

*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 May 1, 2015

Questions regarding charter/party and recreational vessel regulations?

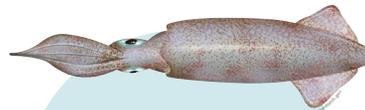
Contact:  
Sustainable Fisheries  
Division  
(978) 281 - 9315



**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



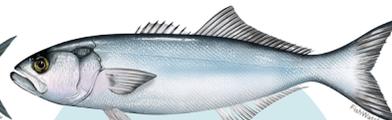
**Butterfish**  
No Minimum Size  
Unlimited  
All Year



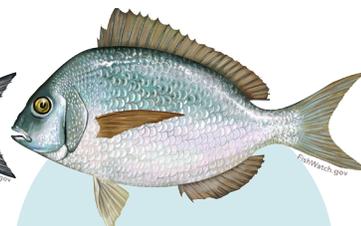
**Black Sea Bass**  
12.5 inches  
15 Fish Limit  
May 15 - Sept 21 and  
Oct 22 - Dec 31



**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: 2015 State Recreational Measures for Summer Flounder

State of landing	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season(s)
Massachusetts	16 inches	5 fish	May 22 - Sep 23
Rhode Island	18 inches	8 fish	May 1 - Dec 31
Connecticut *	18 inches	5 fish	May 17 - Sep 21
New York			May 17 - Sep 21
New Jersey*			May 23 - Sep 26
*CT, 46 designated shore sites	16 inches	5 fish	May 17 - Sep 21
*NJ, 1 designated shore site	16 inches	2 fish	May 22 - Sep 27
Delaware	16 inches	4 fish	Jan 1 - Dec 31
Maryland			
PRFC			
Virginia			
North Carolina	15 inches	6 fish	Jan 1 - Dec 31

Table 2: 2015 State Recreational Measures for Black Sea Bass

State of landing	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season(s)
Maine	13 inches	10 fish	May 19 - Sep 21; Oct 18 - Dec 31
New Hampshire	13 inches	10 fish	Jan 1 - Dec 31
Massachusetts	14 inches	8 fish	May 23 - Aug 27
Rhode Island	14 inches	1 fish	Jul 2 - Aug 31
		7 fish	Sep 1 - Dec 31
Connecticut*	14 inches	3 fish	Jun 1 - Aug 31
		5 fish	Sep 1 - Dec 31
*CT, For-hire with Letter of Authorization from CT DEP	14 inches	8 fish	Jun 21 - Dec 31
New York	14 inches	8 fish	Jul 15 - Oct 31
		10 fish	Nov 1 - Dec 31
New Jersey	12.5 inches	2 fish	Jul 1 - Jul 31
		15 fish	May 27 - Jun 30; Oct 22 - Dec 31
Delaware, Maryland, Virginia & North Carolina ((North of 35°15'N (Cape Hatteras))	12.5 inches	15 fish	May 15 - Sep 21; Oct 22 - Dec 31

Table 3: 2015 State Recreational Measures for Scup

State of landing	Fishing Mode	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season(s)
Massachusetts	Private	10 inches	30 fish/person or 150 fish/vessel if 5 or more anglers are aboard	May 1 - Dec 31
	Charter & Party	10 inches	45 fish	May 1 - Jun 30
30 fish			Jul 1 - Dec 31	
Rhode Island	Private	10 inches	30 fish	May 1-Dec 31
	Shore Program (7 designated shore sites)	9 inches	30 fish	May 1 - Dec 31
	Party & Charter	10 inches	30 fish	May 1 - Aug 31; Nov 1 - Dec 31
45 fish			Sep 1 - Oct 31	
Connecticut	Private	10 inches	30 fish	May 1 - Dec 31
	Shore Program (45 designated shore sites)	9 inches	30 fish	May 1 - Dec 31
	Charter & Party	10 inches	30 fish	May 1 - Aug 31; Nov 1 - Dec 31
45 fish			Sep 1 - Oct 31	
New York	Private	10 inches	30 fish	May 1 - Dec 31
	Charter & Party	10 inches	30 fish	May 1 - Aug 31; Nov 1 - Dec 31
45 fish			Sep 1 - Oct 31	
New Jersey	All	9 inches	50 fish	Jan 1 - Feb 28; Jul 1 - Dec 31
Delaware	All	8 inches	50 fish	Jan 1 - Dec 31
Maryland	All	8 inches	50 fish	Jan 1 - Dec 31
Virginia	All	8 inches	30 fish	Jan 1 - Dec 31
North Carolina ((North of 35°15'N (Cape Hatteras))	All	8 inches	50 fish	Jan 1-Dec 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.