

2026-2027 State black sea bass recreational management measures

State	Size Limit	Possession Limit	Open Season
MAINE	13"	10 fish	May 19 – September 21: October 18 – December 31
NEW HAMPSHIRE	16.5"	4 fish	January 1 – December 31
MASSACHUSETTS	16"	4 fish	May 16 – August 31
		2 fish	September 1 – October 14
RHODE ISLAND Private & Shore	16"	3 fish	May 16 – December 31
RHODE ISLAND For-hire	16"	4 fish	May 16 – August 31
		6 fish	September 1 – December 31
CONNECTICUT Private & Shore	15.5"	4 fish	May 16 – November 25
CT (Authorized For-hire Monitoring Program vessels)	15.5"	4 fish	May 16 – August 31
		6 fish	September 1 – December 31
NEW YORK	16"	3 fish	May 16 – August 31
		6 fish	September 1 – December 31
NEW JERSEY	12.5"	10 fish	May 15 – June 21
		1 fish	June 22 – September 22
		10 fish	September 23 – October 31
		15 fish	November 1 – December 31
DELAWARE	12.5"	15 fish	May 1 – December 31
MARYLAND	12.5"	15 fish	May 1 – December 31
VIRGINIA	13"	15 fish	2026: May 11 – December 31 2027: April 1 – December 31
NORTH CAROLINA North of Cape Hatteras (N of 35° 15'N)	13"	15 fish	April 1 – December 31