



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
 NORTHEAST REGION
 One Blackburn Drive
 Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

August 20, 2002

SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

Dear Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass
 Party/Charter Vessel Permit Holder:

This letter is to inform you that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) has approved final 2002 recreational measures for the summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass fisheries. This rule was published in the Federal Register on August 2, 2002. All measures are in effect immediately and will remain in effect until further notification. The following table summarizes the minimum size limits, possession limits, and seasons for these fisheries. Please note that, for summer flounder, each vessel is governed by the regulations in effect for the state in which it lands.

2002 Recreational Measures

	Minimum Size (total length)	Possession Limit	Open Season
Summer Flounder	Varies According to State of Landing		
Scup	10 inches (25.4 cm)	20 fish	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28 and July 1 - Oct. 2
Black Sea Bass	11.5 inches (29.2 cm)	25 fish	Year-Round

In cases where state recreational measures for scup and black sea bass are different from those listed above, federally permitted party/charter vessels are required to abide by the more restrictive state or Federal measure. For example, if a state has adopted a possession limit of 100 fish for scup, a federally permitted party/charter vessel is required to abide by the 20- fish per person possession limit when landing recreationally caught fish in that state.

You may also receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by e-mail by clicking on "What's New" on our website at <http://www.nero.nmfs.gov>; or via fax by providing a fax number through a written request to the above address, or by faxing your request to 978-281-9135.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kurkul
 Regional Administrator

