



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board

**FROM:** Chelsea Tuohy and Tracey Bauer, Fishery Management Plan Coordinators

**DATE:** January 31, 2023; revised February 7, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Proposed 2024-2025 Regional Recreational Management Measures for Summer Flounder and Scup and 2024 Minor Season Adjustments for Black Sea Bass

### **Background**

In December, the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board (Board) and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) met jointly to set 2024-2025 recreational management measures for summer flounder and scup and 2024 recreational management measures for black sea bass. The Percent Change Approach, as implemented under Addendum XXXIV to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan (FMP), was used in conjunction with the Recreation Demand Model (RDM) to determine that summer flounder and scup require a 28% and 10% reduction in recreational harvest in 2024, respectively. In 2025, recreational management measures for summer flounder and scup will remain status quo from 2024. Black sea bass recreational management measures will remain status quo in 2024. However, states were approved to consider minor season adjustments (i.e., to maintain a Saturday opening), as long as the proposals are supported by the RDM and approved by the Board.

For summer flounder, the Board and Council opted to proceed with the regional conservation equivalency processes as outlined in Addendum XXXII, as opposed to implementing uniform coastwide measures. Addendum XXXII requires each region (Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut-New York, New Jersey, Delaware-Virginia, North Carolina) to implement summer flounder regulations that will collectively achieve but not exceed the recreational harvest limit. Each region must implement measures with same minimum size limit, possession limit, and season length. Additionally, each region is expected to achieve a 28% harvest reduction by weight. At the December joint meeting under Board action, the Board voted to exempt North Carolina from implementing further restrictions to summer flounder regulations unless additional action is needed to achieve a coastwide 28% reduction in recreational harvest of summer flounder.

For scup, the Board and Council agreed at the December joint meeting to maintain the federal possession limit of 40 fish and remove the early season closure resulting in a year-round open season in federal waters. The Board and Council agreed that states would modify state recreational management measures through the Commission process to achieve the full 10% coastwide harvest reduction.

### **Regional Proposals**

The Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Technical Committee (TC) used the RDM to recommend options for 2024-2025 recreational measures for summer flounder and scup which achieve a 28% and 10% reduction, respectively. Specific summer flounder and scup measures are associated with each option, as the model relies on inputs of measures from both species to calculate estimates of 2024

harvest. Options are organized by region (Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut-New York, New Jersey, Delaware-Virginia, North Carolina) for both species.

The RDM is currently unable to pick up scup harvest from states south of New Jersey. However, as the Board did not exempt the southern states from a reduction, these states were required to propose measures that provided some amount of scup reduction for the 2024-2025 fishing years. As a result, states from Delaware through North Carolina have proposed a status quo option for scup and an option to reduce the scup bag limit from 40 fish to 35 fish with the exception of Virginia which will remain status quo with a 30 fish bag limit. The TC supported the southern region's proposal and focused on achieving the 10% reduction in scup recreational harvest from the states New Jersey through Massachusetts because a majority of scup harvest (99%) occurs from these states and any reduction in the states south of New Jersey would likely have a negligible effect on coastwide scup harvest.

Table 1 details the proposed options for summer flounder and scup recreational measures for Massachusetts through New York. The regional percent reduction was not calculated by the RDM for every single possible combination of options from each state, but from a set of measures as an example. Table 2 provides the percent reductions of summer flounder and scup for the entire northern region (Massachusetts-New York) based on the example set of measures.

Table 3 details the proposed options and associated percent reduction for each species for New Jersey.

Table 4 details the proposed options and associated percent reduction for each species for the southern region, Delaware through North Carolina (north of Cape Hatteras for scup).

Table 5 provides the percent reductions of summer flounder and scup for the entire coast based on the example set of measures selected by each state.

