

This summary provides a broad overview for the recreational fishery in Federal waters, 3-200 miles offshore; the regulations summarized here may be found at 50 CFR part 648.

Please keep in mind that, if the Federal minimum size, possession limit, and/or season differ from the regulations for the state in which you will be landing, you must follow the more restrictive regulations.

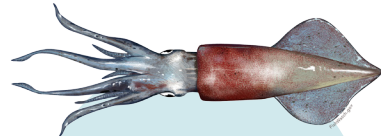
Updated June 1, 2016

Questions regarding charter/party and recreational vessel regulations?

**Contact:
Sustainable Fisheries
Division
(978) 281 - 9315**



**Summer Flounder
(Fluke)**
Please see the regulations for the State you will be fishing in (Table 1).



Longfin Squid
No Minimum Size
Unlimited
All Year



Shortfin Squid
No Minimum Size
Unlimited
All year



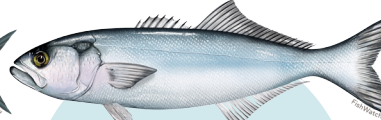
Butterfish
No Minimum Size
Unlimited
All Year



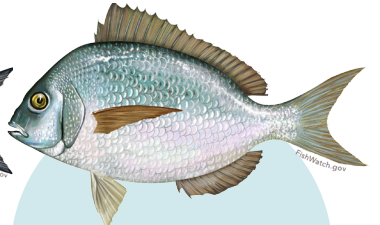
Black Sea Bass
12.5 inches
15 Fish Limit
May 15 - Sept 21 and
Oct 22 - Dec 31



Atlantic Mackerel
No Minimum Size
Unlimited
All year



Bluefish
No Minimum Size
15 Fish Limit
All year



Scup/Porgies
9 inches
50 Fish Limit
All year



Golden Tilefish
No Minimum Size
8 Fish Limit
All year



**Blueline/Gray
Tilefish**
No Minimum Size
7 Fish Limit
All year

Both Golden and Blueline Tilefish regulations apply from Maine to Virginia

Important Notes:

- Fishing for striped bass in the EEZ is prohibited
- No possession of Atlantic sturgeon
- 14 inch min. size limit for Weakfish
- Information on tunas and sharks go to <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/>

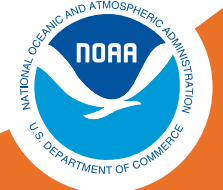


Table 1: 2016 State Recreational Measures for Summer Flounder

State	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season(s)
MA	16 inches	5 fish	5/22 - 9/23
RI	18 inches	8 fish	5/1 - 12/31
CT *	18 inches	5 fish	5/17 - 9/21
NY			
*CT, 46 designated shore sites	16 inches	5 fish	5/17 - 9/21
NJ*	18 inches	5 fish	5/21 - 9/25
*NJ, 1 designated shore site	16 inches	2 fish	5/21 - 9/25
DE	16 inches	4 fish	1/1 - 12/31
MD			
PRFC			
VA			
NC	15 inches	6 fish	1/1 - 12/31

*n NJ inside Delaware Bay (west of the COLREGs line at Cape May, NJ), anglers may keep 4 fish at 17 inches, May 22-September 26.

Table 2: 2016 State Recreational Measures for Black Sea Bass

State	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season(s)
ME	13"	10 fish	5/19 - 9/21
NH	13"	10 fish	1/1 - 12/31
MA	15"	5 fish	5/21 - 8/31
RI	15"	3 fish	6/24 - 8/31
		7 fish	9/1 - 12/31
CT	Private	5 fish	5/1 - 12/31
	For-hire with Letter of Authorization from CT DEP	8 fish	5/1 - 12/31
NY	15"	3 fish	6/27 - 8/31
		8 fish	9/1 - 10/31
		10 fish	11/1 - 12/31
NJ	12.5"	10 fish	5/23 - 6/19
	13"	2 fish	7/1 - 8/31
DE, MD, & VA	12.5"	15 fish	5/15 - 9/21;
			10/22 - 12/31
NC ((North of 35°15'N (Cape Hatteras))	12.5"	15 fish	5/19 - 9/21; 10/18 - 12/31

Table 3: 2016 State Recreational Measures for Scup

State	Fishing Mode	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season(s)
MA	Private	10 inches	30 fish/person or 150 fish/vessel if 5 or more anglers are aboard	5/1 - 12/31
	Charter/Party - Bonus		45 fish	5/1 - 6/30
	Charter/ Party - Regular		30 fish	7/1 - 12/31
RI	Private	10 inches	30 fish	5/1-12/31
	Shore Program (7 designated shore sites)	9 inches		
	Charter/Party	10 inches	30 fish	5/1 - 8/31; 11/1 - 12/ 31
CT	Private	10 inches	30 fish	5/1 - 12/31
	Shore Program (46 designated shore sites)	9 inches		
	CT DEEP Registered Party/Charter	10 inches	30 fish	5/1 -8/31; 11/1 - 12/31
NY	Private	10 inches	30 fish	5/1 - 12/ 31
	Charter/Party		30 fish	5/1 -8/31; 11/1 - 12/31
			45 fish	9/1 - 10/31
NJ	All	9 inches	50 fish	1/1 - 2/28; 7/1 - 12/31
DE	All	8 inches	50 fish	1/1 - 12/31
MD	All	8 inches	50 fish	1/1 - 12/31
VA	All	8 inches	50 fish	1/1 - 12/31
NC ((North of 35°15'N (Cape Hatteras))	All	8 inches	50 fish	1/1-12/31

Please keep in mind that, if the Federal minimum size, possession limit, and/or season differ from the regulations for the state in which you will be landing, you must follow the more restrictive regulations.