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Home (index.cfm) » Resources (index.cfm?fuseaction=page.display&page\_id=21) » Regulation (https://web.archive.org/web/20170606062934/http://www.thefisherman.com/index.cfm? isse page id=39)

#### RESOURCES

# **Marine Regulations**

Fishing rules and regulations seem to change with the tide these days, and they vary greatly from state to state. That's why The Fisherman posts the current size and bag limits, seasons and licensing information covering all your favorite local species. Before heading out, check here for a state-by-state breakdown of current restrictions to ensure you'll be in compliance no matter how, when or where you fish.

**Featured Videos** (index.cfm?fuseaction=category.dis category\_id=9)

# CONNECTICUT

American Eel: 9" minimum size, 25/angler, no closed

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13 Jun 2012 - 28 4m 2019 is Monhadon (Bunker): Minimum longth: N

\*Daily creel limit: 50 fish per angler or 5 gallons (whichever is the greater amount), Open Season: Open Year Round

Black Sea Bass: 15-inch minimum (Excluding Tail Fin Filament/Tendril), 5 fish bag limit, Open May 1 to December 31

Bluefish: No minimum size, 10/angler (including

"snappers,") no closed season

Cod: 22" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

Haddock: 18" minimum size, no daily creel limit, no closed season

Hickory Shad & American Shad: No size limit, 6/angler (both species aggregate,) no closed season

\*\*\*American Shad: all state waters closed except the Connecticut River

Pollock: 19" minimum size, no daily creel limit, no

closed season

Scup / Porgy: Private Vessel: 10-inch minimum, May 1 -December 31, 30 fish per person.

For-Hire Bonus Season: September 1 - October 31, 45 fish per angler.

Striped Bass: No closed season, 28-inch minimum, 1 fish per person; bonus voucher program through CT **DEEP** 

Summer Flounder/Fluke: 19-inch Minimum, 3 fish bag limit, Open May 17 to September 21

Tautog / Blackfish: Minimum length: 16 inches Open Season: April 1 - April 30, 2 fish per angler Open Season: July 1 - August 31, 2 fish per angler Open Season: October 10 - Dec. 6 4 fish per angler

Weakfish: 16" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

White Perch: 7" minimum size, 30/angler, no closed

Winter Flounder: 12" minimum size, 2/angler, April 1 -

December 31



(https://web.archive.org /web/20170606062934/http: //www.thefisherman.com /index.cfm?fuseaction=feature.display& Feature ID=1592&ParentCat=9)

THE STORY BEHIND STEIGER (https://web.archive.org /web/20170606062934/http: //www.thefisherman.com /index.cfm?fuseaction=feature.display& Feature ID=1592&ParentCat=9)

Meet Al Steiger, whose passion for fishing is clearly reflected in the Steiger Craft lineup of custom fishing boats. An exclusive facility tour with The Fisherman Magazine.



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PARTY BOAT CODFISHING (https://web.archive.org /web/20170606062934/http: //www.thefisherman.com /index.cfm?fuseaction=feature.display& Feature\_ID=458&ParentCat=9)



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ICE FISHING SAFETY TIPS (https://web.archive.org /web/20170606062934/http: //www.thefisherman.com /index.cfm?fuseaction=feature.display& Feature\_ID=948&ParentCat=9)

» View All Videos

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# **DELAWARE**

Black Sea Bass: 12-1/2 inches, open 5/15-9/21 (15

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size limit, 10/angler, no closed seasc

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Croaker: 8" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Porgy: 8" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed season Red Drum: 20-27" slot size, 5/angler, no closed season Scup (Porgy): 8" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed season

Spanish Mackerel: 14" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

Spotted Seatrout: 12" minimum size, No creel limit, no closed season

Striped Bass: As of 5/11/15, two fish, 28 to 37 inches or greater than 44 inches, except in Delaware Bay, River and its tributaries from 7/1-8/31 during which time angler limit is two fish from 20 to 25 inches during 'summer slot' season. No harvest permitted from spawning grounds from 4/1-5/31.

Summer Flounder: Effective April 1, 2017, 17" minimum size, 4/angler, No Closed Season

Tautog: 15-inch minimum size for all open seasons; 5/angler Jan. 1 - March 31 and Sept. 29 - Dec. 31; 3/angler April 1 - May 11 and July 17 - Aug. 31. Season closed Sept. 1 - Sept. 28 and May 12 - July 16.

Weakfish: 13" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

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**Upcoming Events** (https://web.archive.org /web/20170606062934/http: //www.thefisherman.com /index.cfm?fuseaction=page.displa page\_id=56)

50TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

June 9-11, 2017: This event features: Casting expert Ed Jaworowski; Interview

AVONDOLJQ<sub>it</sub>and ...

