

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marine Resources Commission 380 Fenwick Road Building 96 Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Steven G. Bowman Commissioner

October 28, 2021

TO: SUMMER FLOUNDER INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF VIRGINIA'S FALL PERIOD ONE DIRECTED OFFSHORE SUMMER FLOUNDER FISHERY AND OPENING OF FALL PERIOD TWO

Fall Period One

Ann F. Jennings

Secretary of Natural and Historic

Resources

• Effective 11:59 P.M., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), Sunday, October 31, 2021, the Fall Period One Directed Virginia Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery will close.

Vessels that have entered Virginia waters and secured to an offloading site prior to 11:59 P.M., EDT, Sunday, October 31, 2021, may possess and offload up to 15,000 pounds of summer flounder, minus any previous landings since September 8, 2021.

Fall Period Two

• Effective 12:01 A.M., Monday November 1, 2021, the Fall Period Two Directed Virginia Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery will open for vessels with a Virginia Summer Flounder Endorsement License.

The landing limit for the Offshore (EEZ) Fishery from November 1 through December 31, 2021 is 12,000 pounds. Vessels may land a maximum of 12,000 pounds for the entire period of November 1 through December 31, 2021.

Additional Information

On Tuesday December 7, 2021, the VMRC will hold a public hearing to amend Chapter 4VAC20-620-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Summer Flounder," to establish a third Fall Period opening that would begin on December 8, 2021. If this amendment is approved by the Commission the announcement for this Third Fall Period will be posted at: https://mrc.virginia.gov.

If you have questions or comments, contact Jill Ramsey at (757) 247-2243.

An Agency of the Natural and Historic 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