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26

2012 2013 2014



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Saltwater Fishing Regulations - Recreational

The new 2013 recreational fishing regulations for summer flounder, scup and black sea bass have been adopted. For more background information on these regulations please refer to the [DEC press release](#).

These regulations are also available as a [printable PDF \(35 KB\)](#).

Please check with the Bureau of Marine Resources (contact information at right) to ensure the fishing limits below are in effect. To read the actual regulations, please follow the links to the right: marine fish (6 NYCRR Part 40) or lobster and crabs (6 NYCRR Part 44).

Most anglers must enroll in the [recreational marine fishing registry](#) when fishing for the species listed below.

Effective Date: April 29, 2013

Marine Recreational Fishing Limits

Species	Size Limits (Total Length in Inches)*	Daily Possession Limits (Number of Fish)	Open Seasons
Summer flounder (fluke)	19	4	May 1 - Sept 29
Winter flounder	12	2	April 1 - May 30
Tautog (blackfish)	16	4	Oct 5 - Dec 14
Bluefish (including "snappers")	No minimum size for first 10 fish 12 TL for the next 5	15 No more than 10 of which shall be less than 12" TL	All year
Weakfish	16 10 filleted 12 dressed	1	All year
Atlantic cod**	22	10**	All year
Pollock	19	No limit	All year

Find on this Page

[Recreational Shark Limits](#)

Important Links

[Print copy: Marine Recreational Fishing Limits \(PDF, 35 KB\)](#)[Part 40 - Marine Fish Regulations \(Includes Commercial Regulations\)](#)[Part 44 - Lobster and Crab Regulations](#)

PDF Help

For help with PDFs on this page, please call 631-444-0430.

Contact for this Page

Bureau of Marine Resources
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(south of George Washington Bridge) <i>Anglers aboard licensed party/charter boats</i>	28	2***	Apr 15 - Dec 15
Striped bass: marine waters (south of George Washington Bridge) <i>All other anglers</i>	28 - 40 >40	1 1	Apr 15 - Dec 15
Striped bass: Hudson River north of George Washington Bridge	18	1	Mar 16 - Nov 30
Red drum	No minimum size	No limit for fish less than 27" TL. Fish greater than 27" shall not be possessed.	All year
Spanish mackerel	14	15	All year
King mackerel	23	3	All year
Cobia	37	2	All year
Atlantic sturgeon	Moratorium	Moratorium	Moratorium
Black Sea Bass	13	8	July 10 - Dec 31
Scup (Porgy)	10	30	May 1 - Dec 31
Scup (Porgy) <i>Anglers aboard licensed party/charter boats</i>	10	30 45	May 1 - Dec 31 Sept 1 - Oct 31
American eel	6	50	All year
Monkfish (goose fish)	17 11 tail length	Any number	All year
Anadromous river herring (alewife and blueback herring)#	Possession Prohibited	Possession Prohibited	Possession Prohibited
American Shad	Possession Prohibited	Possession Prohibited	Possession Prohibited
Hickory Shad	No size limit	5	All year
Yellowtail flounder	13	No limit	All year
Oyster toadfish	10	3	July 16 - May 14
Horseshoe crabs	No size limit	5	All year
Blue Crab+ <i>Hard Shell</i>	4 1/2" 3 1/2" 3"	50	All year

American lobster+ (Recreational permit required)	3 3/8" minimum carapace length 5 1/4" maximum carapace length	6	All year
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*Total length is the longest straight line measurement from the tip of the snout, with the mouth closed, to the longest lobe of the tail, with the lobes squeezed together, and the fish laid flat on the measuring device.

Exception: Black sea bass are measured from the tip of the snout (or jaw), with the mouth closed, to the farthest extremity of the tail, not including the tail filament.

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

***A party/charter boat customer who lands and possesses 2 striped bass during April 15 to December 15 or more than 30 scup during September 1 - October 31 must obtain a dated original fare receipt from the licensed vessel.

Anadromous river herring is defined in 6 NYCRR Part 10 (except the Hudson River and its tributaries and embayments north of the George Washington Bridge at river mile 11).

+ Lobsters and crabs with eggs may not be taken or possessed.

++ Peeler/shedder is when the crab is about to molt or shed its hard outer shell. At this stage, the crab has a fully formed soft shell beneath the hard outer shell. The impending shedding process is evident by the white coloration along the outer rim of the paddle-like appendages on the crab's fifth pair of legs.

Recreational Fishing Regulations for Sharks

Category	Species	Minimum Size Limit	Daily Possession Limit
Allowed Sharks	Tiger, Blacktip, Bull, Great hammerhead, Lemon, Nurse, Scalloped hammerhead, Smooth hammerhead, Spinner, Blue, Shortfin mako, Oceanic whitetip, Porbeagle, Common Thresher	54 inches fork length*	One shark per vessel per trip, except that one additional Atlantic Sharpnose and one additional Bonnethead may be taken and possessed per angler per trip.
	Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead, Finetooth, Blacknose	No size limit	
	Smooth Dogfish, Spiny Dogfish	No size limit	Any number
Prohibited	Atlantic angel, Galapagos,	No	No

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	tiger, Bignose, Caribbean reef, Caribbean sharpnose, Smalltail, Dusky, Whale, White+, Silky and Sandbar, Sharpnose sevengill, Bluntnose sixgill.		
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* Fork length means the straightline measurement of a fish from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail. The measurement is not made along the curve of the body.

+ A person may fish for white sharks with rod and reel, provided the person releases such fish immediately with a minimum of injury and that such fish may not be removed from the water.

Other provisions

All landed sharks must have head, tails and fins attached.

No sale allowed.

No finning.