

(c) A deer that has been so severely injured by a collision with a motor vehicle that it must be killed shall be considered as accidentally killed for the purposes of this subchapter.

Amended by R.2001 d.73, effective March 5, 2001.  
See: 32 N.J.R. 4435(a), 33 N.J.R. 874(a).

**7:25-17.7 Information required**

(a) Any State or municipal officer disposing of or authorizing the disposal or possession of accidentally killed deer shall notify the Division on a quarterly basis of the following information on forms provided by the Division:

1. The location where the deer was killed;
2. The sex of the deer;
3. The date of the accidental deer kill; and
4. The name and address of the permittee.

Amended by R.2001 d.74, effective March 5, 2001.  
See: 32 N.J.R. 4435(a), 33 N.J.R. 874(a).

**SUBCHAPTER 18. MARINE FISHERIES**

**7:25-18.1 Size, season and possession limits**

(a) For the purpose of this subchapter, the following common names shall mean the following scientific name(s) for a species or group of species, except as otherwise specified elsewhere in this subchapter.

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>
American Eel	Anquilla rostrata
Atlantic Cod	Gadus morhua
Atlantic Croaker	Micropogon undulatus
Atlantic Mackerel	Scomber scombrus
Black Drum	Pogonias cromis
Black Sea Bass	Centropristis striata
Bluefish	Pomatomus saltatrix
Cobia	Rachycentron canadum
Conch	Busycon carica
	Busycotypus canaliculatum
	Busycon contrarium
Dolphin	Coryphaena hippurus
Goosefish (Monkfish)	Lophius americanus
Haddock	Melanogrammus aeglefinus
Hybrid striped bass	Morone saxatilis x Morone spp.
Kingfish	Menticirrhus saxatilis
	Menticirrhus americanus
King Mackerel	Scomberomorus cavalla
Pollock	Pollachius virens
Red Drum	Sciaenops ocellatus
River herring	Alosa aestivalis (alewife)
	Alosa pseudoharengus (blueback herring)
Scup (Porgy)	Stenotomus chrysops
Shad	Alosa sapidissima
	Alosa mediocris
Shark	Large Coastal Group
	Sphyrna mokarran (Great Hammerhead)
	Sphyrna lewini (Scalloped Hammerhead)
	Sphyrna zygaena (Smooth Hammerhead)
	Ginglymostoma cirratum (Nurse Shark)

Common Name

Scientific Name

	Carcharhinus altimus (Bignose Shark)
	Carcharhinus limbatus (Blacktip Shark)
	Carcharhinus leucas (Bull Shark)
	Carcharhinus perezi (Caribbean Reef Shark)
	Carcharhinus obscurus (Dusky Shark)
	Carcharhinus galapagensis (Galapagos Shark)
	Negaprion brevirostris (Lemon Shark)
	Carcharhinus brachyurus (Narrowtooth Shark)
	Carcharhinus signatus (Night Shark)
	Carcharhinus plumbeus (Sandbar Shark)
	Carcharhinus falciformis (Silky Shark)
	Carcharhinus brevipinna (Spinner Shark)
	Galeocerdo cuvieri (Tiger Shark)
	Small Coastal Group
	Squatina dumerili (Atlantic Angle Shark)
	Sphyrna tiburo (Bonnethead)
	Rhizoprionodon terraenovae (Atlantic Sharpnose Shark)
	Carcharhinus acronotus (Blacknose Shark)
	Rhizoprionodon porosus (Caribbean Sharpnose Shark)
	Carcharhinus isodon (Finetooth Shark)
	Carcharhinus porosus (Smalltail Shark)
	Pelagic Group
	Hexanchus vitulus (Bigeye Sixgill Shark)
	Heptanchias perlo (Sevengill Shark)
	Hexanchus griseus (Sixgill Shark)
	Isurus paucus (Longfin Mako)
	Lamna nasus (Porbeagle Shark)
	Isurus oxyrinchus (Shortfin Mako)
	Prionace glauca (Blue Shark)
	Carcharhinus longimanus (Oceanic Whitetip Shark)
	Alopias superciliosus (Bigeye Thresher)
	Alopias vulpinus (Thresher Shark)
	Mustelus canis
Smooth Dogfish	Scomberomorus maculatus
Spanish Mackerel	Libinia dubia
Spider crab	Libinia emarginata
	Squalus acanthias
Spiny Dogfish	Morone saxatilis
Striped Bass	
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	Paralichthys dentatus
Tautog (Blackfish)	Tautoga onitis
Weakfish	Cynoscion regalis
	Cynoscion nebulosus
	Pleuronectes americanus
Winter Flounder	

(b) A person shall not purchase, sell, offer for sale, or expose for sale any species listed below less than the minimum length, measured in inches, except as may be provided elsewhere in this subchapter, and subject to the specific provisions of any such section. Any commercially licensed vessel or person shall be presumed to possess the following species for sale purposes and shall comply with the minimum sizes below. Fish length shall be measured from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail (total length), except as noted below.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Minimum Size (inches)</u>
American Eel	6
Atlantic Cod	21