#### **MARYLAND**

Black Sea Bass: May 19-Sept. 21, Oct. 22-Dec.31 12.5

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Croaker: 9" minimum size, limit 25/angler, no closed season

Flounder: Effective April 1, 2017, four fish at 17 inches per person/day.

Herring: Moritorium

Red Drum: 18" - 27" slot limit, 1/angler, no closed

season

Spanish Mackerel: 14" minimum size, 15/angler, no

closed season

Striped Bass: One fish, 28 inches along Coast. In Chesapeake Bay and tributaries, one fish, 28 to 36 inches or one fish larger than 40 inches from 4/18-5/15; from 5/16-12/15 two striped bass over 20 inches, but only one may be over 28 inches. From 5/16-5/31, one fish, 20 to 26 inches on Susquehanna Flats and the Northeast River.

Tautog: 16" minimum size, 2/angler, 4/angler from January 1 - May 15 and from November 1 thru November 14; 2/angler from May 16 thru Oct 31

Weakfish: 13" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season White Perch: No minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Yellow Perch: 9" minimum size, 10 per day per person, no closed season

# 6TH ANNUAL HOOKS FOR HEROES FISHING TOURNAMENT

with LATY KREH Presentations by DON

June 10, 2017: The tournament benefits the Families of Wounded US Vets at Walter Reed Military Hospital. With 100%

> Get Details » (https://web.archive.org /web/20170606062934/http: //www.thefisherman.com /index.cfm?fuseaction=page.eventdetail& EventID=1149)

# SUFFOLK MARINE ANGLERS SPRING STRIPED BASS TOURNAMENT

June 11, 2017: ...

**Get Details** » (https://web.archive.org /web/20170606062934/http: //www.thefisherman.com /index.cfm?fuseaction=page.eventdetail& EventID=1172)

» View All Events (index.cfm?fuseaction=page.display& page\_id=56)

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#### **MASSACHUSETTS**

American Eel: 6" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed

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minimum.

Bluefish: No minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season Cod: NORTH OF CAPE COD – Private Angler: no closed

season, 1 fish, 19-inch minimum.

SOUTH OF CAPE COD - Private Angler: no closed season,

10 fish, 22-inch minimum.

Haddock: NORTH OF CAPE COD - no closed season, 12 fish, 17-inch minimum.

SOUTH OF CAPE COD - no closed season, no bag limit, 18-inch minimum.

Halibut: 41" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season Pollock: No minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Scup / Porgy: Private Angler: May 1 – December 31, 30 fish or 150 fish/vessel if 5 or more anglers on board, 10inch minimum.

For-Hire Bonus: May 1 – June 30, 45 fish, 10 inch minimum.

For-Hire Regular: July 1 – December 31, 30 fish, 10-inch minimum.

Shad: No minimum size, 6/angler, no closed season Smelt: No minimum size, 50/angler, June 16 - March 14 Striped Bass: No closed season, 28-inch minimum, 1 fish per person.

Summer Flounder/Fluke: May 22 - September 24, 4 fish, 17-inch minimum.

Tautog / Blackfish: 16" minimum size, 3/angler, no closed season

Weakfish: 16" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season White Perch: 8" minimum size, 25/angler, no closed season

Winter Flounder: NORTH OF CAPE COD - no closed season, 8 fish, 12-inch minimum.

SOUTH & EAST OF CAPE COD - no closed season, 2 fish, 12-inch minimum.

Yellowtail Flounder: 13" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

# **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

American Eel: 6" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed

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season

Atlantic Salmon: 15" minimum size, 2/angler, no closed season, snagging not allowed

Bluefish: No minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season Cod: 24" minimum size, 10/angler, November 1 - April 15; April 1 - June 30, Gulf of Maine Spawning Protection Area closed.

NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

Haddock: 18" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Halibut: 41" minimum size, 1/angler/vessel, no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size if taken in federal waters, no creel limit, no closed season

Striped Bass: 28" minimum size, 2/angler (only 1 fish may be greater than 40"), no closed season

Summer Flounder/Fluke: TBD

Winter Flounder: 12" minimum size, 8/angler, season

closed May 15 - May 24

Yellowtail Flounder: 13" minimum size, no creel limit,

no closed season

#### **NEW JERSEY**

Black Drum: 16" minimum size, 3/angler, no closed

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50 captures@escrinttp:Proppolecishsizen.limitrindes2miProkestipe:pdga.display&page\_id=39) 13 Jun 2012 - 28 Jan 2019

> Black Sea Bass: 12-1/2" minimum open 5/26-6/18 (10 fish); 12-1/2" minimum open 7/1-8/31 (2 fish); 12-1/2" minimum open 10/22-12/31 (15 fish)

