Final annotations

Public Hearing - February 13, 2017

RIMFR Part XVI – Menhaden

16.1.2 Landing of menhaden in RI under State Quota Program: An annual statewide quota for menhaden is established annually for the State by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC). The quota shall pertain solely to landings of menhaden in RI and shall not pertain to the possession of menhaden in RI waters prior to landing.

(A) The landing limit is unlimited until the quota has been reached, as determined by the DFW.

(B) Once the quota has been reached, the fishery will close for directed fisheries, including but not limited to purse seine operations, and <u>a</u> the landing <u>bycatch</u> limit for non-directed fisheries will be 6,000 pounds per vessel per day will be in effect. The bycatch limit will be:

(1) Non-directed fisheries: 6,000 pounds per vessel per day.

(2) Pound nets, fish traps, anchored/staked gill nets, and fyke nets: If two commercially licensed individuals are harvesting from the same vessel, two (2) daily possession limits (12,000 pounds per vessel per day).

(C) All commercial menhaden operations conducted in the Management Area, prior to and after the State's quota has been reached, are subject to the provisions of section 16.1.1, unless using non-directed gear.