Species	Minimum Size (inches)
Atlantic Croaker	No Limit
Atlantic Mackerel	7
Black Drum	16
Black Sea Bass	11
Bluefish	9
Cobia	37
Conch	5
Dolphin	No Limit
Goosefish (Monkfish)	17
Haddock	21
Kingfish	8
King Mackerel	23
Pollock	19
Red Drum	18
River herring (Alewife, blueback herring)	No Limit
Scup (Porgy)	9
Shad	No Limit
Shark	48
Spanish Mackerel	14
Summer Flounder	14
Tautog (Blackfish)	14
Weakfish	13
Winter Flounder	12

1. Total length for black sea bass shall be measured along the midline from the tip of the snout to the end of the central portion of the tail, not to include tail filaments.

2. In addition to the total minimum goosefish size, all goosefish tails possessed must be at least 11 inches in length from the anterior portion of the fourth cephalic dorsal spine to the end of the caudal fin. The total weight of all goosefish livers landed shall not be more than 30 percent of the total weight of all goosefish tails landed or 12 percent of the total weight of all goosefish landed.

3. A person shall not take in any one day or possess more than the possession limit specified below for each species listed, except as may be provided elsewhere in this subchapter, and subject to the specific provisions of any such section.

Species	Possession Limit
Cobia	2
Red Drum	1, no more than 27 inches

(c) A person angling with a hand line or with a rod and line or using a bait net or spearfishing shall not have in his or her possession any species listed below less than the minimum length, nor shall such person take in any one day or possess more than the possession limits as provided below, nor shall such person possess any species listed below during the closed season for that species. Exceptions to this section as may be provided elsewhere in this subchapter shall be subject to the specific provisions of any such section. Fish length shall measure from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail (total length), except as noted below:

Species	Minimum Size In Inches	Open Season	Possession Limit
American Eel	6	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	50
Atlantic Cod	21	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	No Limit

Species	Minimum Size In Inches	Open Season	Possession Limit
Atlantic Croaker	No Limit	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	No Limit
Black Drum	16	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	3
Black Sea Bass	12.5	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	25
Bluefish	No Limit	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	15
Cobia	37	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	2
Dolphin	No Limit	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	No Limit
Haddock	21	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	No Limit
Hybrid striped bass	Refer to N.J.S.A. 23:5-45.1		
Kingfish	No Limit	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	No Limit
King Mackerel	23	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	3
Pollock	19	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	No Limit
Red Drum	18	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	1, not greater than 27 inches
River herring (Alewife, blueback herring)	No Limit	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	35
Scup (Porgy)	9	Jan. 1—Feb. 28 and July 1—Dec. 31	50
Shad	No Limit	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	6
Shark	48	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	2 per vessel
Spanish Mackerel	14	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	10
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	18	May 23—Sept. 4	6
Striped Bass		refer to N.J.S.A. 23:5-45.1	
Tautog	14	Jan. 1—Apr. 30 July 16—Nov. 15 Nov. 16—Dec. 31	4 1 6
Weakfish	13	Jan. 1—Dec. 31	6
Winter Flounder	12	March 23—May 21	10

1. Total length for black sea bass shall be measured along the midline from the tip of the snout to the end of the central portion of the tail, not to include tail filaments.

2. The possession limit for shark, as listed at (a) above, shall be as enumerated at (c) above on a per vessel basis regardless of the number of individuals on board said vessel. If a person is fishing from shore or a land based structure, the possession limit shall be as enumerated at (c) above on a per person basis.

3. Anglers may take no more than 50 eels per day; however, anglers may keep more than 50 eels in storage for personal use, provided they possess no more than 50 eels per person for bait purposes while fishing.

(d) A person shall not take, possess, land, purchase, sell or offer for sale any of the following species:

Species	Scientific Name
Atlantic Sturgeon	Acipenser oxyrinchus
Basking Shark	Cetorhinidae maximus
Bigeye Sand Tiger Shark	Odontaspis noronhai
Sand Tiger Shark	Odontaspis taurus
Shortnose Sturgeon	Acipenser brevirostrum
Whale Shark	Rhincodon typus
White Shark	Carcharodon carcharias

shall subject the violator to the penalties established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 23:2B-14.

(r) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 23:10-21 and 21.1, any gear used in the violating of the provisions of this subchapter may be seized and forfeited to the Division.

Amended by R.1990 d.607, effective December 3, 1990.

See: 22 N.J.R. 3078(a), 22 N.J.R. 3628(b).

Added new (e) through (h), redesignated existing (e) as (i).

Amended by R.1991 d.132, effective March 18, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 37(a), 23 N.J.R. 848(b).

