

## Commercial Possession Limit Increases

### NOTICE

Effective 0000 hours, Saturday, August 31, 2024, the following possession limits will be in effect for Connecticut's commercial fisheries:

#### Black Sea Bass

- 140 pounds for holders of a Black Sea Bass License Endorsement.
- From lobster pots when in possession of lobsters: 0 pounds. The black sea bass allowance from commercial lobster pots was previously discontinued for the remainder of 2024.

As of Wednesday, August 28, 2024, the Department estimates 63.9% of Connecticut's 2024 commercial black sea bass quota has been landed.

#### Scup

- 2,500 pounds for holders of a Scup License Endorsement.
- For Restricted Commercial Fishing License holders: 100 fish.
- From lobster pots when in possession of lobsters: 10 fish. This does not apply to personal use lobster license holders.

As of Wednesday, August 28, 2024, the Department estimates 45.8% of Connecticut's adjusted 2024 summer period commercial scup quota has been landed.

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

### REMINDERS:

- The commercial blackfish fishery will be closed effective 0000 hours, Sunday September 1, 2024, and will reopen October 8, 2024.
- The possession limit applies to the vessel, regardless of how many persons are on board. Possession limits apply per trip or per day, whichever is the longer period of time. Transfer of black sea bass between vessels at sea is prohibited.

**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 <https://portal.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](mailto:deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov), by mail at PO Box 719, Old Lyme, CT 06371 or by calling 860.434.6043 between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

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