



# Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

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

For Information Contact:  
Sustainable Fisheries Division  
(978) 281-9315

<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/>  
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## **Massachusetts Summer Flounder Commercial Fishery Re-Open**

*Effective Date: 0001 hours on October 12, 2015*

On September 17, 2015, the 2015 commercial summer flounder fishery in Massachusetts was closed. We have determined that Massachusetts still has 16,294 lb remaining of its 2015 commercial summer flounder quota available for harvest. Therefore, effective 0001 hours October 12, 2015, fishing vessels issued a Federal moratorium permit for the summer flounder fishery may again land summer flounder in Massachusetts until the quota is fully harvested or until December 31, 2015, whichever occurs first. Vessels are subject to the possession limits set in the state in which the vessel is landing.

Vessel owners issued Federal permits must continue to complete and submit vessel logbooks for all species landed. Additionally, dealers issued Federal dealer permits for summer flounder may now purchase summer flounder from federally permitted vessels that land in Massachusetts until the quota is fully harvested. Federally permitted dealers must also continue to report all fish purchases from any federally permitted vessel.

When the 2015 Massachusetts quota is achieved, we will provide an additional announcement that the commercial fishery has been closed.

*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.*