Size limit for marine fish changed in (a). Added (f), (g), (h), (i) and (j).

Amended by R.1991 d.348, effective July 1, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 43(a), 23 N.J.R. 2011(a).

Deleted “, winter flounder measuring less than six inches in length, or measuring less than 13 inches in length” with stylistic changes in (a). Added “, winter flounder under 10 inches in length, or red drum under 14 inches in length” with stylistic changes in (b). Added (d). Redesignated (d) as (e); added reference to “(d)”. Redesignated (e)-(n) as (f)-(o). Amended by R.1992 d.143, effective March 16, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 4(c), 24 N.J.R. 1113(a).

Added requirements for weakfish management.

Petition for Rulemaking: Request for reduction of size limit; denied.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2957(a).

Public Notice: Announcement of fish checking stations for the Striped Bass Trophy Program.

See: 24 N.J.R. 3767(c).

Amended by R.1992 d.476, effective December 7, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1456(a), 24 N.J.R. 4368(b).

New (e) and (f) added prohibiting the filleting of any flatfish at sea in order to prevent circumvention of size limits on fluke and winter flounder; recodification of existing (e)-(o) as (g)-(q).

Amended by R.1993 d.56, effective January 19, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 4249(a), 25 N.J.R. 303(a).

(c) repealed and replaced in accordance with the Summer Flounder Fishery Management Plan developed by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Amended by R.1993 d.77, effective February 16, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 205(a), 25 N.J.R. 689(a).

Added Atlantic Sturgeon under 60 inches in height.

Administrative Correction.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4495(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.44, effective January 18, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 2167(a), 26 N.J.R. 353(a).

Emergency Amendment, R.1994 d.230, effective April 13, 1994 (to expire June 12, 1994).

See: 26 N.J.R. 1885(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.248, effective May 16, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 291(a), 26 N.J.R. 2021(b).

Adopted Concurrent Proposal, R.1994 d.339, effective June 10, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 1885(a), 26 N.J.R. 2792(a).

Provisions of emergency amendment R.1994 d.230 readopted, with change effective July 5, 1994.

Amended by R.1994 d.615, effective December 19, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 1931(a), 26 N.J.R. 5011(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.82, effective February 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4277(b), 27 N.J.R. 487(a).

Administrative Change.

See: 27 N.J.R. 1793(a).

Amended by R.1996 d.587, effective December 16, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 28 N.J.R. 3998(a), 28 N.J.R. 5231(a).

Changed section name from “Size and possession limits”; added species and changed size and possession limits throughout; in (a) and (b), inserted provisions relating to presumed possession; and in (c), inserted reference to bait nets.

**Administrative change.**

See: 29 N.J.R. 2278(a).

In (b), increased minimum size of Summer Flounder and Tautog; and in (c), increased possession limit of Summer Flounder.

Amended by R.1997 d.246, effective June 2, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 285(a), 29 N.J.R. 2555(a).

In (a) and (b), added “(total length, except as noted below”); in (a), in table, changed minimum size for “Black sea bass” from 8 to 9 inches and added “Tautog (blackfish)”; inserted new (a)1, and recodified former (a)1 and (a)2 as (a)2 and (a)3; in (b), added “Black sea bass” to table; added (b)1; in (c), added “Black sea bass” to table; in (e), inserted “or possess such mutilated fish,”; and in (f)3v, added “Black sea bass” and “Scup” to table.

Amended by R.1998 d.40, effective January 5, 1998.

See: 29 N.J.R. 4595(a), 30 N.J.R. 226(a).

Added Bluefish to size limits; in (b) changed minimum size for Atlantic Cod and Haddock from 19 inches to 21 inches; in (f)3v, changed minimum length of Atlantic Cod and Haddock from 13 inches to 14 inches.

Administrative change.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1319(b).

Administrative change.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1402(b).

Amended by R.1999 d.52, effective February 16, 1999.

See: 30 N.J.R. 3881(a), 31 N.J.R. 538(a).

Rewrote (a) through (f).

Administrative change.

See: 31 N.J.R. 1084(a).

Amended by R.2000 d.10, effective January 3, 2000.

See: 31 N.J.R. 2555(a), 32 N.J.R. 48(a).

In (c), changed minimum size for Winter Flounder; in (h), substituted “upstream side of the U.S. Route 1 Bridge” for “Trenton Falls” following “from the”.

Administrative change.

See: 32 N.J.R. 1387(a).

Amended by R.2000 d.395, effective October 2, 2000.

See: 31 N.J.R. 2555(a), 32 N.J.R. 3592(b).

In (c), increased minimum size for Winter Flounder; in (h), substituted “upstream side of the U.S. Route 1 Bridge” for “Trenton Falls”; inserted a new (n); and recodified former (n) through (p) as (o) through (q).

Amended by R.2001 d.73, effective March 5, 2001.

See: 32 N.J.R. 4435(a), 33 N.J.R. 874(a).

