herring from a vessel that harvested fish from Area 1A between January 1, 2016, and May 31, 2016.

Vessels participating in the Herring Research Set-Aside (RSA) program may continue to fish in Area 1A for the remainder of the fishing year, and land, subject to state landing restrictions, greater than 2,000 lb of Atlantic herring provided they are on a declared herring RSA trip. In addition, federally permitted dealers may receive greater than 2,000 lb of Atlantic herring from Area 1A provided the vessel is participating in the herring RSA program and on a declared herring RSA trip.

*For small entity compliance guides, this bulletin complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Greater Atlantic Region.*