

As per the Chilmark Waterways Rules and Regulations part VI paragraph C, "Commercial Fishing Equipment shall be kept off the dock except for no more than two fish storage boxes per commercial boat during periods of limited permissible fishing when there is no fish buyer in the harbor." And "Boats must be actively fishing and leave the harbor regularly."

As Harbormaster, it is my belief that in order to accommodate our commercial fishermen, we should be allowing the temporary staging of commercial fishing gear for a period of no more than 72 hours, for fishermen to have ample time to load their gear on board their vessels. This is not an invitation for winter storage of fishing equipment. Any commercial fishermen storing gear on any dock in Menemsha for longer than 72 hours will be subject to fines by the Harbormaster.

There is loose language about boats needing to be actively fishing and leaving the harbor regularly. There should be a realistic amount of time set for boats to be tied to the commercial fishing bulkhead. Dennis Jason was holding Commercial fishermen to 5 days. If the board of selectmen agree to this policy, I will enforce the rule that commercial fishing vessels must leave the dock every 5 days in order to continue tying up to the commercial bulkhead.

Respectfully,
Ryan Rossi
Harbormaster