Administrative change.

See: 33 N.J.R. 1589(a).

Amended by R.2001 d.346, effective September 17, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 453(a), 33 N.J.R. 3352(a).

Rewrote the section.

Administrative change.

See: 34 N.J.R. 921(a).

Administrative change.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1023(b).

Administrative change.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1669(a).

Amended by R.2002 d.277, effective August 19, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1375(a), 34 N.J.R. 2995(a).

In (a) to (c), added “River herring”; in (g), deleted “(a),” “or” preceding (e), inserted “or (f)” after (e); rewrote (h).

Administrative change.

See: 35 N.J.R. 708(a).

Administrative correction.

See: 35 N.J.R. 1561(a).

Administrative change.

See: 35 N.J.R. 1927(a).

Administrative correction.

See: 35 N.J.R. 5619(a).

Amended by R.2004 d.20, effective January 5, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 4224(b), 36 N.J.R. 174(b).

In (a), amended the table of Common Name and Scientific Name; in (g), substituted “\$30.00” for “\$20.00”.

Administrative change.

See: 36 N.J.R. 1191(c).

Administrative change.

See: 36 N.J.R. 2420(c).

Administrative change.

See: 37 N.J.R. 1177(b).

Administrative change.

See: 37 N.J.R. 3696(a).

Amended by R.2005 d.413, effective November 21, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 742(a), 37 N.J.R. 4408(a).

In (a), added common name "Striped Bass" and scientific name "Morone saxatilis"; in (c), added species "Striped Bass" and open season information "refer to N.J.S.A. 23:5-45.1"; in (f)3vii, increased number of days suspension to 60 for first offense and 120 for second offense; added (f)3viii; recodified former (f)3viii as (f)3ix.

Administrative change.

See: 38 N.J.R. 1731(a).

Administrative correction.

See: 38 N.J.R. 2797(b).

Administrative change.

See: 39 N.J.R. 1473(b).

Amended by R.2008 d.15, effective January 7, 2008.

See: 39 N.J.R. 143(a), 40 N.J.R. 126(a).

In the tables in (a) and (c), inserted the entries for "Dolphin" and "Hybrid striped bass"; in the table in (b), inserted the entry for "Dolphin"; in the introductory paragraph of (e), inserted "(e)2 and"; added (e)2; in the introductory paragraph of (f)3v, inserted "fish of any species less than the minimum size limit specified in (c) above shall be filleted and no", and in the table in (f)3v, inserted the entries for "Hybrid striped bass" and "Striped bass"; in (g), substituted "(d) or (e)" for "(d), (e) or (f)"; in (p), inserted "or to maintain consistency with any Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council plan adopted by the National Marine Fisheries Service"; and in (q), inserted the second and third sentences.

Administrative change.

See: 40 N.J.R. 150(c), 2109(c).

Administrative change.

See: 41 N.J.R. 2012(a).

### 7:25-18.2 Pound nets

(a) The following words and terms shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Department" means the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

"Heart" means an upright fence of netting forming a heart-shaped (round or square) compartment located between the leader and the pocket. It is designed to cause fish to circle in front of and eventually enter the pocket of a pound net.

"Leader" means an upright fence of netting that acts as a barrier to fish and guides them toward a trap; the netting is made of heavy twine, not designed to catch fish by the gills.

"Navigable channel" means a channel marked with navigational markers including poles, piling or buoys, by the Coast Guard or the State.

"Pocket" means an upright fence of netting forming the final compartment of a pound net in which trapped fish accumulate.

"Pound net" means a large fish trap, consisting of a leader, pocket and one or more hearts, held in place with poles, the netting of which reaches from the bottom to above the surface of the water.

"Staked or anchored gill net" means an upright fence of monofilament or nylon netting, held in place at each end by stakes or anchors, that catches fish by snagging their gill covers as they try to pass through the mesh of the net.

"Submarine pound net" means a pound net that is totally submerged beneath the water and held in place by anchors.

(b) General requirements for all pound net users are as follows:

1. No person may install, operate or maintain a pound net in the marine waters of the State without having first obtained a license from the Department.

2. The Department may establish limits on the number of licenses to be issued for pound nets in Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay and in the Atlantic Ocean within three nautical miles of the coastline.

3. Licenses must be renewed annually.

4. Holders of pound net licenses from the previous year shall have first priority in obtaining a new license, provided they apply before March 1 of the current year.

5. Any person operating any fish pound net in the marine waters of New Jersey, must, at the time of emptying the net, return to the waters wherein the net is located all species less than the minimum size limits specified pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.1.

6. No person may, by boat, anchor, dredge or otherwise, willfully and without reasonable cause, interfere with, break, damage or destroy any fish net or associated equipment being lawfully used by a license holder.

7. The Department may require any licensee to submit a money surety bond to insure removal of pound net poles and apparatus as required by these rules.

