



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Larry Herrightly, Director

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

CATHERINE R. MCCABE
Acting Commissioner

February 14, 2018

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 2018 Season 1 (January 7 – February 28) directed black sea bass quota of 139,392 pounds will be harvested by Saturday, February 17, 2018. Based upon this information and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.12(h), the New Jersey directed black sea bass fishery will be closed as of 6:00 PM, Saturday, February 17, 2018.

Effective 6:01 PM, Saturday, February 17, 2018, no vessel shall land or possess and no dealer shall accept any black sea bass in excess of the by-catch trip limit of 100 pounds through February 28, 2018, or until such time as the seasonal by-catch is projected to be taken. By-catch landings may not exceed ten percent, by weight, of all species landed and sold.

The 2018 Season 2 by-catch black sea bass fishery will begin on March 1, 2018, 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 2018 Season 2 directed black sea bass fishery will re-open on March 4, 2018, 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,

Jeffrey Brust
Marine Fisheries Administration

LH/PC/CP