

**Table 4. Summary of Atlantic coast red drum regulations by state/jurisdiction, as of October 1, 2002 (N/A = Not Applicable).**

State	Size Limit (TL inches)	Possession Limit	Other	Meets FMP requirement ?
ME <sup>1</sup>	None	None	None	N/A
NH <sup>1</sup>	18" - 27"	None	0 fish > 27" TL	N/A
MA <sup>1</sup>	14"	None	None	N/A
CT <sup>1</sup>	None	None	0 fish < 32" TL	N/A
RI <sup>1</sup>	None	None	None	N/A
NY <sup>1</sup>	14"	None	2 fish > 32" TL	N/A
NJ <sup>2</sup>	18" - 27"	None	1 fish > 27" TL	No
PA <sup>1</sup>	None	None	None	Yes
DE <sup>3</sup>	18" - 27"	5 fish	1 fish > 27" TL	No
MD	18" - 25"	5 fish	0 fish > 25" TL; commercial fishery subject to same possession limits	Yes
PRFC <sup>4</sup>	18" - 27"	5 fish	1 fish > 27" TL	No
VA <sup>5</sup>	18" - 27"	5 fish	1 fish > 27" TL	No
NC	18" - 27"	1 fish	0 fish > 27" TL; Annual commercial cap = 250,000 lbs.; daily trip limit of 7 fish, must be less than 50% of catch (pounds); gill nets < 5" stretch mesh must be tended from 5/1-10/31	Yes
SC	15" - 24"	2 fish	Gamefish - no sale; 0 fish > 24"	Yes
GA	14" - 23"	5 fish	0 fish > 23" TL	Yes
FL	18" - 27"	1 fish	Gamefish - no sale	Yes

<sup>1</sup> State is not a part of the management unit; Amendment 2 recommends (non-mandatory) prohibition on harvest, possession and sale of red drum greater than 27" TL (Maine is the only state to respond, no intent at this time to implement regulations for red drum unless a need arises, Commissioner has emergency regulatory authority).

<sup>2</sup> In process of changing regulations by notice; Marine Council to meet in early Nov.; anticipate having new regulations in place by Jan. 1, 2003; however, no specific proposal was provided.

<sup>3</sup> No specific proposal submitted; considering 5 fish, 20-27"; in process of soliciting public input; will implement new regulations in early 2003; will also be requesting *de minimis* status as only a handful of red drum are caught each year.

<sup>4</sup> In process of soliciting public comment; Commission meeting scheduled for Nov. 14.; proposing a 27" TL maximum size limit, i.e. 0 fish > 27", for all fisheries; bag and size limits to be determined based on Amendment 2 guidelines (Table 19) to attain 40% SPR; measures to be effective Jan. 1, 2003.

<sup>5</sup> In process of soliciting public comment; considering two options: 1) 5 fish at 20-27" TL, or 2) 3 fish at 18-26" TL; public hearing scheduled for early Nov. 2002, with final Commission action at that time; measures to be effective Jan. 1, 2003.

## **VIII. Recommendations of FMP Review Team**

### **Management and Regulatory Recommendations**

1. ASMFC and the Regional Fishery Management Councils should continue to collaborate on