



# Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

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## **Federally Permitted Commercial Fishing Vessels**

*Effective Date: September 27, 2017*

We have partially approved the Mid-Atlantic Unmanaged Forage Omnibus Amendment, regulations implementing this amendment will be effective on September 27, 2017. This action maintains recent catch levels for certain forage species and species groups while collecting additional information on the catch of these species. Measures for Mid-Atlantic Forage Species and Atlantic Chub Mackerel are listed on the table below. A full summary of the regulations can be found at: [www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov).

Measures	Mid-Atlantic Forage Species*	Atlantic Chub Mackerel
<b>Permit</b>	All commercial vessels and operators that catch and/or possess Mid-Atlantic forage species and/or Atlantic chub mackerel must be issued a commercial vessel and operator permit from our office.	
<b>Annual Landing Limit</b>	None.	2.86 million lb, applicable to all chub mackerel landed in ports from North Carolina through Maine.
<b>Possession Limit</b>	1,700 lb per trip for all forage species combined.	Unlimited initially, but reduced to 40,000 lb per trip once the annual landing limit is caught.
<b>Transiting provision</b>	A commercial vessel may transit the Mid-Atlantic Forage Species Management Unit (chart and coordinates are listed below) with an amount of Mid-Atlantic forage species or Atlantic chub mackerel on board that exceeds the possession limits to land in a port in a state that is outside of the Mid-Atlantic Forage Species Management Unit, provided that the fish harvested outside of the Mid-Atlantic Forage Species Management Unit and that all gear is stowed and not available for immediate use while transiting.	

\*See below for complete list of Mid-Atlantic Forage Species

### **Reporting Requirements**

Vessel operators must comply with existing vessel trip report (VTR or logbook) requirements for reporting the catch of Mid-Atlantic forage species and Atlantic chub mackerel. VTR codes for each of these species and species groups are listed in the table below.

We have developed a forage species identification guide that will help you identify forage species and the species code to use on your VTR. The guide will be available at your local port agent's office, on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's website: <http://www.mafmc.org/forage>.

### **Mid-Atlantic Forage Species Groups and Species**

*For small entity compliance guides, this bulletin complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Greater Atlantic Region.*

**1,700 lb trip possession limit  
Common Names and VTR Codes**

	<b>Common Names</b>	<b>VTR Code</b>
Mid-Atlantic Forage Species	Anchovies	ANCH
	Argentines/Smelt Herring	ARGT
	Atlantic Saury	SAURY
	Atlantic Thread Herring	HRAT
	Cusk-eels	CSKEEL
	Greeneyes	GREN
	Halfbeaks	HALF
	Lanternfishes	LANT
	Other Crustaceans/Shellfish	CRUST
	Pearlsides/Deepsea Hatchetfish	HATCH
	Round Herring	HRRD
	Sandlances	SAND
	Scaled Sardine	SARSC
	Silversides	SILNS
	Spanish Sardine	SARSP
Unclassified Molluscs	MOLL	
	Atlantic Chub Mackerel	MACC

**New or Expanded Fisheries**

If you want to expand current or develop new fisheries for forage species and/or chub mackerel, you should first obtain an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) from our office to conduct an experimental fishery. The Council will review the results of any experimental fisheries before considering any changes to measures implemented in this action.

**Mid-Atlantic Forage Species Management Unit**



**Management Unit Coordinates**

<b>Point</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
1	40°59.32' N.	73°39.62' W.
2	40°59.02' N.	73°39.41' W.
3	40°57.05' N.	73°36.78' W.
4	40°57.87' N.	73°32.85' W.
5	40°59.78' N.	73°23.70' W.
6	41°1.57' N.	73°15.00' W.
7	41°3.40' N.	73°6.10' W.
8	41°4.65' N.	73°0.00' W.
9	41°6.67' N.	72°50.00' W.
10	41°8.69' N.	72°40.00' W.
11	41°10.79' N.	72°29.45' W.
12	41°12.22' N.	72°22.25' W.
13	41°13.57' N.	72°15.38' W.
14	41°14.94' N.	72°8.35' W.
15	41°15.52' N.	72°5.41' W.
16	41°17.43' N.	72°1.18' W.
17	41°18.62' N.	71°55.80' W.
18	41°18.27' N.	71°54.47' W.
19	41°10.31' N.	71°46.44' W.
20	41°2.35' N.	71°38.43' W.
21	40°54.37' N.	71°30.45' W.
22	40°46.39' N.	71°22.51' W.

<b>Point</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
23	40°38.39' N.	71°14.60' W.
24	40°30.39' N.	71°6.72' W.
25	40°22.38' N.	70°58.87' W.
26	40°14.36' N.	70°51.05' W.
27	40°6.33' N.	70°43.27' W.
28	39°58.29' N.	70°35.51' W.
29	39°50.24' N.	70°27.78' W.
30	39°42.18' N.	70°20.09' W.
31	39°34.11' N.	70°12.42' W.
32	39°26.04' N.	70°4.78' W.
33	39°17.96' N.	69°57.18' W.
34	39°9.86' N.	69°49.6' W.
35	39°1.77' N.	69°42.05' W.
36	38°53.66' N.	69°34.53' W.
37	38°45.54' N.	69°27.03' W.
38	38°37.42' N.	69°19.57' W.
39	38°29.29' N.	69°12.13' W.
40	38°21.15' N.	69°4.73' W.
41	38°13.00' N.	68°57.35' W.
42	38°4.84' N.	68°49.99' W.
43 *	38°2.21' N.	68°47.62' W.

\* Point 43 falls on the U.S. EEZ.