



Commercial Fishery Possession and Landing Limits Effective: June 1, 2024

Species	Status	Limit	Comments
American Lobster	OPEN		Lobster Pot Allocation required to take lobsters by pot. During the closed season: Sep 8-Nov 28, both dates inclusive, possession of lobster taken from Long Island Sound (LMA 6) is prohibited. Beginning Nov. 15 th , gear may be redeployed but traps cannot be baited until Nov. 22 nd Minimum size: 3 3/8"
American shad	OPEN Closes June 16 th		Open: April 1– June 15, except weekends. American Shad may be taken in the Connecticut River only. Maximum gillnet soak time = 4 hours
Atlantic menhaden	OPEN	12,000 lb ¹ 120,000 ²	¹ Call-in required when in possession of more than 6,000 lb. EnCon Police: 860-424-3503 ² Taken from outside of CT waters. ³ The directed fishery is closed. The incidental fishery remains open with a 6,000-pound possession limit.
Black Sea Bass	OPEN Effective 0001 hours Sunday, June 16 th : 1500lb ¹ 60lb ²	300lb ¹ 60lb ²	¹ Black Sea Bass License Endorsement required to take sea bass – INCLUDING from lobster traps. ² Possession limit for the commercial harvest of black sea bass caught in lobster traps and when in possession of lobsters, no license endorsement required. Does not apply to personal use lobster license holders. Call-in required for landings from lobster pots: provide name, plate number, reporting week ending date and total pounds landed from pots during the reporting week: 860-447-4323 Minimum size: 11" See page 4 for quota status
Bluefish	OPEN	800 lb	Minimum size: 9" See page 5 for quota status
Jonah crab	OPEN	Lobster Pot: No Limit Non-trap: 1,000 crabs	Minimum size = 4.75-inch carapace length.
Scup	OPEN Effective 0001 hours Sunday, June 16 th : 1,500lb ² 100 fish ^A 10 fish ^B	2,000lb ² 100 fish ^A 10 fish ^B	¹ NO Scup License Endorsement letter is required to land scup during the Winter 1 and Winter 2 periods (Jan-April, Oct-Dec) ² Scup License Endorsement required May 1 – Sep 30, EXCEPT: (A) Under a Restricted Commercial Fishing License: 100 fish limit (B) In the commercial Lobster Pot Fishery: 10 fish limit Minimum size: 9" See page 6 for quota status
Spiny dogfish	OPEN	7,500 lb ¹	¹ By fisherman agreement first dorsal fin must remain attached to the carcass as required by ASMFC FMP ASMFC 2023-2024 Northern Region (ME-CT) quota: 6,960,000lb
Smooth dogfish	OPEN	500 lb ¹	¹ By fisherman agreement first dorsal fin must remain attached to the carcass as required by ASMFC FMP. See page 8 for quota status
Summer flounder	OPEN Effective 0001 hours Sunday, June 16 th : 250lb ¹	150lb ¹	¹ Summer Flounder License Endorsement required. ² When required prior to departure and again before offloading call EnCon Police at 860-424-3503 24/7 and provide vessel name, captain's name, departure date, return date, port of landing and prior to offloading, the hail weight of fluke onboard. Minimum size: 14" See page 7 for quota status
Tautog*	CLOSED* May 1 st -June 30 th		¹ When fishing under a Limited Access Commercial Fishing License (non-creel limited). ² When fishing under a Restricted Commercial Fishing or a creel-limited license. Open commercial seasons are: April 1-30, July 1-Aug 31, Oct 8 - Dec 24 Minimum size: 16" *Tautog tagging program mandated for 2024 *APPLICATION*
Winter flounder	OPEN	50 lb or 38 fish	State waters closed to harvest March 1 through April 14. Federally permitted vessels are permitted to land the higher federal limits of fish taken from federal waters. Minimum Size: 12"
Weakfish	OPEN	100 lb	Minimum size: 16"
Whelk	OPEN		Minimum size effective 01/01/2024: 5" shell length or 2" shell height.

All of the possession limits listed above apply to the aggregate of all persons on board the vessel per trip or per day whichever is the longer period of time. Transfer of these species between vessels at sea is prohibited. In any instance where there is a violation of the possession limit on board a vessel carrying more than one person when the catch is commingled, the violation shall be deemed to have been committed by the owner of the vessel, or the operator of the vessel, if the owner is not on board. **When any person on a vessel is commercial fishing, the commercial possession limit applies to the entire vessel and no person on that vessel may also possess fish under a recreational creel limit.**

Principal State Quota-Managed Species – 2024 Adjustments.

