**Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council**

2008 Proposed (P) and Final (F) Federal Recreational Management Measures

NOTE: This table is a summary of proposed and final federal regulations and should be used only as a guide. Final federal regulations are or will be published in the Federal Register and when this occurs, those regulations will be the ones applicable for 2008. Fishermen should also contact state agencies to obtain a complete copy of current state regulations. Check final rules as published in the federal register.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>FISHING SEASON</th>
<th>HARVEST LIMIT*</th>
<th>RESEARCH SET-ASIDE (RSA)</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>BAG LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(F) Summer Flounder</td>
<td>state specific</td>
<td>6.21 million pounds</td>
<td>233,192 pounds</td>
<td>state specific</td>
<td>state specific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(P) Scup</td>
<td>January 1-February 29 and March 1-October 31</td>
<td>1.83 million pounds</td>
<td>214,000 pounds</td>
<td>10.5” total length</td>
<td>15 fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(P) Black Sea Bass</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>2.11 million pounds</td>
<td>85,790 pounds</td>
<td>12” total length</td>
<td>25 fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Bluefish</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>20.41 million pounds</td>
<td>50,000 pounds</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>15 fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(P) Atlantic Mackerel</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>15,000 metric tons</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Harvest Limits rounded and reduced to accommodate RSA awards.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

- **NOAA Federal Fishing Violations Hotline**
  - 800-853-1964

- **NOAA Fisheries National Website**

- **NOAA Fisheries Northeast Regional Office**
  - 978-281-9300
  - [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/)

- **NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center**
  - 508-495-2000
  - [http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/](http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/)

- **NOAA Fisheries Northeast Permits**
  - 978-281-9370
  - [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/permits/)

- **NOAA Fisheries Northeast Regulations**

- **NOAA Fisheries Northeast Protected Resources**

- **NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office**
  - 727-824-5301

- **NOAA Fisheries Southeast Permits Branch**
  - 727-824-5326
  - [http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/permits/permits.htm](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/permits/permits.htm)

- **NOAA MMPA/Sea Turtle/ESA Stranding Network**
  - 978-281-9351

- **NOAA Right Whale Northeast Sightings**
  - 978-585-8473

- **New England Fishery Management Council**
  - 978-465-0492
  - [http://www.nefmc.org/](http://www.nefmc.org/)

- **South Atlantic Fishery Management Council**
  - 843-571-4366
  - [http://www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)

- **Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission**
  - 202-289-6400
  - [http://www.asmfc.org/](http://www.asmfc.org/)

- **State Fisheries Agencies**
  - New York: (631) 444-0430
  - Pennsylvania: (717) 705-7800
  - New Jersey: (609) 292-2965
  - Maryland: (800) 688-3467
  - Delaware: (302) 739-9914
  - Virginia: (757) 247-2248
  - North Carolina: (800)-682-2632

**Photo by Andrea Didden**

Photo of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council logo: [300 S. New St. Dover, DE 19904 302-674-2331 www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org)
### Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

