

NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Marc A. Matsil, Assistant Commissioner  
Historic and Natural Resources  
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE, BUREAU OF MARINE FISHERIES

**Notice of Rule Proposal**

Marine Fisheries , Proposed Amendments N.J.A.C. 7:25-14 and 18

**Public Notice**

Take notice that the NJ Department of Environmental Protection is proposing amendments to the existing Marine Fisheries Regulations (N.J.A.C. 7:25-14 and 18) which include changes to certain marine fisheries quotas and seasons, increases in penalties and the inclusion of Hardship Waiver and an Adjudicatory Hearing language.

A statement of the substance of the proposal follows: A primary focus of the proposal is the administration of the annual black sea bass quota. This proposal also includes changes to fisheries for blue crab, conch, winter flounder, tautog, black sea bass, summer flounder, scup and Atlantic herring and increase penalties for violations of certain regulations pertaining to marine fisheries. The proposed amendments increase penalties for violations of certain regulations pertaining to marine fisheries is required to conform the regulations to New Jersey legislation, Section 73 of P.L. 1979, c.199 (C23:2B-14, Marine Fisheries Management and Commercial Fisheries Act). The Department is also proposing to add a hardship waiver provision that would allow a commercial crab license holder to request a waiver to reinstate the license holder's annual commercial crab license in the event that the annual license is denied. Other proposed amendments include the addition of language concerning procedures for requesting and adjudicatory hearing..

The proposal is scheduled to be published in the New Jersey Register dated September 15, 2003. A copy of the proposal is available from: New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400, Attn: Kurt Powers. Please enclose a check or money order made payable to the Division of Fish and Wildlife in the amount of \$3.00 to cover copying costs. This proposal is also available from the Department of Environmental Protection or the Division of Fish and Wildlife Website

Written comments may be submitted by (November 14, 2003) to:

NJ Department of Environmental Protection  
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