8. Violation of the rules in this section will subject the violator to money penalties, loss of license and/or injunctive relief under N.J.S.A. 23:2B-14.

(c) Specific requirements for pound net users in Raritan, Sandy Hook and Delaware Bays are as follows:

1. Any person applying for a pound net license must indicate the specific proposed site for the net, as designated by a chart developed by the Department. Sites which have not previously been located on the approved chart must be approved by the Department prior to issuance of a license.

2. New pound net sites must be at least 3,000 feet from a previously located pound net site, when measured parallel to the shoreline, and must be at least 1,000 feet from any navigable channel.

3. Any pound net license holder has priority in retaining a pound net site previously licensed by him or her, provided that he or she has actively and lawfully fished that site during the previous year and has submitted a license application prior to March 1 of the current year. After March 1, any citizen may apply for any available site on a first-come basis.

4. No staked or anchored shad net may be placed within 3,000 feet of an operating pound net. However, shad nets may be set on licensed pound net sites by the license holder or on unoccupied, approved pound net sites, pro-

v. Any person who has had his or her New Jersey Summer Flounder Dealers Permit suspended or revoked shall not land or permit the landing of any summer flounder at his or her facility during the suspension or revocation under the provisions of another permittee's New Jersey Summer Flounder Dealers Permit.

vi. Prior to revocation of the permit, the permittee shall have the opportunity to request a hearing pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and 52:14F-1 et seq., and the Uniform Administrative Procedure Rules, N.J.A.C. 1:1.

(j) The following provisions are applicable to the commercial harvest of winter flounder:

1. No person shall fish for or land any winter flounder taken by any net, trap, dredge or commercial gear in New Jersey waters, except during the open season of December 1 through May 31. No dealer shall accept any winter flounder taken in New Jersey waters except during such open season. The harvest of winter flounder by the use of fyke net is subject to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.5(g)2.

(k) The following provisions are applicable to the commercial harvest of scup:

1. Annual coastwide scup quotas and daily trip limits for the periods of January 1 through April 28 and November 1 through December 31, and an annual New Jersey scup quota for the period from May 1 through October 31 shall be determined by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council as implemented by the National Marine Fisheries Service or determined by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. All landings of scup in New Jersey during the period from May 1 through October 31 shall be applied to the New Jersey scup quota.

i. Any closure of the scup fishery by the National Marine Fisheries Service in adjacent Federal waters or any closure which includes New Jersey marine waters during the periods January 1 through April 28 and November 1 through December 31 would automatically close New Jersey to commercial landings of scup.

ii. The Commissioner, or his or her designee, shall implement annual and seasonal scup quotas and daily trip limits as determined by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission upon two days public notice. The implemented quotas and limits shall also be reflected in this subsection through a notice of administrative change in the New Jersey Register, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 1:30-2.7.

iii. The Commissioner, or his or her designee, shall close the season for the commercial scup fishery upon two days public notice of the projected date the New Jersey seasonal quota shall be caught. Public notice shall include letters by first class mail to all New Jersey Scup Dealer Permit holders and Federal scup moratorium permit holders that are New Jersey residents.

iv. Once any season has been closed for the commercial scup fishery, no vessel shall land any scup and no dealer shall accept any scup landed in New Jersey.

v. If the Commissioner, or his or her designee, closes the New Jersey season prematurely because of unanticipated events resulting in the quota not being landed by the project date, then the Commissioner, or his or her designee, may reopen the season for a specified period of time upon two days public notice. Public notice shall be made as specified in (k)1iii above.

vi. If the quota for any season is exceeded, the amount overharvested shall be deducted from the following year's quota for that season.

2. No vessel shall have in possession or land and no dealer shall accept from any vessel more than the lesser of the daily trip limits set by the National Marine Fisheries Service or the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission for the season of January 1 through April 28 and November 1 through December 31 and no vessel shall have in possession or land and no dealers shall accept from any one vessel more than the daily trip limit of 1,000 pounds of scup during the season of May 1 through October 31 or as provided for in (k)2i below.

i. If a minimum of 25 percent of the New Jersey scup quota is projected to remain unlanded as of October 1 in any calendar year, then there shall be a 4,000 pound trip limit for the remainder of the season or until the season is closed as provided in (k)1i above.

ii. The trip limit for scup shall be two trips per week (Sunday through Saturday) with landings not to exceed 30,000 pounds during any two-week period from January 1 through April 28 and a daily limit as established by the National Marine Fisheries Service from November 1 through December 31. During the period of January 1 through April 28, the daily trip limit will be reduced to 1,000 pounds when it is projected that 80 percent of the period quota will be harvested. No person or vessel shall land or possess and no dealer shall accept any scup on April 29 and 30.

