

Striped Bass Draft Addendum II: Options Quick Reference

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

November 2023

This document is a summary resource for the proposed management options presented in Draft Addendum II to Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass. This document lists the proposed options from Draft Addendum II and is intended only to serve as a quick reference.

This document should be used in conjunction with the full Draft Addendum document, which provides more detailed descriptions and background information on the proposed options.

Individuals are strongly encouraged to review the full Draft Addendum II document before submitting comments. Public comments will be accepted until **11:59pm EST on Friday, December 22, 2023**. The full Draft Addendum II document (along with instructions on how to submit public comments) can be found at the following link:

https://asmfc.org/files/PublicInput/AtlStripedBassDraftAddendumII_PublicComment_Oct2023.pdf

More information on providing public comment: <http://www.asmfc.org/about-us/public-input>
Public hearing dates and information: <http://www.asmfc.org/calendar/>

Excerpt from Section 3.1.1 Ocean Recreational Fishery Options

Option A. Status Quo: 1 fish at 28" to less than 35" with 2017 seasons (all modes). This option allows for the continuation of the existing Addendum VI CE plans. Status quo has little to no probability of achieving the objective of this addendum.

Option B. 1 fish at 28" to 31" with 2022 seasons (all modes).

Option C. 1 fish at 28" to 31" with 2022 seasons for private vessel/shore anglers; 1 fish at 28" to 33" with 2022 seasons for the for-hire mode.

Option D. 1 fish at 30" to 33" with 2022 seasons (all modes).

Option E. 1 fish at 30" to 33" with 2022 seasons for private vessel/shore anglers; 1 fish at 28"-33" with 2022 seasons for the for-hire mode.

For all ocean options (besides the status quo), the Chesapeake Bay recreational spring trophy fishery will be managed by the same size limits as the ocean fishery with the 2022 trophy season dates.

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Ocean Recreational Options	Overall Reduction	Harvest Change	Rec. Release Mortality Change
Option A. 1 fish at 28" to < 35" with 2017 season dates (all modes) or approved CEs.			
Option B. 1 fish at 28" – 31" with 2022 seasons (all modes).	-14.1%	-49.9%	+2.0%
Option C. Private vessel/shore: 1 fish at 28" – 31" with 2022 seasons. For-hire: 1 fish at 28" – 33" with 2022 seasons.	-14.0%	-49.5%	+2.0%
Option D. 1 fish at 30" – 33" with 2022 seasons (all modes).	-12.8%	-45.4%	+1.8%
Option E. Private vessel/shore: 1 fish at 30" – 33" with 2022 seasons. For-hire: 1 fish at 28" – 33" with 2022 seasons.	-12.8%	-45.0%	+1.8%

Excerpt from Section 3.1.2 Chesapeake Bay Recreational Fishery Options

Option A. Status Quo: 1 fish at 18" minimum size with 2017 seasons for all Chesapeake Bay recreational fisheries. This option allows for the continuation of the existing Addendum VI CE plans. Status quo has little to no probability of achieving the objective of this addendum.

Option B. Apply a standard minimum size limit, maximum size limit, and bag limit to the Bay jurisdictions' 2022 seasons. The minimum size shall be 19" and the bag limit 1 fish. Maximum size limit options are: B1) 23", B2) 24", B3) 25" or B4) 26".

Option C. Apply a standard minimum size limit, maximum size limit, and mode-specific bag limits to the Bay jurisdictions' 2022 seasons. The minimum size shall be 19", the for-hire bag limit 2 fish, and the private vessel/shore angler bag limit 1 fish. Maximum size limit options are: C1) 23", or C2) 24".

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Chesapeake Bay Recreational Options							
	Min. Size	Max. Size	Bag Limit	Season	Overall Reduction	Harvest Change	Rec. Release Mortality (RRM) Change
Option A	1 fish at 18" minimum size with 2017 seasons, or approved CEs.						
Chesapeake Bay Options with Consistent Minimum Size, Maximum Size, and Bag Limit							
	Min. Size	Max. Size	Bag Limit	Season	Overall Reduction	Harvest Change	RRM Change
Option B1	19" (all jurisdictions)	23"	1 fish (all modes)	same as 2022 ⁺	-22.4%	-38.4%	+6.7%
Option B2	19" (all jurisdictions)	24"	1 fish (all modes)	same as 2022 ⁺	-15.9%	-27.5%	+4.8%
Option B3	19" (all jurisdictions)	25"	1 fish (all modes)	same as 2022 ⁺	-12.1%	-21.1%	+3.7%
Option B4	19" (all jurisdictions)	26"	1 fish (all modes)	same as 2022 ⁺	-10.3%	-18.1%	+3.2%
Chesapeake Bay Options with Consistent Minimum Size, Maximum Size, and Mode-Specific Bag Limits (P/S=private vessel/shore anglers and FH= for-hire)							
	Min. Size	Max. Size	Bag Limit	Season	Overall Reduction	Harvest Change	RRM Change
Option C1	19" (all jurisdictions)	23"	1 fish P/S 2 fish FH	same as 2022 ⁺	-17.9%	-31.4%	+4.9%
Option C2	19" (all jurisdictions)	24"	1 fish P/S 2 fish FH	same as 2022 ⁺	-11.0%	-19.3%	+3.0%

***2022 Chesapeake Bay Bag Limits**

MD: 1 fish-private vessel/shore, 2 fish-For-Hire	PRFC: 2 fish for all modes
DC: 1 fish for all modes	VA: 1 fish for all modes

