

# rules changed for 2015

Posted Saturday, December 20, 2014 12:04 pm

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CONCORD, N.H. (AP) >> New Hampshire's Fish and Game Department says changes have been made to rules for catching smelt, striped bass, white perch, haddock and cod for 2015,

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Daily limits have been reduced for smelt to accommodate a decline and striped bass to comply with a fishery management

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The daily limit of 25 white perch for coastal waters now matches the limit for inland waters.

To reflect changes in federal law, there's now a daily limit of three haddock, and a closed season for harvesting haddock from March 1-April 30 and from Sept. 1-Nov. 30. For cod, the size limit has increased from 19 to 21 inches, and the closed season in state waters is now Sept. 1 through April 14. For more than 3 miles from shore, all cod caught must be immediately returned to the water.

"I also advise marine anglers to regularly check the 'Coastal' section of the New Hampshire Fish and Game website throughout the year, as there may be further changes to both the state and federal rules for both cod and haddock during 2015 to address changing resource conditions for these two species," said Doug Grout, chief of marine fisheries for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.

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