

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE P.O. Box 420

P.O. Box 420 Mail Code 501-03 Trenton, NJ 08625-0420 Tel. (609) 292-2965 fax. (609) 984-1414 Visit our website <u>www.njfishandwildlife.com</u> BOB MARTIN Commissioner

July 11, 2017

Dear New Jersey Atlantic Menhaden Purse Seine License Holder: New Jersey Atlantic Menhaden Dealer:

As of July 11, 2017, the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has determined that the Atlantic menhaden quota of 46,411,186 pounds allocated to the commercial purse seine fishery will be harvested by Thursday, July 13, 2017. Based upon this information and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 23:3-51.11d(1) the **New Jersey directed harvest of menhaden in the commercial purse seine fishery will be closed** as of 11:59 PM, Thursday, July 13, 2017.

Therefore, effective 12:00 AM, Friday, July 14, 2017, no vessel shall land or possess nor shall any dealer accept any Atlantic menhaden harvested by Purse Seine in excess of the incidental catch limit of 6,000 pounds per day through December 31, 2017. The commercial Atlantic menhaden purse seine fishery will re-open on January 1, 2018.

If the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife determines the directed commercial quota for harvesting Atlantic menhaden using Purse Seine was closed prematurely, notification re-opening that gear type will be provided.

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

Sincerely,

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Russ Allen, Bureau Chief Marine Fisheries Administration

CHRIS CHRISTIE Governor

KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

LH /RA /TB(b)