







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25 captures  
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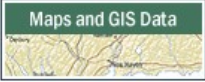



# Department of ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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ENERGY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NATURAL RESOURCES OUTDOOR RECREATION PURA

**Fishing**


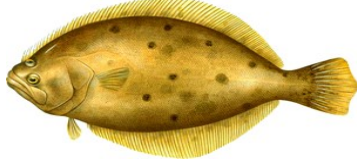



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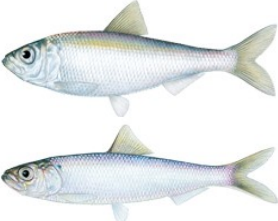




## Marine Recreational Fisheries Regulations for 2016

*NEW Regulations are in Red*

### Marine Recreational Fishing: Regulatory Terms & Additional Restrictions

<b>Striped Bass</b> Minimum length: 28 inches Daily creel limit: 1 fish per angler Open Season: Open Year Round  <u><a href="#">Bonus Striped Bass Fishing Program</a></u>	
<b>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</b> Minimum length: 18 inches Daily creel limit: 5 fish per angler Open Season: May 17 - September 21  <u><a href="#">Enhanced Opportunity Shore Fishing Sites</a></u> <i>the Minimum Length is 16 inches</i>	
<b>Tautog (Blackfish)</b> 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	
<b>Scup (Porgy)</b> Minimum length: 10 inches Daily creel limit: 30 fish per angler Open Season: May 1 - December 31  <b>Party/Charter Vessel Bonus Season:</b> For paying passengers only: 45 fish per angler from Sept. 1 - Oct. 31  <u><a href="#">Enhanced Opportunity Shore Fishing Sites</a></u> <i>the Minimum Length is 9 inches</i>	
<b>Bluefish</b> Minimum length: None Daily creel limit: 10 fish per angler (including "snappers") Open Season: Open Year Round	

<p><a href="#">25 captures</a></p> <p>8 Jul 2013 - 31 Dec 2018</p> <p>Regulations of CT State Agencies</p> <p><a href="#">access health CT</a></p> <p><a href="#">Veterans.ct.gov</a></p> <p><a href="#">Connecticut Recovers</a></p> <p><a href="#">CT Alert</a> WE CAN'T ALERT YOU... IF WE CAN'T REACH YOU</p>	<p>Minimum length: <b>15</b> inches** Daily creel limit: <b>5</b> fish per angler Open Season: <b>May 1 - December 31</b>, **Excluding tail fin filament (tendrill)</p> <p><b>Party/Charter Vessels:</b> For paying passengers only: Daily creel limit: <b>8</b> fish per angler Open Season: <b>May 1 - December 31</b> Daily Logbook Catch Reporting required on trips taking Black Sea Bass</p> <p><b>Weakfish (Sea Trout)</b> Minimum length: 16 inches Daily creel limit: 1 fish Open Season: Open Year Round</p> <p><b>Winter Flounder</b> Minimum length: 12 inches Daily creel limit: 2 fish per angler Open Season: Open April 1 - December 31</p> <p><b>Hickory Shad</b> Minimum length: None Daily creel limit: 6 fish per angler (American &amp; Hickory Shad in aggregate) Open Season: Open Year Round</p> <p><b>American Shad***</b> Minimum length: None Daily creel limit: 6 fish per angler (American &amp; Hickory Shad in aggregate) Open Season: Open Year Round ***American Shad: all state waters closed, except the Connecticut River System</p> <p><b>River Herring: Alewife / Blueback Herring</b> The taking of anadromous alewife and blueback herring is prohibited from all Connecticut waters including Long Island Sound</p> <p><b>White Perch</b> Minimum length: 7 inches Daily creel limit: 30 fish per angler Open Season: Open Year Round</p> <p><b>American Eel</b> Minimum length: 9 inches Daily creel limit: 25 fish per angler Open Season: Open Year Round</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>
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<p>Minimum length: None</p> <p>Daily creel limit: 50 fish per angler or 5 gallons (whichever is the greater amount)</p> <p>Open Season: Open Year Round</p>	
<p><b>Atlantic Cod</b></p> <p>See below for updated federal regulations</p> <p><a href="http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs">www.nero.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs</a></p>	
<p><b>Haddock</b></p> <p>See below for updated federal regulations</p> <p><a href="http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs">www.nero.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs</a></p>	
<p><b>Pollock</b></p> <p>See below for updated federal regulations</p> <p><a href="http://www.nero.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs">www.nero.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs</a></p>	
<p><b>Blue Crab</b> No License Required</p> <p>Minimum shell width (spike tip to spike tip)</p> <p>5 inches - Hard shell</p> <p>3 1/2 inches - Soft shell</p> <p>Daily creel limit: None</p> <p>Open Season: May 1 - November 30</p> <p>Prohibition on egg-bearing females</p>	
<p><b>Jonah Crab</b> No License Required</p> <p>Daily creel limit: 50 Crabs per Day</p> <p>Prohibition on egg-bearing females</p>	
<p><b>Squid</b> No License Required</p>	

