

## State of New Jersey

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE

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BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

July 27, 2017

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

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has determined that the **Atlantic Menhaden Purse Seine** fishery was closed prematurely on July 13, 2017. Based upon this information and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 23:3-51.11d(2), the New Jersey Atlantic menhaden purse seine fishery will re-open on Monday, July 31, 2017 and will close when the Atlantic Menhaden Purse Seine quota is projected to be taken, but no later than Wednesday, August 9, 2017.

Purse Seine <u>Carry Vessels</u> will be **authorized to make 3 trips with no more than 3 landings during the 10-day period from July 31, 2017 through August 9, 2017, unless the quota is projected to be taken earlier.** Any vessel fishing for Atlantic menhaden during this period is required to notify the New Jersey Bureau of Law Enforcement at (609) 748-2050 prior to fishing.

Effective 12:00 AM, Thursday, August 10, 2017, no vessel shall land or possess nor shall any dealer accept any Atlantic menhaden harvested through the use of commercial Purse Seine in excess of the incidental harvest limit of 6,000 pounds per day through December 31, 2017.

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

Sincerely,

Russ Allen

Marine Fisheries Administration

LH/PC/TB