

2017 NJ Recreational Minimum Size, Possession Limits & Seasons

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM LENGTH	HARVEST & POSSESSION LIMIT <small>(per person unless noted)</small>
American Eel	No Closed Season	9"	25
Black Drum	No Closed Season	16"	3
Black Sea Bass*	May 26-Jun. 18	12.5" exc. tail filaments	10
	Jul. 1-Aug. 31	12.5" exc. tail filaments	2
Blue Crab - Peeler or Shedder	Fall/Winter Seasons	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
	Crab Pot/Trot line Seasons:	3"	Recreational limit - One Bushel
	Soft Delaware Bay & Tributaries:	3.5"	
	Hard Apr. 6-Dec. 4	4.5"	
	All other waters: Mar. 15-Nov. 30		
Bluefish (Snapper)	No Closed Season	No minimum	15
Cod	No Closed Season	21"	No Limit
Cobia	No Closed Season	37"	2
Pollock	No Closed Season	19"	No Limit
Porgy (Scup)	Jan. 1-Feb. 28 & July 1-Dec. 31	9"	50



For more information on what catch is safe to eat, visit: FishSmartEatSmartNJ.org

Fish are measured from tip of snout to tip of tail (except Black Sea Bass and Sharks). No species of fish with a minimum size limit listed above may be filleted or cleaned at sea.

*Notice - Possible in-season changes. See NJFishandWildlife.com for current regulations.

Remember to register before fishing. IT'S FREE! SaltwaterRegistry.nj.gov



SPECIES

OPEN SEASON

MINIMUM LENGTH

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SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	MINIMUM LENGTH	HARVEST & POSSESSION LIMIT <small>(per person unless noted)</small>
Red Drum	No Closed Season	18" but not greater than 27"	1
River Herring	Closed	NA	0
Shark - not including dogfish	See current Marine Digest or njfishandwildlife.com for regulatory requirements.		
Spanish Mackerel	No Closed Season	14"	10
Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass			
• Delaware River & Tributaries (Calhoun St. Bridge to Salem River & Tributaries)	Mar. 1-31 & Jun. 1-Dec. 31	28" to less than 43" 43" or greater	1
• Atlantic Ocean 0-3 miles from shore	No Closed Season		1
• All other marine waters	Mar. 1-Dec. 31		
• Greater than 3 miles from shore	Harvest and Possession Prohibited	Harvest and Possession Prohibited	
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	May 25-Sept. 5	18"	3
• Delaware Bay & Tributaries	May 25-Sept. 5	17"	3
• Island Beach State Park	May 25-Sept. 5	16"	2
See njfishandwildlife.com for current Summer Flounder Regulations in Delaware Bay and Island Beach State Park			
Tautog (Blackfish)	Jan. 1-Feb. 28	15"	4
	Apr. 1-Apr. 30	15"	4
	Jul. 17-Nov. 15	15"	1
	Nov. 16-Dec. 31	15"	6
Weakfish	No Closed Season	13"	1
Winter Flounder	Mar. 1-Dec. 31	12"	2

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New Jersey Division of
Fish and Wildlife



New Jersey Department of
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