



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marine Resources Commission

Building 96

380 Fenwick Road

Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

Attention Virginia Black Sea Bass Anglers,

The special recreational season for black sea bass will open from February 1 through February 28, 2021. The minimum size limit remains 12.5" and the possession limit is 15 fish per person. The captain or operator of any vessel MUST have a Recreational Black Sea Bass Permit, which can be obtained through our website (<https://webapps.mrc.virginia.gov/public/mpermits/index.php>) or through one of our licensing agents (<https://mrc.virginia.gov/mrcagents.shtm>). Agent locations may be closed to the public at this time; call ahead before picking up a permit in person.

Before each trip - Permittees MUST contact Virginia Marine Law Enforcement Operations at **1-800-541-4646** before or immediately after the start of each fishing trip with:

- Permittee's name
- MRC ID number (found on permit)
- Description of the vessel
- The ramp or marina of landing
- Estimated return to shore time
- Cell phone number

You may be asked to call or text VMRC staff on your way back to shore. A condition of Virginia holding this special season is collecting biological samples of black sea bass landed in February and we thank you for your help in coordinating our efforts.

Reporting Requirements - Every permittee (the captain or operator of the vessel only) MUST report all trips and all black sea bass caught for everyone on their vessel OR that they did not fish for black sea bass in February no later than March 15th, 2021.

- To report online through the Virginia Saltwater Fisherman's Journal:
<https://www.vasaltwaterjournal.com>
- To report by mail:
https://mrc.virginia.gov/Forms/2021/2021_Recreational_Reporting_Form.pdf

We want to thank you for providing this information to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission. The data that you provide will be used to characterize Virginia's 2021 February black sea bass fishery and helps promote future efforts in retaining this special season.

If you have any further questions, please contact the VMRC at (757) 247-2069 or (757) 247-2267.

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 (757) 247-2292 V/TDD Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646 V/TDD