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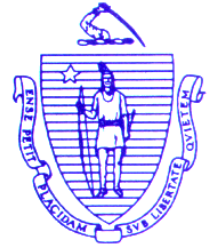
## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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April 22, 2013

*MarineFisheries Advisory*

### **BLACK SEA BASS RECREATIONAL BAG LIMIT CHANGE**

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A recent action by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) has authorized the Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) to increase the 2013 black sea bass recreational bag limit from the previously announced three fish to **four fish**. Consequently, *MarineFisheries* is in the process of implementing the following (revised) recreational black sea bass regulations:

| <b>Mode</b>   | <b>Season</b>            | <b>Bag Limit</b> | <b>Minimum Size</b> |
|---|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Private Angler  | May 11 – October 31      | 4 fish           | 14 inches           |
| For-Hire  | May 11 – October 31      | 4 fish           | 14 inches           |
| For-Hire vessels<br>choosing Closed<br>Season Option* | May 11 – June 14         | 10 fish          | 14 inches           |
|   | July 1 – August 11       | 20 fish          | 14 inches           |
|   | September 1 – October 10 | 20 fish          | 14 inches           |

\* To participate in the Closed Season For-Hire Black Sea Bass Fishery, permit holders must apply for a Letter of Authorization (LOA) from *MarineFisheries* by no later than May 1, 2013. Click this [link](#) to see the conditions that will apply and to request an LOA.

Due to the late timing of federal and interstate management decisions affecting the Commonwealth's recreational measures for black sea bass (as well as scup and fluke), *MarineFisheries* is implementing the 2013 regulations for these species by emergency action. Final action is pending. A subsequent public hearing and comment period will be announced at a later date.

For further information, review the ASMFC press release [here](#), or visit our website: [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).