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MENHADEN: 77% of menhaden quota landed; Reporting compliance is critical

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Notice to all Menhaden Harvesters and Dealers:

Harvester trip reports received through Monday, August 3rd indicate that menhaden landings have reached **78%** of Maine's adjusted state allocated quota.

In the coming days, DMR will be making a determination regarding the timing of the closure of the state allocated fishery and application to the episodic fishery. For this decision-making, it is critical that landings data fully reflect all harvesting activity to date. As a reminder, during the state allocation fishery, commercial harvesters **MUST** report every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by 11:59 pm, regardless of whether or not they fished that day (that is, everyone must report landed pounds or complete a "did not fish" report).

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR LANDINGS REPORTS ARE FULLY UP TO DATE. AS OF AUGUST 4, COMMERCIAL LICENSE HOLDERS SHOULD HAVE REPORTED FOR 25 FISHING DAYS. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE CONFIRMING YOUR COMPLIANCE, PLEASE CONTACT DMR'S LANDINGS DIVISION AT 207-633-9414.

The Commissioner has authority under [M.R.S. §6412 \(1-B\)](#) to suspend a menhaden license for failure to comply with daily reporting requirements. Harvesters that are not complying with reporting requirements will receive a notice at the email address associated with their license in LEEDS specifying the dates of any missing reports. If missing reports are not provided within the following 2 days, a hard copy letter will be mailed to you notifying you of the suspension of your license, effective 3 business days after the letter is deemed received. If you have not provided all missing reports in advance of the suspension date indicated on the letter, the suspension of your menhaden license will take effect. If your license is suspended, you will need to provide all missing reports AND pay a \$25 administrative fee in order for the suspension to be lifted.

The impacts of late reporting are real. Maine's Atlantic Menhaden quota for FY2026 was preliminarily set at 19,599,137 pounds. However, late landing reports received between January and June 2026 have resulted in an overage in both Maine's FY2025 allocated quota and the FY2025 Episodic Event Set Aside (EESA) harvest. As a result of these overages reconciliations, Maine's adjusted FY2026 allocation is **18,903,422 pounds**.

For questions on menhaden regulations in Maine, contact Melissa Smith at melissa.smith@maine.gov or 207.441.5040

Fair winds to you and yours.

Melissa D. Smith
 Marine Resource Management Coordinator
 Maine Department of Marine Resources
 21 State House Station, 32 Blossom Lane
 Augusta, ME 04333-0021
 (207) 441-5040

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