

Commercial Black Sea Bass and Summer Flounder Fisheries Winter I Bi-Weekly Possession Limit Changes

NOTICE

Effective at the start of the next biweekly landing period, 0001 hours Sunday, April 7, 2024, the following Winter I bi-weekly possession limits will be in effect for Connecticut's commercial fisheries:

Black Sea Bass: the bi-weekly possession limit will be reduced to 400 lbs.

As of Wednesday, April 3, 2024, the Department estimates that more than 17% of Connecticut's adjusted 2024 commercial black sea bass quota has been landed, and that without a reduction in possession limit, the Winter I period (January 1 through April 30) cumulative landings target (20% of the 2024 quota) will be exceeded prior to the end of the Winter 1 period. Connecticut's 2024 commercial black sea bass quota was adjusted from 220,171 lbs to 245,171 lbs via quota transfers from the states of Maine and New Hampshire.

Summer Flounder: the bi-weekly possession limit will be increased to 700 lbs.

As of Wednesday, April 3, 2024, the Department estimates 13.2% of Connecticut's 2024 commercial summer flounder quota has been landed, and that without an increase in the possession limit, the Winter I period (January 1 through April 30) cumulative landings target (20% of the 2024 quota) will not be met prior to the end of the Winter 1 period.

Federally-licensed seafood dealers are reminded: [Dealers must submit all reports for a reporting week \(Sunday to Saturday\) by midnight of the following Tuesday.](#)

For current commercial fishery trip limits and quota status, call 860-434-6374 24/7 for a recorded message of current possession limits, or visit www.ct.gov/deep/TL.

The Department monitors landings and adjusts trip limits according to Department regulations in an attempt to provide fishing opportunity throughout the year for all participants in the commercial fishery. In addition, the Department strives to provide advance notification of trip limit changes, although this may not always be possible due to rapidly escalating or unanticipated landings. In such circumstances, only a short notification period may be possible.

For complete information on commercial fishing regulations please see: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/fishing/commercial/marinecircpdf.pdf>, or contact the DEEP Marine Fisheries Program by email at deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov, by mail at PO Box 719, Old Lyme, CT 06371 or leaving a voicemail at 860.434.6043 between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint, or require some other accommodation, including equipment to facilitate virtual participation, please contact us at 860-418-5910 or by email at deep.accommodations@ct.gov. Any person needing an accommodation for hearing impairment may call the State of Connecticut relay number - 711. In order

to facilitate efforts to provide an accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, meeting, program or event.