



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

MARK N. MAURIELLO
Acting Commissioner

December 23, 2009

Dear New Jersey Black Sea Bass Permit Holder:
New Jersey Black Sea Bass Dealer:

As required by N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.12(h)8i, the Department must notify all New Jersey Black Sea Bass Permit Holders of the annual and seasonal quotas and trip limits. This letter shall serve as notice regarding the 2010 New Jersey commercial black sea bass quota, seasons, and trip limits.

The 2010 black sea bass coastwide Total Allowable Landings (TAL) is 2.3 million pounds. After deducting the NMFS Research Set-Aside Program's 69,000 pounds, the Coastwide TAL is 2,231,000 pounds, producing a preliminary Coastwide Commercial Quota of 1,093,190 pounds.

The preliminary 2010 black sea bass commercial quota allocated to New Jersey is 218,638 pounds. This quota does not represent any overages that may have occurred by the end of the 2009 season. If the National Marine Fisheries Service adopts coastwide total allowable landings different than 2.3 million pounds, or if the 2009 NJ black sea bass season incurs any overages, the seasonal quotas listed below will be adjusted. After allocating ten percent of the quota for by-catch landings as required by N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.12(h)8, the directed fishery quota for 2010 is 196,774 pounds. This quota is allocated through four seasons as follows:

Directed Season	Directed (pounds)	By-Catch (pounds)
January 1-April 15	76,348	8,483
April 16-June 30	40,535	4,504
July 1-September 30	26,565	2,952
October 1-December 31	53,326	5,925

The daily trip limits and maximum weekly (Sunday to Saturday) landing days for the directed fishery for each season are listed below.

January 1 - April 15 500 pound trip limit with a maximum of four landings per week.
OR
1,000 pound trip limit with a maximum of two landings per week.

April 16 - June 30 500 pound trip limit with a maximum of two landings per week
OR
1,000 pound trip limit with a maximum of one landing per week.

July 1 - Sept. 30 500 pound trip limit with a maximum of two landings per week
OR
1,000 pound trip limit with a maximum of one landing per week.

October 1 - Dec. 31 500 pound trip limit with a maximum of two landings per week
OR
1,000 pound trip limit with a maximum of one landing per week.

When the directed fishery is closed, no vessel shall land or possess any black sea bass in excess of the by-catch trip limit. By-catch landings of black sea bass may not exceed ten percent (10%) by weight of all species landed and sold with a maximum daily trip limit of 100 pounds from January 1 through March 31 or 50 pounds from April 1 through December 31.

New Jersey Black Sea Bass Dealers must provide daily reports during the period January 1 through April 15 and weekly (Sunday through Saturday) reports during the period April 16 through December 31 to the Division of Fish and Wildlife listing the amount of black sea bass landed on a daily basis by vessel and gear type. Reports must be filed electronically on the Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS) **OR** faxed to the Division at the number specified on the reporting form no later than 10:00 AM on the following day for daily reports and 12:01 PM on Monday following the week's end. If no landings occurred, a report to that effect is required. **If a dealer is reporting electronically through SAFIS, a faxed report is not required.**

In addition, any vessel participating in the directed black sea bass fishery must call the Marine Enforcement Office at 609-748-2050 at least two (2) hours prior to off loading and any such off loading may occur only between the hours of 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM from November 1 through April 30 and between 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM from May 1 through October 31.

Commercial seasons, quotas, openings, and closing information is available on the Division of Fish and Wildlife website at www.njfishandwildlife.com/comquotas.htm.

If you have any questions, please call the Bureau of Marine Fisheries at 609-748-2020 or 609-292-7794.

Sincerely,

Brandon Muffley, Chief
Bureau of Marine Fisheries