### Marine Recreational Fishing: Regulatory Terms & Additional Restrictions

#### Applicability of marine recreational fishing regulations.

Marine recreational fishing regulations apply "while on the waters of this state or on any parcel of land, structure, or portion of a roadway abutting tidal waters of this state." **Consistent with this regulation, regardless where you caught your fish, (federal waters, another states' waters) any fish in your possession must meet Connecticut regulations (size, season, possession limits) when you are in Connecticut waters.**

#### Definition of "Land" and "Possess".

For sport fishing purposes, to "land" means to fail to immediately return any finfish, lobster, or crab, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which such species were taken. Any landed fish counts toward the daily creel limit. The term "possess" has the same practical meaning as "land" – failing to immediately return to the water from which such species were taken.

#### Fish taken contrary to the minimum length, creel limit or open season regulations to be released.

Any fish taken contrary to the minimum length, creel limit or open season regulations must, without avoidable injury, be returned immediately to the water from which taken.

#### Daily Creel limit.

The daily creel limit is the maximum number of fish an individual engaged in sport fishing may possess or land while on the waters of this state or on any parcel of land, structure, or portion of a roadway abutting tidal waters of this state. This limit applies to each 24 hour daily period regardless how many trips a person may make in a day. Note this is an individual limit. Pooling landings among a group of fishermen in a party is not

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in storage in the home or other storage facilities, or in a commercial storage facility where seafood is handled, stored, processed or marketed

**Minimum length.**

The minimum length is measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail. The tail may be pinched to achieve the longest length when measuring, but the minimum length does not include the tendril (dorsal tail filament) found on black sea bass. Fish measuring less than the identified minimum length must be released immediately, with avoidable injury.

**Open Season.**

The calendar period during which a species may be possessed or landed. Fish taken outside the open season must be released immediately, without avoidable injury.

**Culling or high-grading is prohibited.**

"Culling" or "high-grading" means discarding or returning a previously retained fish to the water in order to retain a more desirable fish. Any fish placed on a stringer, in a container, cooler, live well or similar device, or otherwise not immediately released to the water shall count against the daily creel limit.

**Note:**

1. This rule is not meant to prevent tagging and release of fish, other than striped bass, under a tagging program consistent with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's standards for scientific tagging programs.

2. Fishing tournaments that meet certain criteria may be granted an exemption from the culling restriction by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection. See section 26-159a-26 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

**Striped bass spearing or gaffing is prohibited.**

Striped bass may only be taken by angling (spearing is prohibited) and the use of a gaff in the taking of striped bass is prohibited. However, striped bass legally taken by spearing in another state may be landed in Connecticut.

**Summer flounder filleting.**

If summer flounder are filleted onboard either: 1. each fillet is required to meet the minimum fish length, or 2. the carcass (rack) of the fish from which the fillet was removed has to be retained and the carcass has to meet the minimum length. This rule shall not be construed to prevent filleting of fish on shore or dockside.

**Mixed commercial and sport fishing trips.**

No person engaged in sport fishing shall also, during the same trip for which the creel limit applies, possess any fish taken under commercial fishery trip limits. Note that commercial fishery possession limits apply to the aggregate of all persons onboard, meaning if one person on a vessel is commercial fishing the entire vessel is limited to the commercial trip limit even if the other anglers on that vessel are sport fishing.

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