http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/fish-wildlife/marine-fisheries/mfsizes.php

28 captures
18 Jun 2016 - 9 Nov 2018

DEC FEB MAR

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About this capture



# **Marine Fisheries Minimum Sizes & Possession Limits**

Minimum sizes are measured for Total Length (TL) [TL is from tip of snout to tip of tail]

#### **COMMERCIAL**

#### **RECREATIONAL**

### LOBSTERS, BLUE CRABS & HORSESHOE CRABS

#### **SHELLFISH**

#### **COMMERCIAL FISHERIES**

#### "Restricted finfish" indicated in Red

Possession limits and open fisheries are subject to change. To participate in commercial fisheries a Rhode Island commercial fishing license and appropriate endorsements are required.

#### For current COMMERCIAL POSSESSION LIMITS call 423-1920

SPECIES	MINIMUM SIZE	SEASON	CURRENT COMMERCIAL POSSESSION LIMIT
American Eel	9"	Closed 9/1 - 12/31 for any gear other than baited pots or spears	No limit
American Plaice (dab)	12"	1/1 - 12/31	No limit
American Shad	NA	1/1 - 12/31	Prohibited in state waters
Atlantic Salmon	NA	1/1 - 12/31	Prohibited in state waters

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<b>28 captures</b> 18 Jun 2016 - 9 No	Atlantic Sturgeon	NA	1/1 - 12/31	Prohibited in state waters	of 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	500 lbs/vsl/wk	
	Bluefish	12"	1/1 - 4/30 5/1 - 11/15 11/16 - 12/31	500 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	36 sharks/vsl/day	
	Coastal Sharks- Hammerhead	No minimum	1/1 - 12/31	25 sharks/vsl/day	
	Coastal Sharks- Pelagic  Spiny Dogfish		1/1 - 12/31	Unlimited	
			5/1 - 4/30	6,000 lbs/vsl/day	
	Summer Flounder (Fluke)	With Exemption Certificate	Sub-Periods 1/1 - 4/30 5/1 - 9/15 9/16 -12/31	100 lbs/vsl/day 1,500 lbs/vsl/bi-wk with aggregate permit	

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		Without	Sub-Periods	<del>_</del>	② ② <b>③</b>
28 captures	2010	Exemption	1/1 - 4/30	<b>25 &gt;</b>	f y
18 Jun 2016 - 9 No	v 2018	Certificate	5/1 - 9/15	2017 <sub>10</sub> 2018/v2019v	▼ About this capture
		14"	9/16 -12/31		
	Horseshoe Crab Bait Fishery	7"	1/1 - 4/30 6/1 - 12/31	60 crabs/person/day	
	Menhaden inside Management Area	No Minimum	1/1 - 12/31	Closed Bycatch Only	
	Menhaden outside Management Area	No Minimum	1/1 - 12/31	Unlimited	
	Monkfish	17" whole/ 11" tail	5/1 - 4/30	700 lbs/vsl/day tails or 2,037 lbs/vsl/day whole fish	
	Haddock	16"	1/1 - 12/31	No limit	
	Pollock		1/1 - 12-31	No limit	
	Scup	General Category 9"	Sub-Periods 1/1 - 4/30 (fed quota) 5/1 - 9/15 9/16 - 10/31 11/1 - 12/31 (fed quota)	50,000 lbs/vsl/day	
	Scup	Floating traps 9"	Sub-Periods 1/1 - 4/30 (fed quota) 5/1 - 10/31 11/1 - 12/31 (fed quota)	50,000 lbs/vsl/day	
	Striped bass	General Category 34"	Sub-Periods 5/28 - 8/31 9/10 - 12/31 CLOSED Fri/Sat thru-out	Closed	
		Floating traps 26"	4/1 - 12/31	Closed	

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#### **RECREATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES**

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<b>28 captures</b> 18 Jun 2016 - 9 Noy 2018	Species	Minimum size	Season	 s n Limit	About this capture

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

Scup (Party and Charter)	10"	5/1 - 8/31 9/1 - 10/31 11/1 - 12/31	30 fish/person/day 45 fish/person/day 30 fish/person/day
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LOBSTERS, BLUE CRABS, and HORSESH Go RAESS FEB MAR

Minimum Sizes and Possession Limits

About this capture

28 captures

18 Jun 2016 - 9 Nov 2018 **2018** 2019

For more detailed lobster, blue crab, or horseshoe crab regulations click here

#### Lobsters

## THE POSSESSION OF EGG-BEARING LOBSTERS IS PROHIBITED. ALL LEGAL SIZED EGG-BEARING LOBSTERS MUST BE V-NOTCHED.

Harvesting by licensed residents only, all lobsters must be measured IMMEDIATELY. All lobsters 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 month of May 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.

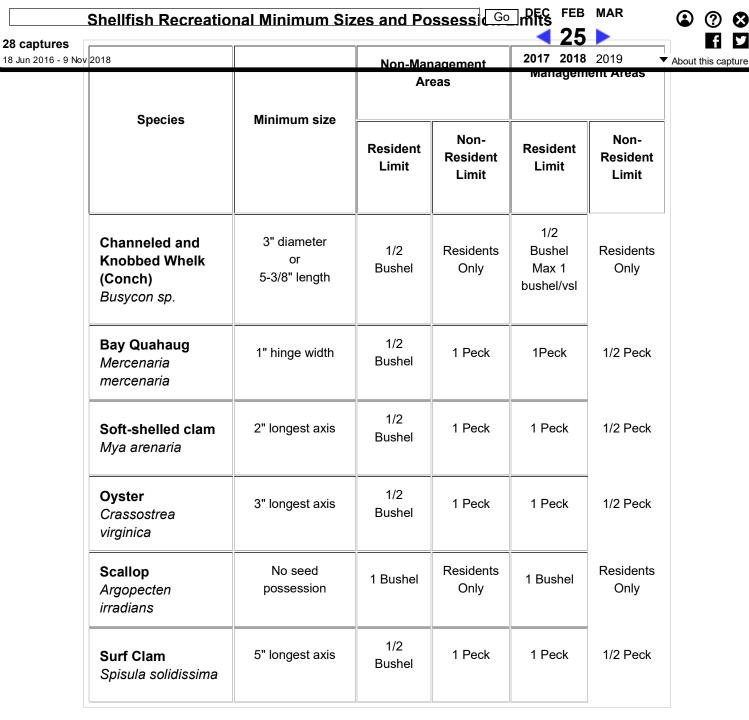
Commercial: It is illegal for any person to harvest horseshoe crabs in Rhode Island for commercial purposes without a Multi-Purpose Commercial License and a Horseshoe Crab Harvest Permit. There is an annual commercial harvest quota allocated to the State of Rhode Island by the Atlantic States Marine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

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