



Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

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Commercial Skate Wing Possession Limit Reduction

Effective Date: December 27, 2017

The commercial skate wing possession limit is being reduced for the remainder of the 2017 fishing year, ending April 30, 2018. Effective December 27, 2017, the skate wing possession limit is reduced from 4,100 lb of skate wings (9,307 lb whole weight) to 500 lb of skate wings (1,135 lb whole weight) per trip. Vessels holding Federal skate permits may not possess or land more than 500 lb of skate wings (1,135 lb of whole weight) per trip for the remainder of the fishing year, unless they are fishing in accordance with a skate bait letter of authorization.

Vessels that have started a fishing trip when this possession limit reduction becomes effective may retain skate wings under the previous possession limits for the remainder of that trip.

When the 2018 fishing year begins on May 1, 2018, the commercial skate wing possession limit will increase to the skate wing season 1 (May 1 to August 31) possession limit of 2,600 lb of skate wings (5,902 lb whole weight) per trip.

This action does not affect vessels fishing in accordance with a skate bait letter of authorization.

For more information on the bait fishery regulations, contact SFD or visit:

<https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/species/skate/index.html>

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.