#### ***Black Sea Bass: Minor 2024 Season Adjustments***

Massachusetts and Connecticut have proposed minor season adjustments to maintain a Saturday opening of their 2024 black sea bass season. The requirements to allow these season adjustments while maintaining status quo black sea bass harvest in 2024 were as follows: 1) if a state adds days to the beginning of their black sea bass season to maintain a Saturday opening, the RDM must be used to determine how many days need to be removed from the end of the season to maintain status quo black sea bass harvest and not increase harvest; 2) the changes made to summer flounder and scup measures to achieve their respective reductions for 2024-2025 fishing years, which can have slight impacts on estimated black sea bass harvest, cannot be used to account for any minor adjustments to the black sea bass season in 2024. Both Massachusetts and Connecticut are requesting a May 18 opening date for their 2024 black sea bass season, and, based on RDM runs, have removed 3 days from the end of their seasons in 2024 to account for this extra harvest.

Table 6 details the proposed minor season adjustments to Massachusetts's and Connecticut's black sea bass seasons in 2024 that maintain status quo black sea bass harvest in these two states.

**Tables**

**Table 1.** Proposed 2024-2025 summer flounder and scup recreational management measures for the northern region(s), from Massachusetts to New York.

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
Massachusetts	1	Private and For-Hire	5	17.5"	5/24-9/23	-28.11%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.80%
		Shore		30			9.5"				
		Shore	40	11"			5/1-6/30				
			30	11"			7/1-12/31				
	2	Private and For-Hire	4	17.5"	5/24-9/30	-28.05%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.80%
		Shore		30			9.5"				
		Shore	40	11"			5/1-6/30				
			30	11"			7/1-12/31				
	3	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	5/24-8/27	-28.04%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.77%
		Shore		30			9.5"				
		Shore	40	11"			5/1-6/30				
			30	11"			7/1-12/31				
	4	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/5-9/2	-28.73%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.78%
		Shore		30			9.5"				
		Shore	40	11"			5/1-6/30				
			30	11"			7/1-12/31				
	5	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/18-9/29	-28.30%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.79%
		Shore		30			9.5"				
Shore		40	11"	5/1-6/30							
		30	11"	7/1-12/31							
6	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/18-9/29	-28.54%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.80%	
						Shore	30	9.5"			
						For-Hire	40	11"	5/1-6/30		

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
		Shore		16.5"				30	11"	7/1-12/31	
	7	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	5/24-8/26	-28.53%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.74%
		Shore					30	9.5"			
		For-Hire	2	16.5"	5/24-8/26	-28.53%	40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							30	11"	7/1-12/31		
	8	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/5-9/2	-28.24%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.75%
		Shore					30	9.5"			
		For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/5-9/2	-28.24%	40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							30	11"	7/1-12/31		
	9	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/12-9/15	-28.47%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.76%
		Shore					30	9.5"			
		For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/12-9/15	-28.47%	40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							30	11"	7/1-12/31		
	10	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/18-9/29	-28.26%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.77%
		Shore					30	9.5"			
		For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/18-9/29	-28.26%	40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							30	11"	7/1-12/31		
	11	For-Hire	5	17.5"	5/24-8/26	-29.08%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.79%
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			30	9.5"			
		For-Hire	5	17.5"	5/24-8/26	-29.08%	40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							30	11"	7/1-12/31		
	12	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/5-9/2	-28.82%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.80%
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			30	9.5"			
		For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/5-9/2	-28.82%	40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							30	11"	7/1-12/31		

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
	13	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/12-9/15	-29.08%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.80%
				Shore			30	9.5"			
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	40	11"	5/1-6/30	
								30	11"	7/1-12/31	
	14	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/18-9/29	-28.85%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-6.81%
				Shore			30	9.5"			
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	40	11"	5/1-6/30	
								30	11"	7/1-12/31	
	15	Private and For-Hire	5	17.5"	5/24-9/23	-28.11%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.41%
				Shore			9	9.5"			
		Shore		For-Hire			20	10.5"	5/1-6/30		
							9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
	16	Private and For-Hire	4	17.5"	5/24-9/30	-28.05%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.41%
				Shore			9	9.5"			
		Shore		For-Hire			20	10.5"	5/1-6/30		
							9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
	17	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	5/24-8/27	-28.04%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.36%
				Shore			9	9.5"			
		Shore		For-Hire			20	10.5"	5/1-6/30		
							9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
	18	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/5-9/2	-28.73%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.38%
				Shore			9	9.5"			
		Shore		For-Hire			20	10.5"	5/1-6/30		
							9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
19	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/18-9/29	-28.30%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.39%	
						Shore	9	9.5"			
						For-Hire	20	10.5"	5/1-6/30		

