



David E. Pierce, PhD.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

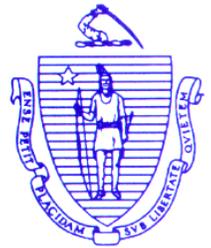
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**DIRECTOR'S DECLARATION:
ADJUSTMENTS TO COMMERCIAL BLACK SEA BASS
TRIP LIMITS AND OPEN FISHING DAYS**

Pursuant to the notice and public comment requirements of G.L. c. 30A §3 and under the authority at G.L. c. 130 §§2, 17A and 80 and 322 CMR §§6.41(2)(d) and 7.01(7), the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries makes the following Declaration to adjust the commercial black sea bass trip limits and fishing days:

- 1. Commercial black sea bass trip limits for black sea bass pot fishermen, fishing under the authority of regulated fishery black sea bass pot permit endorsement, has been increased from 300 pounds per open fishing day to 400 pounds per open fishing day.**
- 2. Commercial black sea bass trip limits for fishermen using gears other than black sea bass pots, fishing under the authority of a regulated fishery black sea bass permit endorsement, has been increased from 150 pounds per open fishing day to 200 pounds per open fishing day.**
- 3. All commercial black sea bass fishermen, fishing under the authority of either a regulated fishery black sea bass pot permit endorsement or a regulated fishery black sea bass permit endorsement, may retain, possess and land commercial limits of black sea bass on Thursdays.**

Dated: September 18, 2017

By: 