

## Commercial Black Sea Bass and Scup Fisheries Possession Limit Increases

### NOTICE

Effective 0001 hours, Sunday, August 24, 2025, the following possession limits will be in effect for Connecticut's commercial fisheries:

#### Black Sea Bass possession limits:

- 500 pounds for holders of a Black Sea Bass License Endorsement.
- From lobster pots, when in possession of lobsters: 60 pounds. No Black Sea Bass License Endorsement required. This does not apply to personal use lobster license holders.

**Call-in required for Black Sea Bass landings from lobster pots:** To provide for timely monitoring of Black Sea Bass landings from lobster pots, the Marine Fisheries Program is continuing the **mandatory weekly call-in reporting requirement for black sea bass landings from lobster pots**. Any commercial fisherman landing Black Sea Bass from lobster pots is required to **contact the Marine Fisheries Program weekly (deadline of 2359 hours on Mondays) by calling 860-447-4323** and leaving a message with the following information: the fisherman's name, commercial fishing plate number, the reporting week ending date (reporting weeks run Sunday through Saturday) and total pounds of Black Sea Bass landed from lobster pots during the reporting week.

As of Wednesday, August 20, 2025, the Department estimates that 46.6% of Connecticut's 2025 commercial black sea bass quota of 202,104lb has been landed.

#### Scup:

- 2,000 pounds for holders of a Scup License Endorsement.
- 100 fish for a Restricted Commercial Fishing License Holder.
- 10 fish from lobster pots.

As of Wednesday, August 20, 2025, the Department estimates that 68.4% of Connecticut's 2025 adjusted commercial scup quota of 440,040lb has been landed.

**Federally-permitted seafood dealers are reminded they must submit all reports for a reporting week (Sunday to Saturday) by midnight of the following Tuesday:** <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/resources-fishing/seafood-dealer-reporting-greater-atlantic-region>

### REMINDER:

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.

**For current commercial fishery trip limits and quota status, visit:** <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-TL> or call 860-434-6374 24/7 for a recorded message of current possession limits.

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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