



1999 Recreational Marine Minimum Size, Possession Limits and Seasons

Below is a summary of recreational marine fish minimum size, possession limits and seasons. More detailed information is found in the **Fish & Wildlife DIGEST**, available at Division offices and most coastal bait and tackle shops.

Prohibited Species

It is illegal to take, possess or land any of the following species:

- Atlantic sturgeon
- Basking shark
- Bigeye sand tiger shark
- Sand tiger shark
- Shortnose sturgeon
- Whale shark
- White shark

Regulation Summary Table

Fish are measured from tip of snout to tip of tail (except Black sea bass). Cleaning or filleting of fish with a minimum size limit while at sea is prohibited

SPECIES	MINIMUM SIZE	POSSESSION LIMIT	NOTES
American eel	6"	no limit	
Black sea bass	10"	no limit	see illustration for measuring
Blue crab	peeler or shedder - 3" soft - 3½" hard - 4½"	one bushel	measured point to point; see illustration
Bluefish	no minimum size	10	
Cobia	37"	2	
Cod	21"	no limit	
Haddock	21"	no limit	
Hard Clam	1½"	150	see illustration
King mackerel	23"	3	
Lobster	3¼" (carapace length)	6	
Pollock	19"	no limit	

Red drum	18"	5	only one fish over 27"
Scup (porgy)	7"	no limit	
Shad	no minimum size	6	
Shark	23" (alternate length) or 48" (total length)	2 per vessel	see illustration
Spanish mackerel	14"	10	
Striped bass or Hybrid striped bass	28"	2	Delaware R. & tribs. (Trenton Falls to Salem R. & tribs.): Mar. 1 - 31 and June 1 - Dec. 31 Delaware R. & tribs. (Upstream of Trenton Falls): Mar. 1 - Dec. 31 Atlantic Ocean (0-3 miles from shore): no closed season. All other marine waters open Mar. 1 - Dec. 31
Summer flounder (fluke)	15½"	8	Open season: May 15 - Oct. 11
Tautog	14"	see notes	Open seasons: Oct. 10 - May 31: 10 fish limit June 1 - Oct. 9: 1 fish limit
Weakfish	14"	14	
Winter flounder	10"	no limit	Open seasons: March 1 - May 31 Sept. 15 - Dec. 31

