

Department of Marine Resources
NOTICE OF AGENCY EMERGENCY RULE-MAKING

CHAPTER # & TITLE: Chapter 45.05(1)(A)(2) Shrimp Season, 2010 – 2011, Emergency Closure

CONCISE SUMMARY:

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Northern Shrimp Section set the 2010/2011 fishing season at 136 days with the intention that landings would not exceed 4,000 metric tons. Preliminary landings data as of February 16, 2011 indicate that the harvest is now 4,192 metric tons.

The Northern Shrimp Section held a meeting and public hearing via conference call on Friday, February 18, 2011 at 2:00 PM. The purpose of the hearing was to review preliminary northern shrimp landings data and determine whether action is needed to prevent significant landings above recommended levels that might occur if the fishery continues through April 15, 2011. A motion was passed to close the 2010-2011 northern shrimp fishery at 11:59 pm on February 28, 2011.

A public hearing will be held in the affected area if requested of the Commissioner in writing by 5 persons. The hearing will be held within 30 days of the Commissioner receiving the written requests. For more information see online information listed or contact below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: ***February 28, 2011 at 11:59pm***

To ensure consideration, comments must include your name and the organization you represent, if any. Please be aware that any risk of non-delivery associated with submissions by fax or e-mail is on the sender.

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: **Commissioner Norman Olsen (207-624-6553)**

AGENCY NAME: **Department of Marine Resources, attn L Churchill**

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Adopted emergency regulations: 45.05 Shrimp season

1. Shrimp Season 2010-2011
 - A. Harvest and transport
 - (2) Fishing Season

- (a) It is unlawful for any person or vessel fishing with nets or traps to fish for, take, land, transport or to have in possession any Northern Shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) except between the following dates, inclusive:

136 day season: December 1, 2010 through February 28, 2011 at 11:59 pm ~~April 15, 2011~~

Basis Statement

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Northern Shrimp Section set the 2010/2011 fishing season at 136 days with the intention that landings would not exceed 4,000 metric tons. Preliminary landings data as of February 16, 2011 indicate that the harvest is now 4,192 metric tons.

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This emergency rulemaking is necessary for the timely implementation of a closure in order to conserve the shrimp fishery from unusual damage that would be caused by continued fishing effort through impacting small shrimp and harvest exceeding recommended catch levels. As authorized by 12 M.R.S. §§6171, 6171(3) and 6192(4) the Commissioner of Marine Resources adopts this emergency regulation.