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
		Shore		16.5"				9	10.5"	7/1-12/31	
	20	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/18-9/29	-28.54%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.40%
		Shore		16.5"			For-Hire	20	10.5"		
		Shore		16.5"			9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
	21	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	5/24-8/26	-28.53%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	
		Shore					For-Hire	20	10.5"		5/1-6/30
		Shore		16.5"			9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
	22	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/5-9/2	-28.24%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.34%
		Shore					For-Hire	20	10.5"		
		Shore		16.5"			9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
	23	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/12-9/15	-28.47%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	
		Shore					For-Hire	20	10.5"		5/1-6/30
		Shore		16.5"			9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
	24	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/18-9/29	-28.26%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.36%
		Shore					For-Hire	20	10.5"		
		Shore		16.5"			9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		
	25	For-Hire	5	17.5"	5/24-8/26	-29.08%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	
		Private and Shore		16.5"			For-Hire	20	10.5"		5/1-6/30
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			9	10.5"	7/1-12/31		

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
	26	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/5-9/2	-28.82%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.38%
							Shore	9	9.5"		
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	20	10.5"	5/1-6/30	
							For-Hire	9	10.5"	7/1-12/31	
	27	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/12-9/15	-29.08%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.39%
							Shore	9	9.5"		
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	20	10.5"	5/1-6/30	
							For-Hire	9	10.5"	7/1-12/31	
	28	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/18-9/29	-28.85%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-13.40%
							Shore	9	9.5"		
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	20	10.5"	5/1-6/30	
							For-Hire	9	10.5"	7/1-12/31	
29	Private and For-Hire	5	17.5"	5/24-9/23	-28.11%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.68%	
			Shore			20	10"				
	Shore		For-Hire			20	11"	4/1-4/30			
			For-Hire			40	11"	5/1-6/30			
30	Private and For-Hire	4	17.5"	5/24-9/30	-28.05%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.68%	
			Shore			20	10"				
	Shore		For-Hire			20	11"	4/1-4/30			
			For-Hire			40	11"	5/1-6/30			
31	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	5/24-8/27	-28.04%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.65%	
			Shore			20	10"				
	Shore		For-Hire			20	11"	4/1-4/30			
			For-Hire			40	11"	5/1-6/30			
32	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/5-9/2	-28.73%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.66%	
						Shore	20	10"			
						For-Hire	For-Hire	20	11"		7/1-12/31
							For-Hire	20	11"		4/1-4/30

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
		Shore		16.5"				40	11"	5/1-6/30	
								20	11"	7/1-12/31	
	33	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/18-9/29	-28.30%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.67%
		Shore		16.5"			For-Hire	20	11"		
								40	11"	5/1-6/30	
								20	11"	7/1-12/31	
	34	Private and For-Hire	3	17"	6/18-9/29	-28.54%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.68%
		Shore		16.5"			For-Hire	20	11"		
								40	11"	5/1-6/30	
								20	11"	7/1-12/31	
	35	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	5/24-8/26	-28.53%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.62%
		Shore					For-Hire	20	11"		
								40	11"	5/1-6/30	
								20	11"	7/1-12/31	
	36	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/5-9/2	-28.24%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.63%
		Shore					For-Hire	20	11"		
								40	11"	5/1-6/30	
								20	11"	7/1-12/31	
37	Private and For-Hire	2	16.5"	6/12-9/15	-28.47%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.64%	
	Shore					For-Hire	20	11"			4/1-4/30
							40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							20	11"	7/1-12/31		
38		2	16.5"	6/18-9/29	-28.26%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.64%	
						Shore	20	10"			



