



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

#### NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

#### DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE

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CHRIS CHRISTIE

*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO

*Lt. Governor*

BOB MARTIN

*Commissioner*

February 10, 2017

Dear New Jersey Black Sea Bass Permit Holder:

New Jersey Black Sea Bass Dealer:

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has determined that the season 1 by-catch black sea bass quota of 11,924 pounds will be harvested by Tuesday, February 14, 2017. Based upon this information and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.12(h), the New Jersey by-catch black sea bass fishery will be closed as of 6:00 PM, February 14, 2017.

Effective 6:01 PM, February 14, 2017, no vessel shall land or possess and no dealer shall accept any black sea bass through February 28, 2017.

The 2017 Season 2 (March-April) by-catch fishery will open on March 1, 2017 with a by-catch trip limit of 100 pounds. By-catch landings may not exceed ten percent, by weight, of all species landed and sold.

The 2017 Season 2 directed black sea bass fishery will re-open on March 5, 2017, with a directed trip limit of 500 pounds three times per two-week period, 750 pounds two times per two-week period, or 1,500 pounds one time per two-week period. If you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Marine Fisheries at 609-748-2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russ Allen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Russ Allen

Marine Fisheries Administration

LH/PC/TB