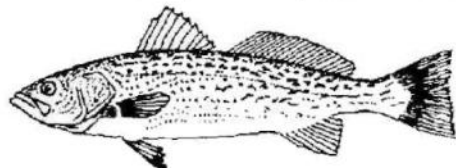


# Saltwater Regulations

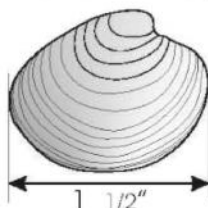
This Revision Dated **4/25/19**

## 2019 NJ Minimum Size, Possession Limits & Seasons

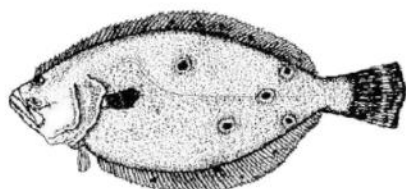
Fish are measured from tip of snout to tip of tail (except Black Seabass & Sharks)  
Cleaning/filleting of fish with a minimum size limit while at sea is prohibited,  
With the exception of strips taken off one fluke per day to be used THAT day as bait.



**Weakfish** 1 Fish at 13 inches  
Jan 1 - Dec 31

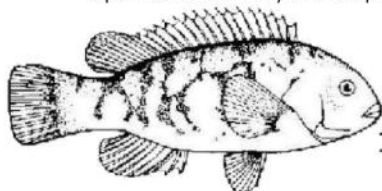


**Hard Clam**  
recreational limit - 150 clams  
No harvest on Sunday  
Shellfish License Required



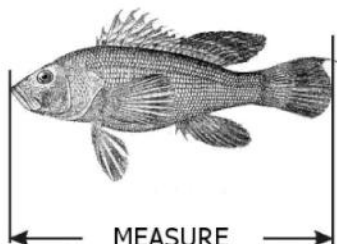
**Summer Flounder (Fluke)**

Del. Bay and Tributaries 3 fish at 17 inches  
All Other Marine Waters 3 fish at 18 inches  
See Digest for IBSP and DE Bay Regulations  
Open Season: May 24- Sept. 21



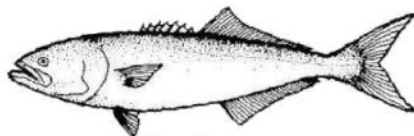
**Tautog**  
15 inches

4 fish Jan. 1 - Feb. 28  
4 fish Apr. 1 - Apr. 30  
1 fish Aug. 1 - Nov. 15  
5 fish Nov. 16 - Dec. 31



**MEASURE**  
**Black Sea Bass**

10\* fish at 12.5 inches May 15 - Jun. 22  
2 fish at 12.5 inches Jul. 1 - Aug. 31  
10 fish at 12.5 inches Oct. 8 - Oct. 31  
15 fish at 13 inches Nov. 1 - Dec. 31  
(\*corrects error in Marine Digest)



**Bluefish**  
15 fish no minimum size  
Open Season: Jan. 1 - Dec. 31



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**SaltwaterRegistry.NJ.gov**

## HOW TO MEASURE STRIPED BASS

Close mouth, pinch tail to get maximum length. Make sure tape/ruler is FLAT, arching over the fish can add an inch that isn't there!



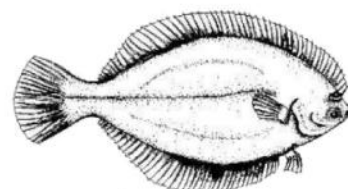
**Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass**  
1 fish 28" to < 43", 1 fish ≥ 43"

Del. River and tributaries Calhoun St. Bridge, Trenton to Salem River and tributaries  
Open Mar. 1 - Mar. 31 & June 1 - Dec. 31

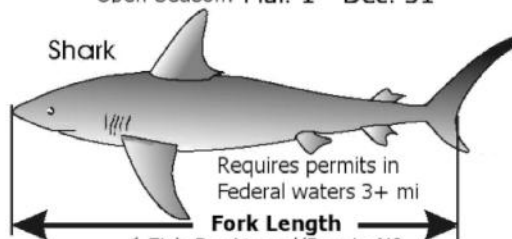
Atlantic Ocean (0-3 miles from shore), no closed season  
(Greater than 3 miles from shore), closed

All other marine waters, open Mar. 1 - Dec. 31

Bonus Tag Program: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/bonusbas.htm>



**Winter Flounder**  
2 fish at 12 inches  
Open Season: Mar. 1 - Dec. 31



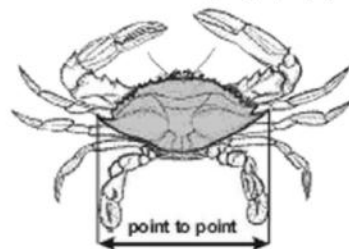
**Shark**

Requires permits in  
Federal waters 3+ mi

**Fork Length**

1 Fish Per Vessel/Day in NJ

Agg. Large Coastal Group 54" Fork Length Jan. 1 - May 14  
Hammerhead Group 78" Fork Length and July 16 - Dec. 31  
Pelagic Group 54" Fork Length No Closed Season  
Non-blacknosed small & 54" Federal - No Min. Length in NJ  
Blacknose Coastal Groups No Closed Season  
+ 1 Atlantic Sharpnose, + 1 Bonnethead Shark/angler/trip (no min size)



**Blue Crab (point to point)**  
peeler or shedder - 3 inches  
soft - 3 1/2 inches  
hard - 4 1/2 inches  
recreational limit - one bushel

Crab pot/Trotline Seasons:  
Delaware Bay & Tributaries  
April 6 - Dec. 4  
All other waters  
March 15 - Nov. 30

Other Species	Possession Limit	Total Length
American Eel	25	9"
Black Drum	3	16"
Cobia	1 per person, no more than 3 per vessel	40"
Open Season: June 1 - Sept. 30		
Cod	NO LIMIT	21"
Haddock	NO LIMIT	18"
King Mackerel	3	23"
Pollock	NO LIMIT	19"
Red Drum	1	18-27"
River Herring	CLOSED	N/A
Scup (Porgy)	50	9"
Open Season: Jan. 1 - Dec. 31		
Shad	6	NO LIMIT
No more than 3 American shad in Del. Bay, River & Tributaries		
No American shad in all other waters		
American Lobster	6	3 3/8" to 5 1/4" carapace length
LMA 4 Open Season: Jan. 1 - Apr. 29 & June 1 - Dec. 31		
LMA 5 Open Season: Jan. 1 - Jan. 31 & Apr. 1 - Dec. 31		
Jonah Crab	50	4 3/4" carapace width

**Scott's Bait & Tackle**  
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