

RI Department of Environmental Management

Division of Marine Fisheries

PUBLIC HEARING

November 20, 2017



Hearing Item #1: Proposed amendment to definition of “Resident” (*Part 1 – Definitions*)

- Removal of language “*automobile registration*” from the definition

Proposed language: “*Resident*” means a person who has had his or her actual place of residence and has lived in the State of Rhode Island for a continuous period of not less than six (6) months. Proof of residence may include a Rhode Island driver's license, ~~automobile registration~~, voter registration card or a notarized statement from a City or Town Clerk.



Hearing Item 2a: 2018 commercial management for Black Sea Bass (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

- Option 1: Status quo.

Season	Min. size	Allocation	Closed Days	Starting Poss. limit (vsl/day)
Jan 1 – Apr 30	11"	25%	N/A	750 (vsl/week)
May 1 – June 30		25%	Closed Fridays	50 (vsl/day)
July 1 – July 31		19.5%	Closed Fridays	50 (vsl/day)
Sept 15 – Oct 31		19.5%	Closed Fridays	50 (vsl/day)
Nov 1 – Dec 31		11%	N/A	100 (vsl/day)



Hearing Item 2a: 2018 commercial management for Black Sea Bass (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

- Option 2: Decrease Jan. – April aggregate limit; decrease Nov. – Dec. poss. limit; no closed days.

Season	Min. size	Allocation	Closed Days	Starting Poss. limit (vsl/day)
Jan 1 – Apr 30	11"	25%	N/A	750 <u>500</u> (vsl/week)
May 1 – June 30		25%	Closed Fridays <u>(open 7 days/wk)</u>	50 (vsl/day)
July 1 – July 31		19.5%	Closed Fridays <u>(open 7 days/wk)</u>	50 (vsl/day)
Sept 15 – Oct 31		19.5%	Closed Fridays <u>(open 7 days/wk)</u>	50 (vsl/day)
Nov 1 – Dec 31		11%	N/A	400 <u>50</u> (vsl/day)



Hearing Item 2b: 2018 commercial management for Scup (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

- Option 1: Status quo

Min. size	Seasons	Sub-periods	Quota		Starting Poss. limit
9"	<u>Winter I</u> : (1/1 – 4/30)		Coastwide		50,000 lbs/vsl/day
	<u>Summer – Fall</u> : (5/1 – 10/31)	<u>Gen. Cat. Summer</u> : (5/1 – 9/17)	40% of sub-period quota	2/3 of Gen. Cat. quota	10,000 lbs/vsl/wk
		<u>Gen. Cat. Fall</u> : (9/18 – 10/31)		1/3 of Gen. Cat. quota	10,000 lbs/vsl/wk
		<u>FFT</u> : (5/1 – 10/31)	60% of sub-period quota		Unlimited
	<u>Winter II</u> : (11/1 – 12/31)		Coastwide		2,000/18,000 lbs/vsl/day*

* Winter II possession limit begins at 2,000 lbs/vsl/day; change to 18,000/day after Winter I roll over calculated



Hearing Item 2b: 2018 commercial management for Scup (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

- Option 2: Change in seasons for FMP compliance

Min. size	Seasons	Sub-periods	Quota		Starting Poss. limit
9"	<u>Winter I:</u> (1/1 – 4/30)		Coastwide		50,000 lbs/vsl/day
	<u>Summer – Fall:</u> (5/1 – 10/31 <u>9/30</u>)	<u>Gen. Cat. Summer:</u> (5/1 – 9/17 <u>9/30</u>)	40% of sub-period quota	2/3 of Gen. Cat. quota	10,000 lbs/vsl/wk
		Gen. Cat. Fall: (9/18 – 10/31)		1/3 of Gen. Cat. quota	
		<u>FFT:</u> (4/1 – 10/31 <u>9/30</u>)	60% of sub-period quota		Unlimited
<u>Winter II:</u> (11/1 <u>10/1</u> – 12/31)		Coastwide		2,000/18,000 lbs/vsl/day*	

