



# Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

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## **Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass** **2018 Recreational Management Measures**

*Effective Date: May 31, 2018*

We have approved the final 2018 minimum fish size, per-angler possession limits, and fishing season rules for the summer flounder (fluke), scup (porgies), and black sea bass recreational fisheries. Most states have already put their rules in place for the season.

### **Summer Flounder:**

We are continuing “conservation equivalency.” This means we waive the federal recreational bag limit, minimum fish size, and fishing season, and vessel owners are subject only to regulations in their state. **Please contact your state for information on your state’s summer flounder regulations.**

### **Black Sea Bass:**

We have extended the federal waters open season from May 15 through December 31. The federal minimum fish size is still **12.5 inches** and the per-person possession limit is still **15 black sea bass per trip**.

### **Scup:**

We are also maintaining the **year-round** open season, the minimum fish size is still **9 inches**, and the per-person possession limit is still **50 scup per trip**.

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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.

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If you have additional questions on the recreational management measures after reading this letter, please call the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315.

*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.*