



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE

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CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

KIM GUADAGNO

Lt. Governor

BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

September 11, 2015

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

As of September 11, 2015, the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has determined that the Atlantic Menhaden quota of 2,294,656 pounds allocated to the commercial Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, and Bait Net fishery will be harvested by Sunday, September 13, 2015. Based upon this information and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 23:3-51.11d(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 fishery will be closed** as of 11:59 PM, September 13, 2015.

Therefore, effective 12:00 AM, September 14, 2015, no vessel shall land or possess nor shall any dealer accept any Atlantic menhaden harvested by Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, and Bait Net in excess of the Incidental Catch limit of 6,000 pounds per day through December 31, 2015. The commercial Atlantic Menhaden Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, Bait Net fishery will re-open on January 1, 2016.

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.

Menhaden trip reports are due on 10th of each month and are due even during the closed season. Please make sure all menhaden trip records (positive and negative) are up to date for 2015. If you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Marine Fisheries at 609-748-2020.

Sincerely,

Brandon Muffley, Administrator
Marine Fisheries Administration

BM/PC/KS(b)