



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE

P.O. Box 420; Mail Code: 501-03

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

TEL. (609) 292-2965 FAX. (609) 984-1414

VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.NJFISHANDWILDLIFE.COM

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

June 14, 2017

Dear New Jersey Black Sea Bass Permit Holder:
New Jersey Black Sea Bass Dealer:

As a result of the 2016 Black Sea Bass Benchmark Stock Assessment, the ASMFC's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board met with the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council to revise specifications for the black sea bass fishery for 2017, allowing for a 53 percent increase to the coastwide quota.

The adjusted 2017 black sea bass coast wide commercial quota is now increased to 4,120,400 pounds. This results in a New Jersey commercial quota increase of 824,080 pounds.

In order to achieve optimal harvest of the increased black sea bass commercial quota, the Marine Fisheries Council approved changes to the trip limits and landing days for seasons four, five, and six. The revised daily trip limits and maximum weekly (Sunday to Saturday) landing days for the directed fishery for seasons four, five, and six are listed below.

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|-----------------------|---|
| Jul 2- Aug 31 | 1,000 pound trip limit with a maximum of six days per week
OR 1,500 pound trip limit with a maximum of four days per week |
| Sept 3- Oct 31 | 1,000 pound trip limit with a maximum of six days per week
OR 1,500 pound trip limit with a maximum of four days per week
OR 2,500 pound trip limit with a maximum of two days per week |
| Nov 5- Dec 31 | 1,000 pound trip limit with a maximum of six days per week
OR 1,500 pound trip limit with a maximum of four days per week
OR 3,000 pound trip limit with a maximum of two days per week |

Permit holders are reminded that no vessel shall have in possession or land more than the daily trip limit in one calendar day.

If you have any questions, please call the Bureau of Marine Fisheries at 609-748-2020 or 609-292-7794.

Sincerely,

Russ Allen, Chief
Marine Fisheries Administration