

American Lobster Conservation Management Area (LCMA)-specific Management Measures

Management Measure	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	OCC
Min Gauge Size	3 1/4"	3 3/8"	3 17/32"	3 3/8"	3 3/8"	3 3/8"	3 3/8"
Vent-Rectangular	1 ¹⁵ / ₁₆ x 5 ³ / ₄ "	2 x 5 ³ / ₄ "	2 1 ¹ / ₁₆ x 5 ³ / ₄ "	2 x 5 ³ / ₄ "	2 x 5 ³ / ₄ "	2 x 5 ³ / ₄ "	2 x 5 ³ / ₄ "
Vent-Circular	2 7/16"	2 5/8"	2 11/16"	2 5/8"	2 5/8"	2 5/8"	2 5/8"
V-notch requirement	Mandatory for all eggers	Mandatory for all legal size eggers	Mandatory for all eggers above 42°30'	Mandatory for all eggers in federal waters. No v-notching in state waters.	Mandatory for all eggers	None	None
V-Notch Definition¹ (possession)	Zero Tolerance	1/8" with or w/out setal hairs ¹	1/8" with or w/out setal hairs ¹	1/8" with or w/out setal hairs ¹	1/8" with or w/out setal hairs ¹	1/8" with or w/out setal hairs ¹	1/8" with or w/out setal hairs ¹
Max. Gauge (male & female)	5"	5 1/4"	6 3/4"	5 1/4"	5 1/4"	5 1/4"	State Waters none Federal Waters 6 3/4"
Season Closure	None	None	None	April 30 - May 31 ²	February 1 - March 31 ³	Sept 8 - Nov 28 ⁴	February 1 - April 30
Trap Limit	800	Permit Specific, not to exceed 800	Permit Specific, not to exceed 1,945	Permit Specific, not to exceed 1,440	Permit Specific, not to exceed 1,440	Based on historical traps fished	Permit specific, not to exceed 800

¹ A v-notched lobster is defined as any female lobster that bears a notch or indentation in the base of the flipper that is at least as deep as 1/8", with or without setal hairs. It also means any female which is mutilated in a manner that could hide, obscure, or obliterate such a mark.

² Pots must be removed from the water by April 30 and un-baited lobster traps may be set one week prior to the season reopening.

³ During the February 1 – March 31 closure, trap fishermen will have a two-week period to remove lobster traps from the water and may set lobster traps one week prior to the end of the closed season.

⁴ Two week gear removal and a two-week grace period for gear removal at beginning of closure. No lobster traps may be baited more than 1 week prior to season reopening.