

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**  
**DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**Division of Fish and Wildlife**  
**3500 Tidal Finfish**  
**3588 Atlantic Menhaden**

**1.0 Atlantic Menhaden Quota**

- 1.1 The annual quota for Atlantic menhaden shall be determined in accordance with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Menhaden and its subsequent amendments and addenda.
- 1.2 Any person who has been issued a valid commercial food fishing license may take and reduce to possession Atlantic menhaden during the period beginning at 12:01 AM January 1 and ending when the Department has determined that the annual Atlantic menhaden quota has been landed. The Department shall establish, based on recent fishery performance and landings, a date and time to order the directed fishery closed.

**2.0 Atlantic Menhaden Bycatch Allowance**

- 2.1 It is unlawful for any person who has been issued a valid commercial food fishing license to take and reduce to possession more than 6,000 pounds of Atlantic menhaden during any one day once the Department has determined that the Atlantic menhaden fishery is closed.
- 2.2 It shall be unlawful for any person who has been issued a valid commercial food fishing license or any vessel, regardless of the number of licensed commercial fisherman onboard that vessel, to possess or land more than 6,000 pounds of Atlantic menhaden in any one (1) day once the Department has determined the annual Atlantic menhaden fishery is closed.

**3.0 Atlantic Menhaden Reporting Requirements**

- 3.1 It is unlawful for any person who has been issued a valid commercial food fishing license to not accurately and completely report their Atlantic menhaden landings to the Department, via the interactive voice phone reporting system, within 24 hours of landing.
- 3.2 In addition to the requirement to phone in daily landing reports, it is unlawful for any person who has been issued a valid commercial food fishing license to not accurately and completely compile and file monthly log sheets detailing their daily landings of Atlantic menhaden on forms supplied by the Department. These forms must be submitted by the 10th of the month next ensuing. Failure to submit these monthly reports on a timely basis may be cause for revocation or non-renewal of their commercial food fishing license.

**4.0 Atlantic Menhaden Landing Restrictions**

It is unlawful for any person who has been issued a valid commercial food fishing license to offload Atlantic menhaden to any other vessel or means of conveyance prior to landing.

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