



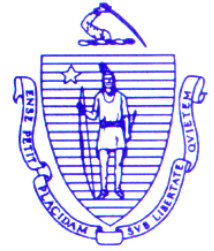
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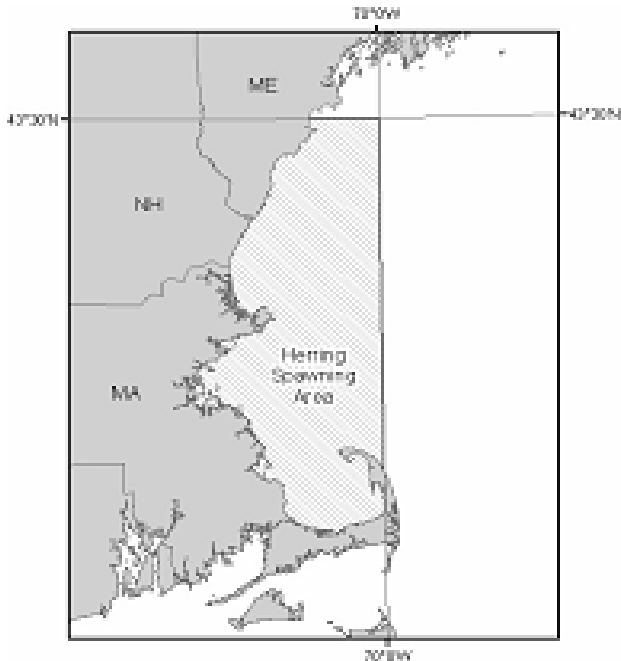
October 23, 2018

Marine Fisheries Advisory

Massachusetts/New Hampshire Spawning Closure Effective from October 26 – November 22

Sea herring sampling within the Massachusetts/New Hampshire (MA/NH) spawning closure area indicates that the herring in this area are entering into spawning condition. Accordingly, the MA/NH sea herring spawning area will be closed effective 0001 hours on Friday, October 26, 2018 and will remain closed through 2359 hours on November 22, 2018 ([Closure Notice](#) and [Permit Conditions](#)).

The MA/NH closure area encompasses all waters north of Cape Cod bounded by 43°30' north latitude and 70°00' west longitude to the east. The closure may be extended for an additional 14-day period if sampling during the last week of this initial closure demonstrates that catch from this area is comprised of 25% or more of herring in spawning condition.



During the MA/NH spawning closure, vessels in the directed Atlantic herring fishery cannot take, possess or land Atlantic sea herring from this area, with an exemption for incidental catch. Vessels may land up to 2,000 pounds of sea herring taken from Area 1A during any day-out, provided the vessel does not land more than once per day. Vessels may transit this area in possession of more than 2,000 pounds of sea herring provided the fish was caught outside of the MA/NH spawning area, fishing activity is not occurring and all gear is stowed.

For more information regarding sea herring management in Massachusetts, please view our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries