

Final annotations

Public Hearing – June 12, 2017

Part 3 - Finfish

Filed August 9, 2017

3.21 Monkfish

3.21.2 Commercial:

(A) Minimum size: Seventeen inches (17”) total length or eleven inches (11”) tail length whether caught within the jurisdiction of this State or otherwise.

(B) Fishing year: The commercial monkfish fishery shall operate on a May 1 through April 30 fishing year.

(C) Possession limit:

(1) Non-federally permitted RI licensed vessel: ~~550~~ **700** pounds tail weight or ~~4,826~~ **2,037** pounds whole weight per vessel per calendar day. Whole weight is defined as the weight of monkfish that are gutted (i.e. stomach, liver, and other entrails removed) and have the head and tail attached. In SAFIS landing monkfish in the “whole” is reported using the grade “gutted, head on, tail on”.

(a) The possession of monkfish livers may not exceed the number of gutted-fish and tails combined.

(b) The possession of monkfish heads may not exceed the number of gutted-head-off-fish and tails combined.

(D) Vessels in possession of a federal permit authorizing the harvest of monkfish may harvest monkfish in state waters if and only if they are operating during a previously and properly declared day-at-sea; in such instances, such vessels may harvest monkfish in the amount authorized to be possessed pursuant to federal regulations.