3. No fish dealer shall accept any scup from any vessel or harvester unless such dealer is in possession of a valid New Jersey Scup Dealer Permit. A New Jersey Scup Dealer Permit may be obtained by completing an application supplied by the Department and submitting it to:

New Jersey Scup Dealer Permit  
Nacote Creek Research Station  
PO Box 418  
Port Republic, NJ 08241-0418

4. A harvester or vessel shall not land scup for the purpose of sale or sell any scup unless such harvester or vessel is in possession of a valid scup moratorium permit issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

5. Any harvester or vessel landing scup in New Jersey for the purpose of sale shall sell all scup to a permitted New Jersey Scup Dealer.

6. All permitted New Jersey Scup Dealers shall provide weekly reports to the Division listing the amount of scup landed on a daily basis and any other information that may be required by the Commissioner or as a result of an agreement with other states pursuant to (k)9 below. Such report shall be faxed to the Division at the number specified on the reporting forms supplied by the Division no later than two days following the week's end or sent by any other method approved by the Department. For the purpose of this provision, the week shall begin on Sunday and end on Saturday.

7. All scup moratorium permit holders landing scup in New Jersey shall be required to complete monthly reports supplied by the Department. The monthly report shall be signed by the permittee attesting to the validity of the information and be submitted so it is received by the Department no later than 15 working days following the end of the reported month at the following address:

New Jersey Scup Program  
Nacote Creek Research Station  
PO Box 418  
Port Republic, NJ 08241-0418

i. The monthly report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information: name, scup moratorium permit number, total amount (in pounds) of each species taken, dates caught, time at sea, duration of fishing time, gear type used to harvest, number of tows, area fished, crew size, landing port, date sold and buyer. This information shall be provided for any trip in which scup are landed. Scup moratorium permit holders may submit the "STATE" copy of the Federal log book in satisfaction of the New Jersey reporting requirements.

8. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in N.J.S.A. 23:2B-14 in addition to the following:

i. Failure to comply with the provisions of (k)1iv above, landing or accepting scup after the season has been closed; (k)2 above, landing or accepting more than the daily trip limit; (k)3 above, accepting scup from a vessel without first having obtained a valid New Jersey Scup Dealer Permit; (k)4 above, landing for the purpose of sale or selling scup without first having obtained a valid scup moratorium permit; (k)5 above, selling scup to a non-permitted fish dealer; or (k)6 and 7 above, failure to submit accurate and timely reports, shall result in the suspension during the open seasons or revocation of the dealer's New Jersey Scup Dealer Permit according to the following schedule:

- (1) First offense: 60 days suspension.
- (2) Second offense: 120 days suspension.
- (3) Third offense: Permanent revocation.

ii. In calculating the period of suspension or revocation applicable under (k)8i above, the number of previous suspensions shall be reduced by one for each three-year period in which the permit holder does not commit any other violation subject to this subsection, provided, however, that if more than one suspension is imposed within a three-year period, only one of those suspensions may be forgiven under this subparagraph; therefore, a permit holder who incurs more than one suspension in a three-year period shall not be considered a first offender under this subsection regardless of the length of any subsequent period without violation. The reduction in suspensions provided in this subparagraph applies only to determination of suspension periods; all prior suspensions shall be taken into account in calculating monetary penalties in accordance with N.J.S.A. 23:2B-14.

9. Pursuant to Amendment 8 of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Fishery Management Plan for the Summer Flounder and Scup Fishery, the Commissioner may enter into agreements with other states to transfer or combine scup commercial quotas. Such agreements shall specify the terms and conditions under which vessels may land scup in New Jersey, as well as how the landings will be applied to the quota. Any agreement developed by the Commissioner and any other state is not valid until such time as it has been reviewed and approved by the Northeast Regional Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

(I) Special provisions applicable to an Atlantic herring fishery are as follows:

1. The possession of more than 5,000 pounds of Atlantic herring on board a vessel or landed from a vessel shall constitute a directed fishery for Atlantic herring.

2. A person shall not fish for or land any Atlantic herring in excess of 5,000 pounds using any vessel in excess of 165 feet in length and in excess of 3,000 horsepower in a directed fishery for Atlantic herring.

3. Atlantic herring taken in a directed fishery for Atlantic herring shall not be processed for use as fish meal or oil.

4. Any closure of the Atlantic herring fishery by the National Marine Fisheries Service or the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission in adjacent Federal waters or in any area which includes New Jersey marine waters would automatically close New Jersey waters to the commercial harvest of Atlantic herring.

5. If any of the management areas identified in the joint New England Fishery Management Council Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Herring are closed by the National Marine Fisheries Service or the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the landing of Atlantic herring harvested from any management area that is closed shall be prohibited in New Jersey.

(m) Dealer business records may be used as admissible evidence in any proceeding to document violations of trip limits, weekly landing limits or closed seasons specified in this section.

(n) For the purpose of this section, "land" shall mean to begin offloading fish, to offload fish or to enter port with fish.

