



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marine Resources Commission

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December 29, 2025

TO: SUMMER FLOUNDER INDUSTRY
FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION
SUBJECT: OPENING OF VIRGINIA'S 2026 DIRECTED OFFSHORE SUMMER FLOUNDER FISHERY

2026 Period One Opening

- **Effective 12:01 A.M., Wednesday, February 4, 2026, the 2026 Period One Directed Virginia Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery will open for vessels with a Virginia Summer Flounder Endorsement License.**
- The 2026 Period One Directed Virginia Offshore Summer Flounder fishery will be open from Wednesday, February 4 through Monday, April 20, 2026. The landing limit for this open period is 15,000 pounds per trip.
- Vessels may land 15,000 pounds per trip during the time period of February 4 through April 20, 2026.
- **During the open Directed Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery periods, each vessel shall hold a Virginia Summer Flounder Endorsement License and adhere to the below restrictions:**
- It shall be unlawful for any vessel to land in Virginia any amount of summer flounder more than once in any consecutive 5-day period.
- It shall be unlawful to possess aboard any vessel in Virginia waters any amount of summer flounder in excess of the total of the Virginia landing limit (15,000 pounds) and the amount of the legal North Carolina or New Jersey landing limit or trip limit.
- It shall be unlawful for any person to possess aboard any vessel, in Virginia, any amount of summer flounder, once it has been projected and announced that 100% of the quota described in 4VAC20-620-30 A has been taken.

An Agency of the Natural and Historic Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646

- For additional requirements please visit:
 - <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title4/agency20/chapter620/>

Additional Information

All announcements regarding the opening and closing of Virginia's Directed Offshore Flounder Fishery can be found on the home page of the agency website (<https://mrc.virginia.gov>), by clicking the link for "Summer Flounder Notices" under the section labeled Commercial Fishing.