

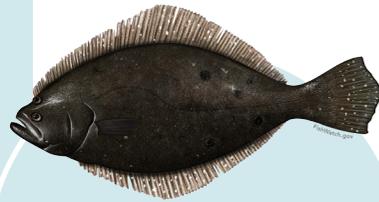
*This summary provides a broad overview for the recreational fishery in Federal waters, 3-200 miles offshore; the regulations summarized here may be found at 50 CFR part 648.*

*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.*

*Updated May, 2018*

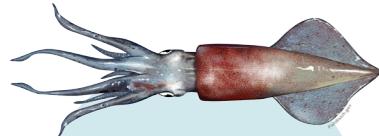
**Questions regarding charter/party and recreational vessel regulations?**

**Contact:  
Sustainable Fisheries  
Division  
(978) 281 - 9315**



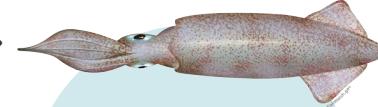
**Summer Flounder  
(Fluke)**

Please see regulations for the State you will be fishing in (Table 1)



**Longfin Squid**

No Minimum Size  
Unlimited  
All Year



**Shortfin Squid**

No Minimum Size  
Unlimited  
All year



**Butterfish**

No Minimum Size  
Unlimited  
All Year



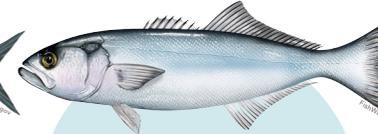
**Black Sea Bass**

12.5 inches  
15 Fish Limit  
May 15 - Dec 31



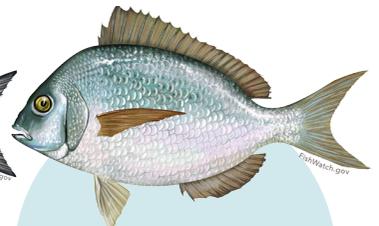
**Atlantic Mackerel**

No Minimum Size  
Unlimited  
All year



**Bluefish**

No Minimum Size  
15 Fish Limit  
All year



**Scup/Porgies**

9 inches  
50 Fish Limit  
All year



**Golden Tilefish**

No Minimum Size  
8 Fish Limit  
All year

**Important Notes:**

- Fishing for striped bass in the EEZ is prohibited
- No possession of Atlantic sturgeon
- 14 inch min. size limit for Weakfish
- Information on tunas and sharks go to <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/>



**Table 1: 2018 State Recreational Measures for Summer Flounder**

| State                           | Minimum Size | Possession Limit | Open Season(s) |
|---------------------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| MA                              | 17 inches    | 5 fish           | 5/23 - 10/09   |
| RI                              | 19 inches    | 6 fish           | 5/1 - 12/31    |
| CT *                            | 19 inches    | 4 fish           | 5/4 - 9/30     |
| *CT, 45 designated shore sites  | 17 inches    |                  |                |
| NY                              | 19 inches    |                  |                |
| NJ                              | 18 inches    | 3 fish           | 5/25 - 9/22    |
| NJ, 1 designated shore site     | 16 inches    | 2 fish           |                |
| New Jersey/Delaware Bay COLREGS | 17 inches    | 3 fish           |                |
| DE                              | 16.5 inches  | 4 fish           | 1/1 - 12/31    |
| MD                              | 17 inches    |                  | 1/1 - 3/31     |
|                                 | 16.5 inches  |                  | 4/1 - 12/31    |
| VA                              | 16.5 inches  |                  | 1/1 - 12/31    |
| NC                              | 15 inches    | 4 fish           | 1/1 - 12/31    |

**Table 2: 2018 State Recreational Measures for Black Sea Bass**

| State                                    | Minimum Size | Possession Limit  | Open Season(s)               |
|--|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| ME                                       | 13 inches    | 10 fish           | 5/19 - 9/21<br>10/18 - 12/31 |
| NH                                       | 13 inches    | 10 fish           | 1/1 - 12/31                  |
| MA                                       | 15 inches    | 5 fish            | 5/19 - 9/12                  |
| RI                                       | 15 inches    | 3 fish            | 6/24 - 8/31                  |
|  |              | 7 fish            | 9/1 - 12-31                  |
| CT                                       | 15 inches    | Private           | 5 fish<br>5/19 - 12/31       |
|  |              | Party/<br>Charter | 5 fish<br>5/19 - 8/31        |
|  |              |                   | 7 fish<br>9/1 - 12/31        |
| NY*                                      | 15 inches    | 3 fish            | 6/23 - 8/31                  |
|  |              | 7 fish            | 9/1 - 12/31                  |
| NJ                                       | 12.5 inches  | 10 fish           | 5/15 - 6/22<br>10/8 - 10/31  |
|  |              | 2 fish            | 7/1 - 8/31                   |
|  | 13 inches    | 15 fish           | 11/1 - 12/31                 |
| DE, MD, VA & NC (North of Cape Hatteras) | 12.5 inches  | 15 fish           | 5/15 - 12/31                 |

\* NY is in the process of promulgating its measures, which should be finalized in June.

**Table 3: 2018 State Recreational Measures for Scup**

| State                          | Fishing Mode   | Minimum Size | Possession Limit   | Open Season(s)              |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|--|-----------------------------|
| MA                             | Private  | 9 inches     | 30 fish/person;<br>150 fish/vessel fish/<br>vessel with<br>5+ anglers on board | 5/1 - 12/31                 |
|                                | Charter/Party  |              | 45 fish  | 5/1 - 6/30                  |
|                                |  |              | 30 fish  | 7/1 - 12/31                 |
| RI                             | Private  | 9 inches     | 30 fish  | 5/1-12/31                   |
|                                | Shore Program<br>(7 designated shore sites)            | 8 inches     |  |                             |
|                                | Charter/Party  | 9 inches     | 30 fish  | 5/1 - 8/31<br>11/1 - 12/ 31 |
| 45 fish                        |  |              | 9/1 - 10/31  |                             |
| CT                             | Private  | 9 inches     | 30 fish  | 5/1 - 12/31                 |
|                                | Shore Program<br>(46 designated shore sites)           | 8 inches     |  |                             |
|                                | CT DEEP Registered<br>Party/Charter                    | 9 inches     | 30 fish  | 5/1 - 8/31<br>11/1 - 12/31  |
| 45 fish                        |  |              | 9/1 - 10/31  |                             |
| NY                             | Private  | 9 inches     | 30 fish  | 5/1 - 12/ 31                |
|                                | NY (Anglers aboard<br>Licensed Party/Charter<br>Boats) |              | 30 fish  | 5/1 - 8/31<br>11/1 - 12/31  |
|                                |  |              | 45 fish  | 9/1 - 10/31                 |
| NJ                             | All  | 9 inches     | 50 fish  | 1/1 - 12/31                 |
| DE                             | All  | 8 inches     | 50 fish  |                             |
| MD                             | All  | 8 inches     | 50 fish  |                             |
| VA                             | All  | 8 inches     | 30 fish  |                             |
| NC (North of<br>Cape Hatteras) | All  | 8 inches     | 50 fish  |                             |
|                                |  |              |  |                             |

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