








28 captures 18 Jun 2016 - 9 Nov 2018		Atlantic Sturgeon	NA	1/1 - 12/31	Go	JAN APR JUN Prohibited in state waters 15 2016 2017 2018	    	▼ About this capture
		Black Sea Bass	11"	Sub-Periods 1/1 - 4/30 5/1 - 6/30 7/1 - 7/31 CLOSED 8/1 - 9/14 9/15 - 10/31 11/1 - 12/31		600 lbs/vsl/wk  Sunday April 16 700 lbs/vsl/wk		
		Bluefish	12"	1/1 - 4/30 5/1 - 11/15 11/16 - 12/31		500 lbs/vsl/wk  Sunday April 16 750 lbs/vsl/wk		
		Cod	19"	5/1 - 4/30		1,000 lbs/vsl/day		
		Coastal Sharks- Smoothhound	No minimum	1/1 - 12/31		Unlimited		
		Coastal Sharks- Non-Blacknose Small Coastal Sharks	No Minimum	1/1 - 12/31		Unlimited		
		Coastal Sharks- Blacknose	No minimum	1/1 - 12/31		Closed		
		Coastal Sharks- Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks	No minimum	1/1 - 12/31		25 sharks/vsl/day  Sunday April 16 3 sharks/vsl/day		
		Coastal Sharks- Hammerhead	No minimum	1/1 - 12/31		25 sharks/vsl/day		
		Coastal Sharks- Pelagic	No minimum	1/1 - 12/31		Unlimited		
		Spiny Dogfish	No Minimum	5/1 - 4/30		6,000 lbs/vsl/day		
		Summer Flounder (Fluke)	With Exemption Certificate  14"	Sub-Periods 1/1 - 4/30 5/1 - 9/15 9/16 -12/31		200 lbs/vsl/day  1,300 lbs/vsl/bi-wk with aggregate permit		

28 captures

18 Jun 2016 - 9 Nov 2018

## 2017 RECREATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES

JAN APR JUN

15

2016 2017 2018



▼ About this capture

Species	Minimum size	Season	Possession Limit
American eel	9"	1/1 - 12/31	25 eels/person/day 50 eels/vsl/day for licensed party/charter vessels
American plaice (dab)	14"	1/1 - 12/31	No limit
Black Sea Bass	15"	5/25 - 8/31 9/1 - 9/21 9/22 - 10/21 10/22 - 12/31	3 fish/person/day 7 fish/person/day Closed 7 fish/person/day
Bluefish	No minimum	1/1 - 12/31	15 fish/person/day
Cod	22"	1/1 - 12/31	10 fish/person/day
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	19"	5/1 - 12/31	4 fish/person/day
Monkfish (Goosefish)	17" whole 11" tail	1/1 - 12/31	50 lbs tails/day or 166 lbs whole/day
Haddock	18"	1/1 - 12/31	No limit
Pollock	19"	1/1 - 12/31	No limit
Scup (Shore and Private)	10"	5/1 - 12/31	30 fish/person/day

**Special Area Provisions:** While fishing from shore at India Point Park in Providence; Conimicut Park in Warwick; Rocky Point, Warwick; Stone Bridge in Tiverton; East and West Walls (Harbor of Refuge), Narragansett; Fort Wetherill, Jamestown; and Fort Adams, Newport; anglers may possess up to 30 scup 9 inches or greater in length from May 1, through December 31

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Scup (Party and Charter)

10"

5/1 - 8/31

9/1 - 10/31

11/1 - 12/31

Go

JAN APR JUN

30 fish/person/day

45 fish/person/day

30 fish/person/day



About this capture

Skate

No minimum

1/1 - 12/31

10 fish/person/day

Striped Bass

28"

1/1 - 12/31

1 fish/person/day

**Striped Bass Fin Clipping:** All striped bass 34 inches or larger harvested recreationally must have the entire right pectoral fin removed at the time of harvest

Tautog

16"

4/15 - 5/31

6/1 - 7/31

8/1 - 10/14

10/15 - 12/15

3 fish/person/day

CLOSED

3 fish/person/day

6 fish/person/day

Max of 10 fish/vsl

during all periods

Tautog (Party and Charter)

16"

4/15 - 5/31

6/1 - 7/31

8/1 - 10/14

10/15 - 12/15

3 fish/person/day

CLOSED

3 fish/person/day

6 fish/person/day

Weakfish  
(Squeteague)

16"

1/1 - 12/31

1 fish/person/day

Winter Flounder  
(Blackback)

12"

3/1 - 12/31

2 fish/person/day

The harvesting or possession of winter flounder is PROHIBITED in Narragansett Bay north of the Colregs Line of Demarcation as well as in Potter and Point Judith Ponds

Witch Flounder  
(Gray Sole)

14"

1/1 - 12/31

No limit

Yellowtail Flounder

13"

1/1 - 12/31

No limit

## LOBSTERS, BLUE CRABS, and HORSESHOE CRABS

### Minimum Sizes and Possession Limits

For more detailed lobster, blue crab, or horseshoe crab regulations [click here](#)

## Lobsters

**THE POSSESSION OF EGG-BEARING LOBSTERS IS PROHIBITED**

Go D. ALL LEGAL SIZED EGGS

28 captures

**BEARING LOBSTERS MUST BE V-NOTCHED****15**

18 Jun 2016 - 17 Nov 2018

**Harvesting by licensed residents only, all lobsters must be measured IMMEDIATELY**

2016 2017 2018 About this capture

measuring less than the legal minimum size of 3-3/8" carapace length must be returned immediately to the water from which taken.

**Measuring:** The carapace length is measured from the rear of the eye socket along a line parallel to the centerline of the body shell to the rear end of the body shell.

**Blue Crabs:****THE POSSESSION OF EGG-BEARING BLUE CRABS IS PROHIBITED.**

Harvesting by residents only, by crab net, dip net, scoop net, handline and trot line only. It is illegal to harvest crabs from sunset to sunrise. All blue crabs measuring less than the legal minimum size of five inches (5") from spike-end to spike-end must be returned immediately to the water from which taken. No person shall possess, take, or attempt to take more than twenty-five (25) blue crabs from any of the waters of Rhode Island except when taken by a scoop or crab net, trot, or hand line.

**Measuring:** A direct line measured from the end of one spike across the body shell to the end of the opposite spike must be no less than five inches (5").

**Horseshoe Crabs:**

No person shall harvest horseshoe crabs from waters or shoreline of the state during the 48-hour period preceding and the 48-hour period following the new and full moons during the months of May, June, and July annually. No person shall harvest horseshoe crabs for commercial or recreational purposes on or within 100 feet seaward of Patience and Prudence Islands in Narragansett Bay.

**Commercial:** It is illegal for any person to harvest horseshoe crabs in Rhode Island for commercial purposes without a Multi-Purpose Commercial Marine license and a Horseshoe Crab Harvest Permit. There is an annual commercial harvest quota allocated to the State of Rhode Island by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC).

**Recreational:** It is illegal for any person to harvest horseshoe crabs in Rhode Island for recreational purposes without a Horseshoe Crab Harvest Permit. Any resident with a Horseshoe Crab Harvest Permit may possess not more than five (5) horseshoe crabs in any calendar day. Horseshoe Crab Harvest Permits are obtainable at the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Fisheries Section.

**SHELLFISH****Minimum Sizes**

Shellfishing is prohibited statewide between sunset and sunrise

