



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission  
380 Fenwick Rd  
Building 96  
Fort Monroe, Virginia 23651*

Matthew J. Strickler  
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman  
Commissioner

July 29, 2020

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** SPECKLED TROUT BUYERS

**FROM:** VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

**SUBJECT:** COMMERCIAL SPECKLED TROUT BUYER REPORTING –DAILY CALL INS

On July 28, 2020, the Commission approved changes to Chapter 4 VAC 20-280-10 et seq, “Pertaining to Speckled Trout and Red Drum”. Chapter 4 VAC 20-280-55 requires any licensed seafood buyer to report, **daily purchases**, from August 1 through November 30. This reporting change will allow for better management of the commercial speckled trout fishery in Virginia. Please call the Commission’s Interactive Voice Recording System (800-937-9247, Option 1 then Option 5) and report **any purchases** of speckled trout, in pounds, on a daily basis.

Please note that the 2020-2021 commercial speckled trout season will open from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. When the commercial landings are predicted to reach 80% of the commercial quota, it will be announced on the Commission website that the fishery will move into a bycatch only fishery, with a 100 pound daily landing limit.

If it is projected that the commercial landings quota of 51,104 pounds will be met by a certain date during the commercial speckled trout season, the Commission will provide notice of the closing date for commercial harvest and landing of speckled trout during that period; and it shall be unlawful for any person to harvest or land speckled trout for commercial purposes after the closing date for the remainder of the season.

The VMRC appreciates your cooperation in continuing the successful management of this important resource.

For any questions or concerns, please contact Jill Ramsey at (757) 247-2243.

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