

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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August 5, 2025 MarineFisheries Advisory

DMF Initiates Multi-Day Program for Black Sea Bass and Scup Potters Effective August 10 for the Remainder of 2025 Commercial Fishing Season

Based on the performance of the commercial black sea bass and scup fisheries to date, DMF is commencing a pilot program that allows <u>black sea bass pot and scup pot permit holders</u> to possess and land consecutive daily trip limits that were lawfully caught and retained over two consecutive open fishing days provided each day's catch is segregated and tagged. To be eligible to participate in the pilot program, the permit holder must hold a valid 2025 black sea bass pot permit endorsement or scup pot permit endorsement and a clean fisheries enforcement record over the past calendar year.

This program will go into effect on Sunday, August 10, 2025 and DMF is currently accepting applications to participate. To apply, please email Bradlie Morgan (bradlie.morgan@mass.gov) the following information: (1) permit holder name; (2) vessel name; and (3) DMF permit number.

Upon receipt, DMF will review the application. If approved, the permit holder will be provided with a Letter of Authorization, program logbook, and a set of single use tags for securing and segregating the first day's catch. This can be made available for pick up at DMF's New Bedford office at SMAST East (836 S. Rodney French Boulevard) during normal business hours or by mail via the United States Postal Service.

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