



# Fishing Year 2014 Mid-Atlantic Charter/Party and Recreational Vessels Federal Minimum Fish Size and Possession Limits

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.

## NOAA FISHERIES

### Office of Law Enforcement

*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 contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315 for more information.*

*Updated July 9 2014*

#### Summer Flounder (Fluke)

50 CFR 648 Subpart G



Please see the regulations for the state you will be fishing in (Table 1).

#### Longfin Squid

50 CFR 648 Subpart B



All year, no possession limit, no minimum size.

#### Butterfish Squid

50 CFR 648 Subpart B



All year, no possession limit, no minimum size.

#### Black Sea Bass

50 CFR 648 Subpart I



15 fish limit, 12.5" minimum size  
Open Seasons: 5/19 – 09/21 & 10/18 – 12/31

#### Shortfin Squid

50 CFR 648 Subpart B



All year, no possession limit, no minimum size.

#### Tilefish

50 CFR 648 Subpart N



All year, 8 fish limit, no minimum size.

#### Scup/Porgies

50 CFR 648 Subpart H



All year, 30 fish limit, 9" minimum size

#### Mackeral

50 CFR 648 Subpart B



All year, no possession limit, no minimum size.

#### Bluefish

50 CFR 648 Subpart J



All year, 15 fish limit, no minimum size

### Important Notes:

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

Table 1: 2014 Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Approved Regional Conservation Equivalent Recreational Measures for Summer Flounder

State of landing	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season(s)
Massachusetts	16 inches	5 fish	May 22-September 30
Rhode Island	18 inches	8 fish	May 1-December 31
Connecticut *	18 inches	5 fish	May 17-September 21
New York			May 17-September 21
New Jersey*			May 23-September 27
*CT, 45 designated shore sites	16 inches	5 fish	May 17-September 21
*NJ, 1 designated shore site	16 inches	2 fish	May 23-September 27
Delaware	16 inches	4 fish	January 1-December 31
Maryland			
PRFC			
Virginia			
North Carolina	15 inches	6 fish	January 1-December 31

Table 2: 2014 State Recreational Measures for Black Sea Bass

State of landing	Fishing Mode	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season(s)
Massachusetts	Private & For-Hire	14 inches	8 fish	May 17-September 15
			8 fish	May 17-May 31
	For-Hire with Letter of Authorization from MA DMF	14 inches	20 fish	September 1-September 30
Rhode Island	All	13 inches	3 fish	June 29-August 31
			7 fish	September 1-December 31
Connecticut	Private & Shore and For-hire	13 inches	3 fish	June 21-August 31
			8 fish	September 1 - December 31
	For-hire with Letter of Authorization from CT DEP	13 inches	8 fish	June 21-December 31
New York	All	13 inches	8 fish	July 15-December 31
New Jersey	All	12.5 inches	3 fish	July 1-August 31
			15 fish	May 19-June 30, September 1-6, October 18-December 31
Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, & North Carolina ((North of 35°15'N (Cape Hatteras))	All	12.5 inches	15 fish	May 19-September 18 & October 18-December 31