(o) The Commissioner, with the approval of the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council, may modify quotas, trip limits and/or seasons specified in the section, by notice in order to maintain and/or to come into compliance with any fishery management plan approved by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission pursuant to 16 U.S.C. §5104(b) or to maintain consistency with any Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council plan adopted by the National Marine Fisheries Service. The Commissioner, with the approval of the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council, may modify trip limits and/or seasons specified in this section by notice in order to provide for the optimal utilization of any quotas specified in this section. The Commissioner will review the catch rate for a particular species in relation to the season quota and if harvest data indicate that upward adjustments in harvest control measures are warranted to maximize utilization of the available quota within a specific season for a specific fishery, the Commissioner may adjust the above specified control measures to achieve optimal utilization of the total allowable catch. The Department shall publish notice of any such modification in the New Jersey Register.

(p) An applicant who is otherwise eligible for a license or permit under (c)2 and 5; (e)2 and 5; or (h)1 above, but who fails to apply prior to the application deadline, may request an extension of time to apply in accordance with this subsection and (q) through (s) below.

1. The written request, along with any supporting documentation, shall be submitted to:

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife  
PO Box 400  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0400

2. The request shall:

i. Identify the specific permit for which the extension of time to apply is requested;

ii. Explain in detail why the extension of time to apply is needed, including a statement of the type and degree of hardship that prevented the timely application of the permit, and the hardship that will result to the applicant if the permit is not granted; and

iii. Provide appropriate documentation as necessary to support the request for extension.

(q) The Department shall approve an extension request under (p) above only if it determines that the request and documentation demonstrate that:

1. By reason of extraordinary hardship or exceptional situation or condition, the applicant was precluded from

applying for his or her Tautog, Non Directed Fishery Tautog, Shad Commercial Net, Shad Incidental Harvest, or New Jersey Black Sea Bass permit during the 12-month application period preceding the year for which the permit is requested;

2. By reason of extraordinary or exceptional situation or condition, strict compliance with the deadline in (c)2 and 5; (e)2 and 5; or (h)1 above would result in exceptional and undue hardship upon the applicant; and

3. The circumstances supporting (q)1 and 2 above were not created by the applicant or persons under his or her control, and the approval of the extension will not unreasonably interfere with the orderly administration of the permitting program.

(r) The Department shall provide written notice to the applicant of its decision to approve or deny the request for extension.

(s) The denial of an extension request may be appealed pursuant to the procedures outlined in N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.17, Request for adjudicatory hearing.

New Rule, R.1992 d.143, effective March 16, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 4(c), 24 N.J.R. 1113(a).

Amended by R.1993 d.56, effective January 19, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 4249(a), 25 N.J.R. 303(a).

Former (a) and (i) recodified to new rule at 7:25-8.14; remaining subsections recodified as (a)-(g).

Administrative Correction to N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.12(b) through (g).

See: 25 N.J.R. 2001(d).

Administrative Correction to (c).

See: 25 N.J.R. 2281(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.201, effective April 18, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 789(a), 26 N.J.R. 1632(a).

Repeal and New Rule, R.1995 d.82, effective February 6, 1995.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4277(b), 27 N.J.R. 487(a).

Formerly "Weakfish management."

Administrative Correction.

See: 27 N.J.R. 1794(a).

Administrative Correction.

See: 27 N.J.R. 3420(a).

Administrative Correction.

See: 27 N.J.R. 3420(b).

Administrative Change.

See: 28 N.J.R. 3786(a).

Amended by R.1996 d.587, effective December 16, 1996 (operative January 1, 1997).

See: 28 N.J.R. 3998(a), 28 N.J.R. 5231(a).

Inserted (b)1, (c), and (d); recodified former (b)1 through (b)6 as (b)2 through (b)7 and former (c) and (d) as (e) and (f); and made conforming changes throughout.

Amended by R.1998 d.40, effective January 5, 1998.

See: 29 N.J.R. 4595(a), 30 N.J.R. 226(a).

Inserted (a)2 and recodified (a)2 as 3; deleted (c)2iii through v, added (c)3 through 10 and recodified (c)3 and 4 as 11 and 12; deleted (d), and recodified (e) and (f) as (d) and (e).

Administrative change.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1402(b).

Amended by R.1999 d.52, effective February 16, 1999.

See: 30 N.J.R. 3881(a), 31 N.J.R. 538(a).

In (a)3, substituted "more than 150 pounds of" for "any" following "accept"; inserted a new (d); and recodified former (d) and (e) as (e) and (f).

Administrative change.

See: 31 N.J.R. 1612(a).

Amended by R.2000 d.10, effective January 3, 2000.

See: 31 N.J.R. 2555(a), 32 N.J.R. 48(a).

Rewrote (a); inserted a new (e); and recodified former (e) and (f) as (f) and (g).

Amended by R.2000 d.395, effective October 2, 2000.

