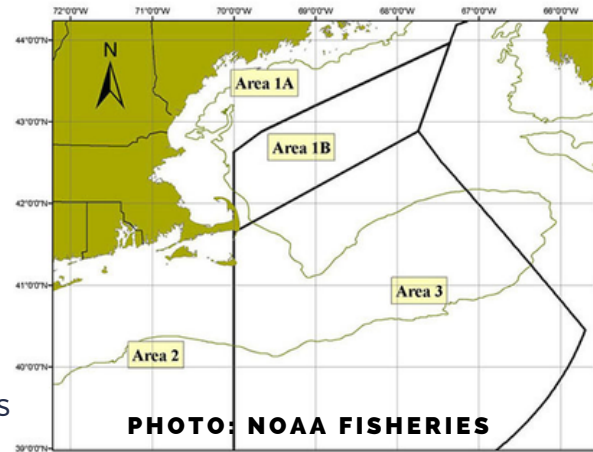


Atlantic Herring Need Your Help!

UPDATE FROM CAPE COD COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN'S ALLIANCE

Atlantic herring provide a key source of food for striped bass, bluefin tuna, and many other groundfish, seabirds and marine mammals. Unfortunately, the **Atlantic herring stock is currently overfished**. The commercial midwater trawl fleet, which accounts for the majority of herring landings, could be outcompeting those predators for food and is creating conflicts with other user groups who rely on herring availability in nearshore areas.

The New England Fishery Management Council is in the process of evaluating what should be done to improve herring management through Amendment 10 to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan. **The council is allowing public comments during this process, in which you can state what type of area and seasonal management measures would be necessary.** The best way to make sure your voice is heard is to attend an in-person scoping meeting !!



ATTEND SCOPING MEETING:

**Buzzards Bay, Wed. 3/27
6-8 PM
Hampton Inn
12 Kendall Rae Place,
Buzzards Bay, MA**

TIPS FOR MAKING PUBLIC COMMENTS AT A SCOPING MEETING:

Be specific

The council wants to know what management measures they should develop. To do this, they need specific comments about what user conflicts are, when they occur, and how those conflicts might be effecting your business/fishing activity. State your interest, why herring is important to you, and provide any personal examples.

Consider Management Area

When making comments, consider tailoring them towards the management area(s) that you utilize the most. If the Council can pinpoint where issues are, they can develop more precise measures (see figure of management areas (Area 1A, 1B, Area 2, Area 3)).

Aim for Optimum

The Council wants to attain Optimum Yield (OY) in the herring fishery through Amendment 10. This is achieved by considering relevant economic, social or ecological factors that determine the greatest benefit to the Nation (i.e. all stakeholders). Let the Council know what you consider to be OY for you as a user of herring.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

Your perspectives and insights play a crucial role in shaping policies that will benefit the marine environment and community.

For more information about Herring Amendment 10, visit <https://www.nefmc.org/library/herring-amendment-10-2>

or email aubrey@capecodfishermen.org to get additional information and talking points!