



Dear Menhaden harvester:

Following the news regarding the menhaden bill that was passed during the past legislative session, DMR has received a number of requests to allow a current license holder to void either a 2022 commercial or noncommercial menhaden license, so that the license holder might purchase the other license type instead for the 2022 season.

Normally, licenses are not voidable or refundable, but given the unique circumstances the Department is willing to provide some flexibility in advance of the 2022 season, as long as the license holder has not yet used the license to fish.

If you have purchased a menhaden license and wish to change from a commercial license to a non-commercial license, or from a non-commercial license to a commercial license, please take the following steps:

- Prior to June 1, contact DMR's Licensing Division by written request to Licensing.dmr@maine.gov or by fax (207-624-6024) to void the license you purchased and process a refund. (For assistance, staff can be reached at 207-624-6550, option 2).
- Use the online licensing system (LEEDS) to purchase the license type that you want to use for the 2022 season.

As you make the determination regarding which type of license to purchase for 2022, please understand that there is no requirement to hold a commercial license in 2022 in order to qualify for a commercial license in 2023. 2023 commercial license eligibility depends only on meeting the prior license history and landings criteria described in the earlier notice. The landings requirement can be met with landings under either the commercial or noncommercial license.

Again, if you want to make a change to your license type, you must contact Licensing prior to June 1. After June 1, DMR will not entertain any further requests for license type changes. Likewise, DMR will not allow this opportunity to change license type in future licensing years, so please wait until you are certain which type of license is best for your plans before purchasing your license.

Fair winds to you and yours.

Melissa D. Smith

Marine Resource Management Coordinator - Scallop & Pelagic Fisheries

Maine Department of Marine Resources

21 State House Station, 32 Blossom Lane

Augusta, ME 04333-0021

Updated contact info: Call or text (207) 441-5040

DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL AS RESPONSES ARE NOT MONITORED.

This service is provided to you at no charge by [Maine Department of Marine Resources](#).