See: 31 N.J.R. 2555(a), 32 N.J.R. 3592(b).

Rewrote the section.

Amended by R.2001 d.73, effective March 5, 2001.

See: 32 N.J.R. 4435(a), 33 N.J.R. 874(a).

Amended by R.2001 d.346, effective September 17, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 453(a), 33 N.J.R. 3352(a).

Rewrote the section.

Amended by R.2002 d.277, effective August 19, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1375(a), 34 N.J.R. 2995(a).

In (c)2i and (c)5i, inserted "and submit their application no later than December 31, 2002" after "Department"; in (c)7i, substituted "has no greater than 10 percent increase in length overall and 20 percent increase in shaft horsepower" for "is of equal or less gross registered tonnage and vessel registered length"; in (d)1, added i; added a new (h), recodify existing (h), (i) as (i), (j).

Administrative change.

See: 34 N.J.R. 3264(a).

Administrative change.

See: 35 N.J.R. 709(a).

Administrative change.

See: 35 N.J.R. 1927(a).

Administrative correction.

See: 35 N.J.R. 4285(a).

Amended by R.2004 d.20, effective January 5, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 4224(b), 36 N.J.R. 174(b).

Rewrote the section.

Administrative change.

See: 36 N.J.R. 1191(c).

Administrative correction and change.

See: 36 N.J.R. 2420(c).

Administrative correction.

See: 36 N.J.R. 3276(a).

Administrative change.

See: 37 N.J.R. 589(c).

Amended by R.2005 d.413, effective November 21, 2005.

See: 37 N.J.R. 742(a), 37 N.J.R. 4408(a).

Rewrote the section.

Administrative change.

See: 38 N.J.R. 1318(d), 5359(a).

Amended by R.2008 d.15, effective January 7, 2008.

See: 39 N.J.R. 143(a), 40 N.J.R. 126(a).

Rewrote (e)9 and (o).

Administrative change.

See: 40 N.J.R. 150(c), 879(b), 2109(c), 6204(a).

Administrative change.

See: 41 N.J.R. 220(a).

### 7:25-18.13 Striped bass bonus program

(a) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 23:5-45.1(c), the possession of one "bonus sized" striped bass, measuring not less than 28 inches in length, will be allowed in addition to the possession limit allowed under N.J.S.A. 23:5-45.1(a), pursuant to (b) through (o) below.

(b) Any person intending to take one "bonus sized" striped bass, as defined in (a) above, in addition to his or her striped bass possession limit as specified at N.J.S.A. 23:5-45.1 shall apply to the Division to participate in the striped bass bonus program. Applications may be obtained from the following:

#### 1. Division of Fish and Wildlife

Striped Bass Bonus Fish Program  
Nacote Creek Research Station  
PO Box 418  
Port Republic, NJ 08241-0418

2. Fish checking stations, as authorized by the Division and identified pursuant to (i) below.

3. On the Division of Fish and Wildlife's website at [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com).

(c) The application form shall be completed to include the name, address and telephone number of the applicant.

(d) Applications to participate in the striped bass bonus program shall be processed in order of receipt by the Division.

(e) Successful applicants will receive non-transferable fish possession cards, the number to be determined by the Commissioner or his or her designee based on the available quota and the number of applicants. One card shall be filled out completely and the month and day numbers perforated immediately upon retention of a bonus striped bass. A finite number of cards shall be available to participating party and charter boat captains in the name of the vessel and owner. Fish possession cards issued to party and charter boats are for the use of patrons on that vessel and shall not be sold, offered for sale or used for barter.

(f) Fish possession cards shall be valid in the calendar year for which they were issued except during those periods in which the Department has closed the State's waters to harvesting as provided at (l) below.

(g) Successful applicants may keep and submit annual records of their striped bass fishing activity as requested on forms furnished by the Division. Such records shall include the name, address, and card number(s) of the fishermen, the days and hours fished, the lengths of striped bass caught, the location of fishing activity and the type of fishing. Party and charter boat captains shall be required to maintain and submit logbooks developed by the Division.

(h) A person shall not have in his or her possession at any time more than the number of striped bass provided for in N.J.S.A. 23:5-45.1, nor shall such striped bass be less than the size provided for in N.J.S.A. 23:5-45.1. One additional striped bass may be possessed and shall not be less than the size defined in (a) above. Said person shall have a properly completed and legal fish possession card, as provided for at (e) above.

(i) Any striped bass taken under this section may be transported to an authorized fish check station by the person who caught the fish on the day so taken. A list of authorized fish check stations shall be provided to all participants in the striped bass bonus program by the Division via first class mail along with the fish possession cards. Fish check stations shall also be listed on the Division's website at [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com). A person shall not present for registration or permit to be registered in his or her name a striped bass which he or she did not catch. Any person who legally takes a striped bass under this section and who cannot arrive at a fish check station shall immediately mail his or her fish possession card to the address presented at (b) above.