State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest	
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		
		Private and For-Hire					For-Hire	20	11"	4/1-4/30		
		Shore						40	11"	5/1-6/30		
								20	11"	7/1-12/31		
	39	For-Hire	5	17.5"	5/24-8/26	-29.08%		Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.67%
								Shore	20	10"		
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	20	11"	4/1-4/30		
								40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							20	11"	7/1-12/31			
	40	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/5-9/2	-28.82%		Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.68%
								Shore	20	10"		
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	20	11"	4/1-4/30		
								40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							20	11"	7/1-12/31			
	41	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/12-9/15	-29.08%		Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.68%
								Shore	20	10"		
		Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	20	11"	4/1-4/30		
								40	11"	5/1-6/30		
							20	11"	7/1-12/31			
42	For-Hire	5	17.5"	6/18-9/29	-28.85%		Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-13.69%	
							Shore	20	10"			
	Private and Shore	2	16.5"			For-Hire	20	11"	4/1-4/30			
							40	11"	5/1-6/30			
						20	11"	7/1-12/31				
Rhode Island	1	All	6	19"	4/1-12/31	-34.43%	For Hire	30	11"	5/1-8/31	-4.72%	
								40		9/1-10/21		
								30		11/1-12/31		
							Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31		

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
							Shore	30	9.5"	5/1-12/31	
	2	All	3	18.5"	6/4-9/15	-28.62%	For Hire	30	11"	5/1-8/31	-4.69%
						40		9/1-10/31			
						30		11/1-12/31			
						Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31		
						Shore	30	9.5"	5/1-12/31		
	3	All	3	18.5"	5/24-8/26	-28.54%	For Hire	30	11"	5/1-8/31	-4.70%
						40		9/1-10/31			
						30		11/1-12/31			
						Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31		
						Shore	30	9.5"	5/1-12/31		
	4	All	6	19"	4/1-12/31	-34.43%	For Hire	9	10.5"	5/1-8/31	-15.69%
						20		9/1-10/31			
						9		11/1-12/31			
						Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31		
						Shore	9	9.5"	5/1-12/31		
	5	All	3	18.5"	6/4-9/15	-28.62%	For Hire	9	10.5"	5/1-8/31	-15.65%
						20		9/1-10/31			
						9		11/1-12/31			
						Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31		
						Shore	9	9.5"	5/1-12/31		
	6	All	3	18.5"	5/24-8/26	-28.53%	For Hire	9	10.5"	5/1-8/31	-15.66%
						20		9/1-10/31			
						9		11/1-12/31			
						Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31		

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
							Shore	9	9.5"	5/1-12/31	
	7	All	6	19"	4/1-12/31	-34.43%	For Hire	20	11"	4/1-8/31	-9.18%
								40		9/1-10/31	
								20		11/1-12/31	
							Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	
							Shore	20	10"	4/1-12/31	
	8	All	3	18.5"	6/4-9/15	-28.62%	For Hire	20	11"	4/1-8/31	-9.16%
								40		9/1-10/31	
								20		11/1-12/31	
							Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	
							Shore	20	10"	4/1-12/31	
	9	All	3	18.5"	5/24-8/26	-28.54%	For Hire	20	11"	4/1-8/31	-9.15%
40								9/1-10/31			
20								11/1-12/31			
Private							20	11"	4/1-12/31		
Shore							20	10"	4/1-12/31		
Connecticut & New York	1	All	3	19"	5/1-9/8	-29.60%	Private	30	11"	-12.80%	
							Shore		9.5"		
							For-Hire	30	11"		5/1-8/31
								40			9/1-10/31
								30			11/1-12/31
	2	All	3	19"	5/1-9/8	-29.60%	Private	9	10.5"	-10.40%	
							Shore		9.5"		
							For-Hire	9	10.5"		5/1-8/31
								20			9/1-10/31
9	11/1-12/31										
3	All	3	19"	5/1-9/8	-29.60%	Private	20	11"	-11.80%		
						Shore		10"			

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest	
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		
							For-Hire	20	11"	5/1-8/31		
								40		9/1-10/31		
								20		11/1-12/31		
	4	All	3	19"	5/4-9/14	-28.20%		Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-12.80%
								Shore		9.5"		
								For-Hire	30	11"	5/1-8/31	
	40	9/1-10/31										
	30	11/1-12/31										
	5	All	3	19"	5/4-9/14	-28.20%		Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-10.40%
								Shore		9.5"		
								For-Hire	9	10.5"	5/1-8/31	
									20		9/1-10/31	
	9	11/1-12/31										
	6	All	3	19"	5/4-9/14	-28.20%		Private	20	10.5"	4/1-12/31	-11.80%
								Shore		9.5"		
								For-Hire	20	10.5"	5/1-8/31	
									40		9/1-10/31	
	20	11/1-12/31										
	7	All	3	19"	5/17-9/20	-28.50%		Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-12.80%
								Shore		9.5"		
								For-Hire	30	11"	5/1-8/31	
40									9/1-10/31			
30	11/1-12/31											
8	All	3	19"	5/17-9/20	-28.50%		Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-10.40%	
							Shore		9.5"			
							For-Hire	9	10.5"	5/1-8/31		
								20		9/1-10/31		
9	11/1-12/31											
9	All	3	19"	5/17-9/20	-28.50%		Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-11.80%	
							Shore		10"			
							For-Hire	20	11"	5/1-8/31		

