



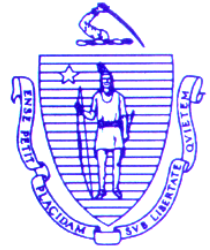
**Paul J. Diodati**  
Director

# *Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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**Timothy P. Murray**  
Lt. Governor  
**Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.**  
Secretary  
**Mary B. Griffin**  
Commissioner

May 13, 2013

### **Notice of Public Hearing and Comment Period To Accept Comments on Recently Enacted Emergency Regulations**

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Under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 2 and pursuant to the authority found at M.G.L. c. 130 § 17A and 21, the Division of Marine Fisheries (*Marine Fisheries*) and the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission (MFC) have scheduled a public comment period and public hearing. *Marine Fisheries* will only accept comment related to permanently codifying the recently enacted emergency regulations affecting recreational black sea bass, scup and fluke regulations (322 CMR 6.22 and 6.28), as described below:

1. **Recreational Fluke Regulations (322 CMR 6.22)**
  - a. Decreased the minimum size for recreationally caught fluke to 16 inches.
2. **Recreational Scup Regulations (322 CMR 6.28)**
  - a. Decreased the minimum size for recreationally caught scup to 10 inches;
  - b. Increased the daily per recreational angler bag limit to 30 scup; and
  - c. Extended the for-hire bonus season to May 1 – June 30.
3. **Recreational Black Sea Bass Regulations (322 CMR 6.28)**
  - a. Decreased the daily per recreational angler bag limit to 4 black sea bass; and
  - b. Implemented a closed season fishery with higher bag limits for for-hire vessels.

#### **Public Comment and Hearing Schedule**

Public comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Monday, June 17, 2013.

Please e-mail all public comments to [jared.silva@state.ma.us](mailto:jared.silva@state.ma.us) or send to 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.

A public hearing will be held on Friday, June 14, 2013 at *Marine Fisheries*' Quest Center from 2:00 – 3:00 PM. The Quest Center is located at 1213 Purchase Street, New Bedford, MA 02740.

For further information or to obtain a copy of the full proposed regulations please contact Jared Silva by phone (617-626-1534) or through e-mail ([jared.silva@state.ma.us](mailto:jared.silva@state.ma.us)), or visit our website ([www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)).