



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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## MEMORANDUM

December 5, 2022

**TO:** Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board  
**FROM:** Tracey Bauer, FMP Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** 2023 Commercial Scup and Black Sea Bass Quotas

This memo indicates state shares for the 2023 scup commercial summer quota period fishery and state shares for the 2023 commercial black sea bass fishery. As a reminder, per the provisions of Addendum XXIX, the scup summer period quota is Sunday, May 1 through Friday, September 30.

### Scup

The scup commercial quota for 2023 is 14.01 million pounds. The 2023 specifications for scup represent a 31% decrease from the 2022 quota level.

### Scup Winter I Possession Limit (January-April)

The 2023 Winter I quota is 6,319,911 pounds<sup>1</sup>. The federal and state possession limit in Winter I is 50,000 pounds per trip for Scup. When 80% of quota is reached, the possession limit will drop to 1,000 pounds per trip.

### Summer Period (May-September)

The 2023 summer period quota is 5,456,895 pounds<sup>1</sup>. Preliminary 2021 landings in Table 1 are from the Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS) database and are not final. 2022 state shares may be adjusted for overages after NOAA Fisheries publishes final 2021 landings. However, all state overages are forgiven during years when the fishing period quota are not exceeded.

### Winter II (October-December)

The 2023 Winter II quota is 2,233,194 pounds<sup>1</sup>. The initial Winter II possession limit is 12,000 pounds. The Winter II possession limit-to-rollover amount ratios will be 1,500 pounds per 500,000 pounds of unused Winter I period quota transferred to the Winter II period. The Winter II period begins Saturday, October 1 and goes through Saturday, December 31.

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<sup>1</sup> Pending NMFS approval

## Black Sea Bass

The black sea bass commercial quota for 2023 will decrease by 21% to 4.80 million pounds. Based on preliminary data there is no reduction to the initial 2023 commercial quota due to quota overages, though the 2023 quota and state shares may be adjusted later based on updated data. Addendum XXXIII adjusted the baseline allocations of commercial quota to states, as well as the methodology to distribute the quota based on regional biomass distribution. Table 2 indicates the 2023 state baseline allocations, regional biomass distributions, and final state commercial quotas for black sea bass under Addendum XXXIII; more information about the addendum can be found [here](#).

For more information, please contact Tracey Bauer, FMP Coordinator, at [tbauer@asmfc.org](mailto:tbauer@asmfc.org).

**Table 1. 2022 and 2023 Scup Commercial Summer Period State Quotas (pounds)**

State	Share	2022 ASMFC Summer Period Quota	2022 Transfers	Final 2022 Summer Period Quota	2022 Preliminary Landings <sup>2</sup>	Initial 2023 Summer Period Quota <sup>3</sup>
ME	0.00121	9,607		9,607	0	6,603
MA	0.21587	1,713,747	-200,000	1,513,747	494,558	1,177,996
RI	0.56195	4,461,110		4,461,110	2,090,631	3,066,478
CT	0.03154	250,385	200,000	450,385	363,580	172,110
NY	0.15825	1,256,270		1,256,270	1,288,245	863,535
NJ	0.02917	231,546		231,546	156,947	159,160
MD	0.00012	944		944	448	649
VA	0.00165	13,100		13,100	9,588	9,005
NC	0.00025	1,976		1,976	0	1,359
Total	100%	7,938,686		7,938,686	4,403,997	5,456,895

<sup>2</sup> These landings are from SAFIS and are not final.

<sup>3</sup> The 2023 Summer Period Quota number is pending NMFS approval

**Table 2. 2023 Black Sea Bass Commercial State Quotas (pounds) under Addendum XXXIII.**

State	Baseline Allocations	Regional Biomass Distribution (2021 Assessment)	Total State Allocations	State Quota Based on 2023 Coastwide Quota (4,800,000 lbs)
ME	0.25%	85%	0.40%	19,200
NH	0.25%		0.40%	19,200
MA	12.622%		15.44%	741,071
RI	10.68%		13.06%	627,060
CT	3.00%		3.67%	176,137
NY	8.00%		9.79%	469,697
NJ - N	9.709%		15%	19.81%
NJ - S	9.709%	4.09%		196,220
DE	5.00%	8.73%		419,134
MD	10.68%	15.88%		762,062
VA	19.419%	8.73%		419,134
NC	10.68%			
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>4,800,000</b>