



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mail Code 501-03

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

DAVID CHANDA, DIRECTOR

609-292-9410

Visit our Division Website: www.njfishandwildlife.com

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

December 20, 2011

Dear New Jersey Directed and Non-Directed Tautog Permit Holder:

As required by N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.12(c)11vi, the Department must notify all New Jersey Tautog Permit holders of the annual season allocations. This letter shall serve as notice regarding the 2012 New Jersey commercial tautog quota and seasons.

Due to the approval of Addendum VI by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Tautog Management Board in March 2011, New Jersey is required to reduce exploitation in the commercial and recreational fisheries by 53% by January 1, 2012. The New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council will meet in January 2012 to take action concerning this issue. At this time, the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife is not certain of the seasons and quotas that will be implemented to achieve this reduction. The 2012 commercial tautog fishery will be open from January 1 through January 15 and will follow the possession and trip limit in effect currently for 2011.

All New Jersey Directed and Non-Directed Tautog Permit Holders will receive a follow-up notice providing the details or any changes to the 2012 tautog commercial seasons, size, or trip limits once any Council action is finalized.

For your convenience, we are enclosing four (4) monthly reporting forms which must be submitted for the months or partial months of January, June, November and December when the commercial tautog season is currently open (i.e. 2011 seasons). Also enclosed is a map of statistical fishing areas so you can identify on the reporting forms the location where the commercial tautog harvest occurs. Four reporting forms must be submitted no later than five working days following the end of the reported month or partial month. If no trips for tautog were taken and no tautog were landed during the month or partial month, a report to that effect shall be required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brandon Muffley".

Brandon Muffley, Chief
Bureau of Marine Fisheries

No Enclosures