

State of New Jersey

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
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BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420 David Chanda, Director www.NJFishandWildlife.com (609) 292-2965

February 10, 2014

Dear Atlantic Menhaden Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, Bait Net License Holder: New Jersey Menhaden Dealer:

As of February 10, 2014 the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has determined that the Atlantic Menhaden quota allocated to the commercial Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, and Bait Net fisheries will be harvested by February 12, 2014. Based upon this information and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 23:3-51.11(d)1 (L. 2013, c.74, s.13) the **New Jersey directed harvest of menhaden in the commercial Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, and Bait Net fisheries will be closed** as of 11:59 PM, Wednesday, February 12, 2014.

Therefore, effective 12:00 AM, Thursday, February 13, 2014, no vessel shall land or possess nor shall any dealer accept any Atlantic menhaden harvested by Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, or Bait Net in excess of the by-catch trip limit of 6,000 pounds through December 31, 2014. The commercial Atlantic Menhaden Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, and Bait Net fisheries will reopen on January 1, 2015.

If the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife determines the directed commercial quota for harvesting Atlantic menhaden using Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, or Bait Net was closed prematurely, notification re-opening those gear types will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Marine Fisheries at 609-748-2020.

Sincerely,

Brandon Muffley, Administrator Marine Fisheries Administration

Brandon Muffley

BM/PC/KS(b)