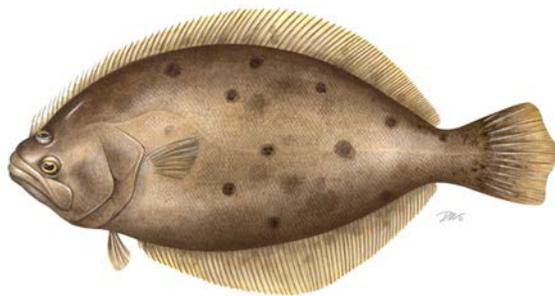


Draft Addendum XXXII for Public Comment

Recreational Management for Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass



Presented by Caitlin Starks, FMP Coordinator
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
November 2018

Outline



1. Document Development Timeline
2. Background
3. Management Options
 - Status quo/Coastwide measures
 - Setting measures through specifications
 - a. Standards and Guiding Principles
 - Summer Flounder
 - Black Sea Bass
4. Questions & Public Comments

Document Development



Board Initiated Draft
Addendum XXXII

May 2018

Board Approval of Draft
Addendum XXXII for
Public Comment

October 2018

Public Comment

November 2018

Board Considers Final
Addendum

December 2018

Background



- Summer Flounder managed under Addendum XXVIII, expires in 2018
- Black Sea Bass managed under Addendum XXX, expires 2018
- May 2018: Board motion to develop a new action for black sea bass (Add. XXXII)
- August 2018: Board initiated addendum for black sea bass, added summer flounder recreational management

Addendum Objectives



- Equity and regulatory stability
- Harvest opportunities commensurate with species abundance and distribution
- Management measures responsive to harvest estimates, stock status information, and public input
- Recreational program for both species until long-term management changes

Management Options



For Both Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass:

Option A: Status quo/Coastwide Measures

Option B: Setting Measures through the Specifications Process

Standards and Guiding Principles

➔ **Sub-option B1**

➔ **Sub-option B2**

} (Black Sea Bass Only)

Option A: Status Quo



- Coastwide measures are the default under the FMP for both species
- Summer flounder: status quo = CE
- Black sea bass: status quo = 1 set of uniform measures
- Selecting this option would not require addendum

Option B: Setting Measures through Specifications



- Procedural change from current process
- Same general procedures for projecting/evaluating harvest and developing measures
- Public input through state processes
- No formal state shares, no addenda

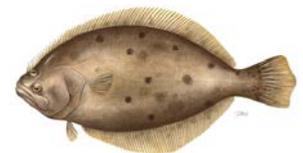
Standards and Guiding Principles



- If Option B is selected, sets of standards and guiding principles would structure development of measures
- General goals are regulatory stability and equitable access
- **Different standards and guiding principles for summer flounder and black sea bass**

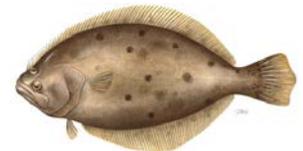
Summer Flounder Standards:

1. Measures developed using a six-region approach: 1) MA, 2) RI, 3) CT-NY, 4) NJ, 5) DE-VA, and 6) NC
2. Measures for all states within a region will consist of the same minimum size limit, possession limit, and season length.
3. Alternative methodologies outside of those proposed by the TC must first be approved by the Board.



Summer Flounder Guiding Principles:

- Regional measures should be adjusted unidirectionally along the coast
- Aim for regulatory stability over time and reduce differences between neighboring states
- Allow some regional flexibility based on availability and fishery performance



Black Sea Bass Standards:

1. Measures will be developed using a three-region approach: 1) MA-NY; 2) NJ; and 3) DE-NC (north of Cape Hatteras).
2. The Board will determine how coastwide harvest liberalization or reduction is distributed among the regions.
3. TBD based on Sub-options...



**There are 2 sub-options for Black Sea Bass Standard 3

Sub-option B1: Recreational measures within a region will be crafted using the prior year's measures as a starting point...

- If a no regional reduction is required, then no state will be required to reduce measures.
- If regional liberalization is allowed, states develop their measures in a manner that collectively reduces intraregional disparities.
- If regional reduction is required, states will develop measures in a manner that ensures each state takes an equitable reduction



Standards and Guiding Principles: Black Sea Bass



**There are 2 sub-options for Black Sea Bass Standard 3

Sub-option B2: Recreational measures within a region will be crafted using a regional regulatory standard as a starting point.

- All states within the region adopt same standard minimum size
- Possession limit can deviate from the standard by no more than 3 fish
- Season can deviate from standard provided the disparity between the least and most restrictive seasons within the region does not increase from the prior year.



Black Sea Bass Guiding Principles:

- Limit disproportionate harvest reductions for individual states.
- Reduce interregional differences between measures when possible.



	Addendum Process	Specifications Process
Oct	Initiate Addendum	TC evaluates preliminary MRIP estimates and performance of measures & other information
Oct-Nov	Staff develops draft addendum with example measures based on preliminary MRIP estimates	
Dec	Approve for Public Comment	States can begin seeking public input on recreational measures*
Jan	ASMFC Public Hearings	
Feb	Approve Final Addendum Complete MRIP estimates released. TC evaluates complete estimates and states adjust measures	Board approves methodology for developing measures TC evaluates complete MRIP estimates and submits proposals
March	Approve final measures	

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Specifications Process Summary



- Specifications process aims to improve process, reduce confusion
- No addenda required
- No formal shares of the RHL
- Public input will occur through state processes, instead of ASMFC hearings
- Final measures still available annually
~March/April

Options Summary



Summer Flounder Options

- Option A: Status quo/Coastwide Measures
- Option B: Setting Measures through the Specifications Process

Black Sea Bass Options

- Option A: Status quo/Coastwide Measures
- Option B: Setting Measures through the Specifications
 - Standards and Guiding Principles
 - Sub-option B1: Start with prior year measures
 - Sub-option B2: Start with regulatory standard

Next Steps



- Ask questions now

Then...

- Provide public comment on:
 - 1) Preferred management option
 - 2) Preferred black sea bass standards

Send Public Comment to:



Caitlin Starks

FMP Coordinator

email: comments@asmfc.org

Subject line: 'Draft Addendum XXXII Comment'

mail address: 1050 N. Highland St.

Suite 200A-N

Arlington, VA 22201

Deadline: **Thursday, November 29th at 5 PM**