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
								40		9/1-10/31	
								20		11/1-12/31	
	10	All	3	19"	5/1-7/24	-28.40%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-11.90%
							Shore		9.5"		
						For-Hire	30	11"	5/1-8/31		
							40		9/1-10/31		
				8/4-10/9			30		11/1-12/31		
	11	All	3	19"	5/1-7/24	-28.40%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-10.40%
							Shore		9.5"		
						For-Hire	9	10.5"	5/1-8/31		
							20		9/1-10/31		
				8/4-10/9			9		11/1-12/31		
	12	All	3	19"	5/1-7/24	-28.40%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-11.80%
							Shore		10"		
						For-Hire	20	11"	5/1-8/31		
							40		9/1-10/31		
				8/4-10/9			20		11/1-12/31		
	13	All	4	19.5"	4/1-10/31	-36.50%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-12.90%
							Shore		9.5"		
						For-Hire	30	11"	5/1-8/31		
							40		9/1-10/31		
							30		11/1-12/31		
	14	All	4	19.5"	4/1-10/31	-36.50%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-10.50%
							Shore		9.5"		
						For-Hire	9	10.5"	5/1-8/31		
							20		9/1-10/31		
							9		11/1-12/31		
	15	All	4	19.5"	4/1-10/31	-36.50%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-11.90%
							Shore		10"		
						For-Hire	20	11"	5/1-8/31		

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
								40		9/1-10/31	
								20		11/1-12/31	
	16	All	3	18.5"	6/12-8/28	-28.20%	Private	30	11"	5/1-12/31	-12.80%
							Shore		9.5"		
							For-Hire	30	11"	5/1-8/31	
								40		9/1-10/31	
		30	11/1-12/31								
	17	All	3	18.5"	6/12-8/28	-28.20%	Private	9	10.5"	5/1-12/31	-10.40%
							Shore		9.5"		
							For-Hire	9	10.5"	5/1-8/31	
								20		9/1-10/31	
		9	11/1-12/31								
	18	All	3	18.5"	6/12-8/28	-28.20%	Private	20	11"	4/1-12/31	-11.80%
							Shore		10"		
							For-Hire	20	11"	5/1-8/31	
								40		9/1-10/31	
		20	11/1-12/31								

**Table 2.** The percent reduction of summer flounder and scup harvest for the northern region(s) (Massachusetts-New York) achieved by the combination of an example set of measures for this memo, by state and for the region as a whole.

State	Option from Table 1	Percent Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Percent Reduction in Scup Harvest
Massachusetts	1	-28.11	-6.80
Rhode Island	1	-34.43	-4.72
Connecticut	4	-24.82	-9.55
New York	4	-28.67	-13.47
<b>Total Northern Region Reduction</b>		<b>-28.87</b>	<b>-10.57</b>

**Table 3.** Proposed 2024-2025 summer flounder and scup recreational management measures for New Jersey, and associated percent reduction.