	Summer Flounder Minimum Size: 14” 2024 quota = 198,394lb (initial) CT share=2.257% of coast-wide annual quota.	Scup Minimum Size: 9” 2024 summer period quota = 259,783lb (initial) CT share=3.154% of summer period coast-wide quota.	Black Sea Bass Minimum Size: 11” 2024 quota = 220,171lb (initial) CT share= 3.67% of coastwide annual quota.	Bluefish Minimum Size: 9” 2024 quota = 28,821lb (initial) CT share= 1.19% of coastwide annual quota.
June 16	250lb	1,500lb, RCFL 100 Fish, 10 fish from lobster pots	150lb, 60lb from lobster pots	800lb
May 1	150lb	2,000lb, RCFL 100 Fish, 10 fish from lobster pots	300lb, 60lb from lobster pots	800lb
April 21	700lb bi-weekly	50,000lb	CLOSED	800lb
April 7	700lb bi-weekly	50,000lb	400lb bi-weekly	800lb
March 10	500lb bi-weekly	50,000lb	800lb bi-weekly	800lb
January 1	500lb bi-weekly	50,000lb	2,000lb bi-weekly	800lb
Winter 1 Period	<p>Jan 1-April 30</p> <p>500lb bi-weekly</p> <p>Summer Flounder License Endorsement required.</p> <p>The two-week periods begin at 0001 hours on Sunday morning and end on the second Saturday night at 2359.</p> <p>The two-week periods are: 1/1-1/13, 1/14-1/27, 1/28-2/10,2/11- 2/24 2/25-3/9, 3/10-3/23, 3/24-4/6, 4/7-4/20 etc</p> <p>Call-in/Call-out is required. Adjust limit to land not more than 20% of the annual quota by April 30. If the period target quota is met before April 30, the possession limit shall be 50lb.</p> <p>Summer Flounder License Endorsement required.</p>	<p>Jan 1-April 30</p> <p>50,000lb (Federal Winter 1 guidelines).</p> <p>No Scup License Endorsement Required during Winter 1 or Winter 2 periods.</p> <p>Adjust limit to 1,000lb when 80% of the Period quota has been harvested.</p>	<p>Jan 1-April 30</p> <p>2,000lb bi-weekly</p> <p>A black sea bass license endorsement is required to land sea bass.</p> <p>The two-week periods begin at 0001 hours on Sunday morning and end on the second Saturday night at 2359. The two-week periods are: 1/1-1/13, 1/14-1/27, 1/28-2/10,2/11- 2/24 2/25-3/9, 3/10-3/23, 3/24-4/6, 4/7-4/20 etc</p> <p>Adjust limit to land not more than 20% of the annual quota through April 30.</p>	<p>Jan 1-April 30</p> <p>800lb</p> <p>Possession limits will be adjusted periodically to maintain a steady monthly landing rate and prevent in-season closure, with the goal of landing 100% of the annual quota.</p>
PLANNED Summer Period	May 1 – Oct 31 150lb all gears.	May 1 – Sep 30	May 1 – Oct 31 300lb	May 1 – Oct 31 800lb all gears.

	<p>Summer Flounder License Endorsement required.</p> <p>Adjusted periodically to maintain consistent weekly landings rate and to land not more than 95% of the annual quota cumulatively through October 31.</p>	<p>2,000lb for Scup License Endorsement Holders, 100 fish without Scup Endorsement <i>and</i> fishing under a Restricted Commercial Fishing License.</p> <p>Commercial lobster pot fisherman may, when in possession of lobster, possess 10 Scup. Does not apply to personal use lobster license holders.</p> <p>Adjusted periodically to maintain consistent weekly landings rate, prevent in-season closure and take 100% of the summer period quota by September 30.</p>	<p>The limit will be adjusted periodically to maintain a steady weekly landing rate with the goal of landing not more than 95% of the annual quota through October 31st</p> <p>A black sea bass license endorsement is required to land sea bass.</p>	<p>Adjusted periodically to prevent in-season closure. To prevent significant change in the character of the fishery, the possession limit will not exceed 800lb.</p>
<p>PLANNED Winter 2 Period</p>	<p>Nov 1-Dec 31</p> <p>250lb weekly all gears</p> <p>Summer Flounder License Endorsement required.</p>	<p>Oct 1- Dec 31</p> <p>12,000lb</p> <p>(Federal Winter 2 guidelines).</p> <p>No Scup License Endorsement required during Winter 2.</p>	<p>Nov 1-Dec 31</p> <p>300lb</p> <p>A black sea bass license endorsement is required to land sea bass.</p>	<p>Nov 1-Dec 31</p> <p>800lb</p>