+2022 Chesapeake Bay Seasons

MD: C&R only: 1.1-3.31, 12.11-12.31 No targeting: 4.1-4.30 Trophy: 5.1.-5.15 (part of ocean fishery) Open: 5.16-7.15, 8.1-12.10 No Targeting: 7.16-7.31	PRFC: No Harvest: 1.1-4.30 Trophy: 5.1-5.15 (part of ocean fishery) Open: 5.16-7.6, 8.21-12.31 No Targeting: 7.7-8.20
DC: No Harvest: 1.1-5.16 Open: 5.16-12.31	VA: No Harvest: 1.1-5.15 Open: 5.16-6.15, 10.4-12.31 No Harvest: 6.16-10.3

Excerpt from Section 3.1.3 For-Hire Management Clarification (if For-Hire Mode-Specific Limits are selected)

Option A. Status Quo. No requirement in the Interstate FMP for Atlantic Striped Bass regarding how for-hire measures would apply to individuals during for-hire trips.

Option B. For-hire management measures apply only to patrons during a for-hire trip; captain and crew during a for-hire trip are subject to the private vessel/shore angler limits.

Excerpt from Section 3.1.4 Recreational Filleting Allowance Requirements

Option A. Status quo. No requirement in the Interstate FMP for Atlantic Striped Bass related to at-sea/shoreside filleting.

Option B. For states that authorize at-sea/shore-side filleting of striped bass, establish minimum requirements, including requirements for: racks to be retained; skin to be left intact; and possession to be limited to no more than two fillets per legal fish. States should consider including language about when and where racks may be disposed of, specific to each mode allowed to fillet at-sea/shore.

Excerpt from Section 3.2.1 Commercial Quota Reduction Options

Option A. Status Quo: The ocean commercial fisheries and/or Chesapeake Bay commercial fisheries will continue to be managed by their Amendment 7 quotas and size limits (i.e., 18% reduction from 2017 levels with 2017 size limits). This option allows for the continuation of the existing Addendum VI CE plans. Status quo has a reduced probability to achieve the objective of this addendum.

Option B. The ocean commercial fisheries and/or Chesapeake Bay commercial fisheries will be managed by quotas representing up to a 14.5% reduction from their 2022 quotas with their 2022 size limits. The Board will select the specific percent reduction between zero and 14.5%.

Commercial quota (in pounds) reduction options for the ocean and Chesapeake Bay are summarized in the table on the next page.

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Commercial Quota Reduction Options						
	Option A. Status Quo (Amendment 7 quotas and size limits; approved CE's may continue)		Option B. Up to a 14.5% Reduction from the 2022 Quotas with the 2022 Size Limits		2022 Commercial Harvest for Reference	Hypothetical 14.5% Reduction in Landings from 2022 Levels if Quotas are Reduced**
	Amendment 7 Quota	CE-Adjusted Quota*	Maximum Quota (-0% from 2022)	Minimum Quota (-14.5% from 2022)		
ME	154	N/A	154	131	0	0
NH	3,537	N/A	3,537	3,024	0	0
MA	713,247	735,240	735,240	628,630	770,101	628,630
RI	148,889	N/A	148,889	127,300	162,434	127,300
CT	14,607	N/A	14,607	12,488	0	0
NY	652,552	640,718	640,718	547,813	623,304	532,924
NJ ⁺	197,877	215,912	215,912	184,604	rec bonus program: 36,807	rec bonus program: 31,470
DE	118,970	142,474	142,474	121,815	139,221	119,034
MD	74,396	89,094	89,094	76,175	88,069	75,299
VA	113,685	125,034	125,034	106,904	121,723	104,073
NC	295,495	N/A	295,495	252,648	0	0
MD Ches Bay	2,588,603	3,001,648	3,001,648	2,566,409	2,386,559	2,040,508
PRFC						
VA Ches Bay						

+ Through a quota-managed CE, New Jersey transfers its commercial quota to a recreational bonus program fishery.

*Some states adjusted their commercial quotas through approved CE programs.

**If commercial quotas are reduced by 14.5%, landings would only decrease by the same amount if states continue to harvest the same percent of their available quota as they did in 2022 (e.g., if a state harvested 90% of their commercial quota in 2022, it is assumed they will harvest 90% of the future reduced quota). For states that exceeded their quotas in 2022, a 14.5% reduction in landings is estimated excluding the overage.

Section 3.3 Response to Stock Assessment Updates

If an upcoming stock assessment prior to the rebuilding deadline, currently 2029, indicates the stock is not projected to rebuild by 2029 with a probability greater than or equal to 50%:

Option A. Status Quo: the Board would initiate and develop an addendum to consider adjusting management measures.

- An addendum process includes a public comment period with public hearings and an opportunity to submit written comments on the draft addendum document.
- Based on assessment timing and the typical addendum development and implementation process, new measures would likely not be implemented until two years following the assessment. For example, the 2024 stock assessment is expected in October 2024. If the Board initiates an addendum in October 2024, approves it for public comment in February 2025, and then selects final measures in May 2025, the earliest implementation would likely be late 2025 or early 2026.

Option B. The Board could respond via Board action where the Board could change management measures by voting to pass a motion at a Board meeting instead of developing an addendum or amendment and different from the emergency action process.

- Public comment could be provided during Board meetings per the Commission's guidelines for public comment at Board meetings, and/or public comment could be provided in writing to the Board per the Commission's timeline for submission of written public comments prior to Board meetings.
- This option would allow a more expedited response to assessment updates. For example, when the 2024 stock assessment update is complete in October 2024, the Board could change management measures at that October 2024 meeting or a meeting shortly thereafter, which would enable new measures to be implemented for at least part of the 2025 season.