Blue Crab: 3" minimum size for peeler/shedder 3-1/2" for for soft shell 4-1/2" hard shell Limit one bushell

Bluefish: No minimum size, 15/angler, no closed season Cobia: 37" minimum size, 2/angler, no closed season. No possession allowed in federal waters (beyond 3 miles)

Cod & Haddock: 21" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

King Mackerel: 23" minimum size, 3/angler, no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Porgy: 9"minimum size, 50/angler, Jan 1- Feb 28 and July 1-Dec 31

Red Drum: 18"-27" slot size, 1/angler, no closed season Spanish Mackerel: 14" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season

Striped Bass: One fish from 28 inches to less than 43 inches, one fish greater than 43 inches. No closed season 0-3 miles from shore; Delaware River from Trenton to Salem River open 3/1-3/31 and from 6/1-12/31; all other marine waters open 3/1-12/31 except beyond 3 miles which is closed year-round.

Summer Flounder: 18" minimum size, 3/angler, May 25 - Sept 5 (17" minimum size, 3/angler west of COLREGS on Delaware Bay; 16" minimum size, 2/angler at IBSP) Tautog: 15" minimum size, January 1 - February 28 (4 fish), April 1 - April 30 (4 fish), July 17 - Nov. 15 (1 fish) and November 16- December 31-(6 fish) Weakfish: 13" minimum size, 1/angler, no closed season

Winter Flounder: 12" minimum size, 2/angler, Mar. 1-Dec 31

# **NEW YORK**

season

American Shad: Moratorium

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Aug 31; 8/angler, Sept 1 - October 31; 10/angler Nov 1 - Dec 31.

Blue Crab: Minimum shell width (spike to spike tip) 4.5"" hard shell, 3-1/2" soft shell, 3" peeler/shedder, 50 creel limit, no closed season; All other crab species: no minimum size, 50 creel limit, no closed season Bluefish: No minimum size for first ten fish, 12 inch minimum for additional fish, 15/angler total, no closed

Cod: Cod: 22" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season;

NOTE: Anglers aboard federally permitted party or charter vessels may possess any number of Atlantic cod, consistent with federal rules.

Fluke (Summer Flounder): 19 " minimum size, 3/angler, May 17 - September 21

Haddock: 18" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Hickory Shad: No minimum size, 5/angler, no closed season

Monkfish (goosefish): 17" minimum size(11" tail length,) no creel limit, no closed season

Oyster Toadfish: 10" minimum size, 3/angler, no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Porgy (Scup): 10" minimum size, 30/angler, May 1 - December 31; charter and open boat creel limit expands to 45/angler from September 1 - October 31.

Red Drum: No minimum size, 27" maximum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Spanish Mackerel: 14" minimum size, 15/angler, no closed season

Striped Bass: Marine: 28-inch minimum, 1 fish per

person, April 15 - December 15

Hudson River north of George Washington Bridge: 1 fish per perspon 18 - 28 inches OR greater than 40 inches,

April 1 - November 30

Tautog (Blackfish): 16" minimum size, 4/angler,

October 5 - December 14

Weakfish: 16" minimum size (10" filleted/12" dressed,)

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#### RHODE ISLAND

American Eel: 6" minimum size, 50/angler, no closed

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2012 - 25 Pack Sea Bass: 15 inch minimum. May 25 August 3:

3 fish. September 1 – September 21, 7 fish. September 22 – October 21, CLOSED. October 22 – December 31, 7 fish.

Blue Crab: Minimum shell width (spike to spike tip,) 5" hard shell, 3-1/2" soft shell, no creel limit, May 1 -

November 30

Cod: 22" minimum size, 10/angler, no closed season Haddock: 19" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Pollock: 19" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

Scup / Porgy: SHORE & PRIVATE BOAT – May 1 – December 31, 10-inch minimum, 30 fish per angler. PARTY & CHARTER BOAT: 10-inch minimum, May 1 – August 31 & November 1 – December 31, 30 fish per person. September 1 – October 31, 45 fish per person. Striped Bass: No closed season, 28-inch minimum, 1 fish per person.

Summer Flounder/Fluke: 19-inch minimum, May 1 – December 31, 4 fish.

Tautog / Blackfish: 16-inch minimum - April 15 - May 31, 3 fish per person; June 1 - July 31 CLOSED; August 1 - October 14, 3 fish per person; October 15 - December 15, 6 fish per person. Maximum per vessel possession limit is 10 fish regardless of number of anglers on board.

Weakfish: March 1 – December 31, 16-inch minimum, 1 fish per person.

Winter Flounder (Blackback): No closed season, 12-inch minimum, 2 fish per person. See website for restricted waters.

Yellowtail Flounder: 13" minimum size, no creel limit, no closed season

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