



Notice to Commercial Fishermen, Party/Charter Vessel Operators, Seafood Dealers, and Marine Aquaculture Businesses

CARES ACT ASSISTANCE TO FISHERY PARTICIPANTS

On May 7th, The U.S. Secretary of Commerce announced state allocations of the \$300 million in fisheries assistance funding provided by Sec. 12005 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The fishery assistance funds provided by the CARES Act are intended for states, Tribes, and territories whose coastal fishery participants have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Connecticut has been allocated \$1,835,424 to assist commercial fishermen, for-hire (party/charter) vessel operators, seafood dealers and marine aquaculture operations that have suffered direct or indirect economic losses related to COVID-19. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will administer these aid funds. For further information on the CARES Act Assistance to Fishery Participants, see the announcement from NOAA Fisheries at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/commerce-secretary-announces-allocation-300-million-cares-act-funding>

DEEP is now required to submit a plan for administration and disbursement of aid funds to NOAA Fisheries for review and approval. Upon approval of that plan, DEEP will make aid applications available to fishery participants. DEEP will continue to share details on this aid program as they become available.

For further information, contact the DEEP Marine Fisheries Program by email at deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov, by mail at P.O. Box 719, Old Lyme, CT 06371 or by telephone at 860.434.6043.

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