

catch rate. If Fish and Wildlife determines that an allocation will be exhausted prior to the end of the sub-period or will not be met for a sub-period, it may change the possession limit without Council approval. Fish and Wildlife will file a notice with the Secretary of State and submit a news release announcing the change. All variances of possession limits will be effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

3.2.1-2 - If Fish and Wildlife determines that the allocation for a given species will be exhausted prior to the end of a sub-period or will not be met for a sub-period, the RIMFC, upon its own initiative, may direct Fish and Wildlife to change the possession limit. This order will be binding on Fish and Wildlife, and the Program must satisfy the notice requirements of 11.21.1 to validate the change.

3.2.1-3 – Current Possession limit – If no current possession limit is noted in the table below, refer to Part 7 of the RI Marine Fisheries Statutes and Regulations for the sub period starting possession limit for all species other than striped bass, menhaden, and horseshoe crabs. For striped bass, if no current possession limit is noted in the table below, refer to Part 12 of the RI Marine Fisheries Statutes and Regulations for the sub period starting possession limit. For horseshoe crabs, refer to Part 15 of the RI Marine Fisheries Statutes and Regulations. For menhaden, refer to Part 16 of the RI Marine Fisheries Statutes and Regulations.

Species	Current possession limit	Effective dates
Atlantic Herring	2,000 pounds from Area 2 per vessel per calendar day	Effective 12:01 AM on April 17, 2009 until the next season begins on January 1, 2010.
	<u>2,000 pounds from Area 1A per vessel per calendar day</u>	<u>Effective 12:01 AM on November 26, 2009, until the next season begins on January 1, 2010.</u>
Black Sea Bass	CLOSED	Effective 12:01 AM on November 8, 2009, until further notice.
Horseshoe Crab	CLOSED	Effective 12:01 AM on June 11, 2009 the commercial bait fishery for Horseshoe crabs will be closed until the next harvest period begins on January 1, 2010.