#### 2008 Proposed (P) and Final (F) Federal Commercial Management Measures

**NOTE:** This table is a summary of proposed and final federal regulations and should be used only as a guide. Check final rules as published in the federal register.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>FISHING YEAR</th>
<th>INITIAL QUOTA*</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>GEAR</th>
<th>RESEARCH SET-ASIDE (RSA)</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(F) Summer Flounder</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>9.32 million pounds</td>
<td>14”</td>
<td>5.5” minimum diamond mesh; 6” minimum square mesh</td>
<td>233,192 pounds</td>
<td>State-by-state quotas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Scup</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>5.23 million pounds</td>
<td>9”</td>
<td>5.0” minimum diamond mesh; Gear Restricted Areas (GRA); Northern GRA closed from Nov 1 - Dec 31 Southern GRA closed from Jan 1 - Mar 15</td>
<td>214,000 pounds</td>
<td>TRIMESTER QUOTAS &amp; POSSESSION LIMITS: Winter I: (Jan-Apr) 3.98 million pounds (45.11%); 30,000 pounds per trip possession limit reduced to 1,000 pounds when 80% of the commercial quota is projected to be taken. Summer: (May-Oct) 1.44 million pounds (38.93%). Winter II: (Nov-Dec) 0.84 million pounds (15.94%); 2,000 pounds per trip possession limit. Possession limit will increase by 1,500 lbs for each 500,000 lbs unused Winter I period quota transferred to Winter II.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Black Sea Bass</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>2.03 million pounds</td>
<td>11”</td>
<td>4.5” minimum diamond mesh; Pot/trap: circular vents; 2.5” square vents; 2”, rectangular vents: 1.375” x 5.75”. Two vents required in portar portion of pot/trap.</td>
<td>85,790 pounds</td>
<td>State-by-state quotas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Bluefish</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>7.69 million pounds</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>State-by-state quotas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Spiny Dogfish</td>
<td>May 1-April 30</td>
<td>4.00 million pounds</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>QUOTA PERIODS &amp; POSSESSION LIMITS: Quota Period I: May 1 2008 - Oct 31 2008 - 2.32 million pounds; 600 lb. possession limit. Quota Period II: Nov 1 2008 - Apr 30 2009 - 1.68 million pounds; 600 lb. possession limit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(P) Long-finned Squid (Loligo)</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>Max OY - 36,000 mt (metric tons)</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>1.875” minimum diamond mesh</td>
<td>510 mt</td>
<td>TRIMESTER QUOTAS &amp; POSSESSION LIMITS: Trimester I (Jan-Apr) 2,300 mt (43%); Trimester II (May-Aug) 2,886 mt (17%); Trimester III (Sep-Dec) 6,791 mt (40%). When 90% of the Trimester quota is taken in Trimmers I and II, the directed fishery closes. In Trimmer III, the directed fishery closes when 95% of the annual quota is taken. Underages and overages from Trimesters I and II are applied to Trimester III. There is a daily 2,500 lb incidental catch limit in effect at all times for incidental catch permits and also for directed permits when the directed fishery closes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(P) Short-finned Squid (Illex)</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>Max OY, ABC, IOY, DAH, DAP - 24,000 mt</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>The directed fishery for Illex classes when 95% of the DAH is taken (22,800 mt). There is a daily 10,000 lb incidental catch limit in effect at all times for incidental catch permits and also for directed permits when the directed fishery closes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(P) Atlantic Mackerel</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>ABC - 156,000 mt IOY - 115,000 mt DAH - 115,000 mt DAP - 100,000 mt</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>IOY may be increased during the year, but the total ABC will not exceed 156,000 mt. The directed fishery for mackerel classes when 90% of the DAH is projected to be taken. There is a daily 20,000 pound incidental catch limit in effect when the directed fishery closes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(P) Butterfish</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>Max OY - 12,175 mt ABC - 1,500 mt IOY, DAH, DAP - 500 mt</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>3” minimum diamond mesh if in possession of 1,000 lbs or more of butterfish</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>There is a daily 5,000 pound trip limit for moratorium permits and a 250 pound trip limit for incidental permits. The directed fishery for butterfish classes when 80% of the DAH is projected to be taken. If the directed fishery classes before October 1, moratorium permits will have a daily 250 pound trip limit. If the directed fishery classes on or after October 1, moratorium permits will have a daily 665 pound trip limit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Scup</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>3.400 million bushels</td>
<td>suspended</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Ocean Quahog</td>
<td>January 1-December 31</td>
<td>5.333 million bushels</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ); Maine Ocean Quahog Quota - 100,000 Mains bushels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Tilefish</td>
<td>November 1-October 31</td>
<td>1.995 million pounds</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>5% of the total quota is allocated to incidental take and the remaining 95% of the adjusted quota is allocated as follows: Full-Time Tier 1 Permit-66%; Full-Time Tier 2 Permit-15%; Part-Time Permit-19%.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>