State	Option	Summer Flounder Measures				Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures				Reduction in Scup Harvest
		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season	
New Jersey	1	All	3	17.5"	5/24-9/4	-28.02%	All	30	10"	1/1-6/30	-10.08%
										8/27-12/31	
	2	All	1	17-18"	6/4-8/31	-28.98%	All	30	10"	1/1-6/30	-10.58%
			2	18"						8/27-12/31	
	3	All	3	18"	5/4-9/25	-28.19%	All	30	10"	1/1-6/30	-11.54%
										9/1-12/31	
	4	All	1	17-18"	5/10-6/30	-28.78%	All	30	10"	1/1-6/30	-12.11%
			1	18"							
			3	18"	7/1-9/15					9/1-12/31	
	5	For-Hire and Private	3	18"	5/16-9/23	-28.52%	All	30	10"	1/1-6/30	-11.65%
		Shore								2	
	6	All	1	17.5"	5/26-9/13	-28.13%	All	30	10"	1/1-6/30	-12.09%
2			18"	9/1-12/31							

**Table 4.** Proposed recreational management measures for summer flounder and scup in the southern region(s), from Delaware to North Carolina (north of Cape Hatteras for scup), and associated percent reduction.

State(s)	Option	Summer Flounder Measures			Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Scup Measures		
		Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season		Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Open Season
Delaware-Virginia	1	4	17"	1/1-9/21	-28.19%	40	9"	1/1-12/31
						30 (VA)		
	2	4	17"	5/8-12/31	-28.43%	40	9"	1/1-12/31
						30 (VA)		
	3	3	17"	5/2-12/31	-28.48%	40	9"	1/1-12/31
						30 (VA)		
	4	2	17"	1/1-8/10	-28.49%	40	9"	1/1-12/31
		4		8/11-12/31		30 (VA)		
	5	4	17"	1/1-5/31	-28.33%	40	9"	1/1-12/31
		2		6/1-12/31		30 (VA)		
	6	4	17.5"	1/1-12/31	-33.53%	40	9"	1/1-12/31
						30 (VA)		
7	4	17.5"	1/1-12/31	-33.53%	35	9"	1/1-12/31	
					30 (VA)			
8	4	17"	1/1-9/21	-28.19%	35	9"	1/1-12/31	
					30 (VA)			
9	4	17"	5/8-12/31	-28.43%	35	9"	1/1-12/31	
					30 (VA)			
10	3	17"	5/2-12/31	-28.48%	35	9"	1/1-12/31	
					30 (VA)			
11	2	17"	1/1-8/10	-28.49%	35	9"	1/1-12/31	
	4		8/11-12/31		30 (VA)			
12	4	17"	1/1-5/31	-28.33%	35	9"	1/1-12/31	
	2		6/1-12/31		30 (VA)			
North Carolina	1	1	15"	8/16-9/30	3.50%	40	9"	1/1-12/31
	2	1	15"	8/16-9/30	3.50%	35	9"	1/1-12/31



**Table 5.** The percent reduction of summer flounder and scup harvest for the coast achieved by the combination of measures that the states selected for this memo, by state and for the coast as a whole. Note that regions are displayed using the summer flounder six region management system. States from Delaware-North Carolina have no scup reduction as the RDM is unable to detect scup harvest in the southern region. North Carolina measures for summer flounder will remain status quo from 2023 in 2024 and 2025.

State	Option from Table 1 (MA-NY), Table 3 (NJ), & Table 4 (DE-NC)	Percent Reduction in Summer Flounder Harvest	Percent Reduction in Scup Harvest
Massachusetts	1	-28.11	-6.80
Rhode Island	1	-34.43	-4.72
Connecticut-New York	4	-28.20	-12.77
New Jersey	3	-28.19	-11.54
Delaware-Virginia	7	-33.53	0.00
North Carolina	2	3.57	0.00
<b>Total Reduction</b>		<b>-29.23</b>	<b>-10.58</b>

**Table 6.** Status quo black sea bass measures and proposed adjustments to Massachusetts’s and Connecticut’s black sea bass seasons in 2024, with changes in season opening and closing dates highlighted in red.

	Option	Mode	Bag Limit	Minimum Size Limit	Season	Reduction
<b>Massachusetts</b>	Status Quo	All	4	16.5	5/20-9/7	-
	Proposed	All	4	16.5	5/18-9/3	-0.75%
<b>Connecticut</b>	Status Quo	For-Hire	5	16	5/19-8/31	-
			7		9/1-12/31	
		Private/Shore	5		5/19-6/23, 7/8-12/1	
	Proposed	For-Hire	5	16	5/18-8/31	-0.14%
			7		9/1-12/31	
		Private/Shore	5		5/18-6/23, 7/8-11/28	