* Winter II possession limit begins at 2,000 lbs/vsl/day; change to 18,000/day after Winter I roll over calculated



Hearing Item 2c: 2018 commercial management for Summer flounder (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

Option 1: Status quo

Min. size	Quota	Sub-period	Starting Poss. limit (vsl/day)	Days closed	Starting Aggregate poss. limit (lbs/vsl)
14"	54%	Winter (1/1 – 4/30)	200 lbs	Open 7 days	1,300/bi-week
	35%	Summer (5/1 – 9/15)	50 lbs	Fri./Sat./Sun.	200/week
	11%	Fall (9/16 – 12/31)	100 lbs	Open 7 days	N/A



Hearing Item 2c cont'd: 2018 commercial management for Summer flounder (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

Option 2: **Expansion of the Aggregate program.**

- Main points (see proposed annotated regulations for full details):
 - **Maintain current management parameters (status quo)**
 - Remove eligibility requirement of Exemption Certificate during summer sub-period
 - **Additional reporting requirements**



Hearing Item 2c cont'd: 2018 commercial management for Summer flounder (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

Option 3: Maintain single possession limit for entire year.

Min. size	Quota	Sub-period	Starting Poss. limit (vsl/day)	Days closed	Starting Aggregate poss. limit (lbs/vsl)
14"	54%	Winter (1/1 – 4/30)	200 <u>100</u> lbs	Open 7 days	1,300/bi-week <u>700/week</u>
	35%	Summer (5/1 – 9/15)	50 <u>100</u> lbs	Fri./Sat./Sun. <u>Open 7 days</u>	200 <u>700</u> /week
	11%	Fall (9/16 – 12/31)	100 lbs	Open 7 days	N/A



Hearing Item 2c cont'd: 2018 commercial management for Summer flounder (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

Option 4: Standard Management Approach w/ 2018 Quota Adjustment.

Min. size	Quota	Sub-period	Starting Poss. limit (vsl/day)	Days closed	Starting Aggregate poss. limit (lbs/vsl)
14"	54%	Winter (1/1 – 4/30)	200 <u>100</u> lbs	Open 7 days	1,300/bi-week <u>1,500/bi-week</u>
	35%	Summer (5/1 – 9/15)	50 <u>100</u> lbs	Fri./Sat./Sun. <u>Thu./Fri./Sat</u>	200/week <u>No Agg. Program</u>
	11%	Fall (9/16 – 12/31)	100 lbs	Open 7 days	No Agg. Program



Hearing Item 2d: 2018 commercial management for Spiny Dogfish (*Part 3 – Finfish*)

- Consistency with the ASMFC Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) for Spiny dogfish.
- Possession limit: ~~5,000~~ 6,000 pounds per vessel per calendar day.



Hearing Item 3: Proposed amendment to gill net tagging requirements (*Part 6 – General Equipment Provisions*)

- Main points (see proposed annotated regulations for full details):
- Tags valid April 1 – March 31 to coincide with license renewals
- Tags valid for one season; new tags must be ordered annually
- Tags attached along float line of the string of nets, one tag attached to each panel.
- Ordering form and instructions being developed; will detail \$ cost/tag and vendor info (~\$1.55 / tag)



Hearing Item 4: Proposed adoption of new regulation regarding commercial shellfish harvester education and training program (proposed *Part 11 - Regulations Governing Education Certification for Commercial Shellfish Harvesters*)

- **Main points** (see proposed regulations for full details):
 - Requirement of NSSP Model Ordinance (Section II - Chapter VIII, Control of Shellfish Harvesting).
 - Anyone who commercially harvests/lands shellfish must complete a training course, designed and implemented by the State, prior to obtaining their commercial license or landing permit.
 - Applies to all license and landing permit renewals, as well as all new licenses and landing permits.
 - Applies to all shellfish, harvested and landed in RI, except whelk, and except scallops (if shucked at sea, with only abductor mussels landed).
 - Separate training requirement, administered by CRMC, applies to shellfish farmers who only harvest and land farmed stock.
 - Certificate of completion valid for 5 years



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