



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Region  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276  
[www.nero.noaa.gov](http://www.nero.noaa.gov)



## **RECREATIONAL SUMMER FLOUNDER, SCUP, AND BLACK SEA BASS FISHERIES NOTICE**

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has approved the final 2011 minimum fish size, angler possession limits, and fishing season rules for the summer flounder (fluke), scup (porgies), and black sea bass (sea bass) recreational fisheries. States have already put rules in place for the season.

The tables in this letter provide information on what size fish you may keep, how many fish you may keep per day, and the days and months fishing is allowed. This information is not meant to be a substitute for all the rules, so if you have additional questions refer to the Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR part 648), review the Federal Register version of the rule, or call NMFS. If you have additional questions after reading this letter, please call the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315.

You may also receive permit holder letters by e-mail, including closure notices, by visiting our website and clicking on "Permit Holder Letters."

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator

*This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996.*

For additional information on Federal rules and recreational fisheries management:  
Northeast Regional Office of NMFS: [www.nero.noaa.gov](http://www.nero.noaa.gov)  
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council: [www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org)

For information on state rules:  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission: [www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org)

Information on recreational fisheries data collection and saltwater licenses:  
The Marine Recreational Fisheries Information Program: [www.countmyfish.noaa.gov](http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov)

**Table 1 - 2011 Commission Approved State-by-State Conservation Equivalent Recreational Management Measures for Summer Flounder**

State of landing	Minimum Fish Size (inches)	Possession Limit (number of fish you can keep per day)	Fishing Season (days and months fishing is allowed)
Massachusetts	17.5	5	May 22-September 30
Rhode Island	18.5	7	May 1-December 31
Connecticut	18.5	3	May 15-September 5
New York	20.5	3	May 1-September 30
New Jersey	18.0	8	May 7-September 25
Delaware	18.0	4	January 1-October 23
Maryland	18.0	3	April 16-November 30
Virginia	17.5	4	January 1-December 31
North Carolina	15.0	6	January 1-December 31

**Table 2 – 2011 Federal Recreational Management Measures for Scup and Black Sea Bass**

Fishery	Minimum Fish Size (Inches)	Possession Limit (Number of fish)	Fishing Season
Scup	10.5	10	June 6 through September 26
Black Sea Bass	12.5	25	May 22-October 11 and November 1-December 31

**Table 3-2011 State Recreational Management Measures for Black Sea Bass**

State of landing	Minimum Fish Size (Inches)	Possession Limit (number of fish)	Fishing Season
Massachusetts	14.0	10	May 22-October 11
Rhode Island	13.0	12	July 11-December 31
Connecticut	13.0	25	July 1-October 11 and November 1-December 31
New York	13.0	10	June 13-October 1 and November 1-December 31
New Jersey	12.5	25	May 28-September 11 and November 1-December 31
Delaware	12.5	25	May 22-October 11 and November 1-December 31
Maryland	12.5	25	May 22-October 11 and November 1-December 31
Virginia	12.5	25	May 22-October 11 and November 1-December 31
North Carolina	12.5	25	July 1-September 25 and November 1-December 31