



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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Marine Fisheries Advisory

COMMERCIAL SCUP POSSESSION LIMIT FOR WINTER PERIODS

NOAA Fisheries has announced a 13,500-pound federal possession limit for scup during the 2023 Winter II Period of October 1–December 31 ([Bulletin](#)). Commercial fishers targeting scup in state waters are reminded that the state waters limit during the Winter II and Winter I periods (October 1–April 30) is 2,000 pounds. However, vessels with federal scup permits may exceed the state limit provided the non-conforming fish were lawfully taken from federal waters; the vessel is transiting through state waters and makes no stops except to land fish in a Massachusetts port (unless so directed by law enforcement personnel); all fishing gear is out of the water and properly stowed onboard the vessel; and all other applicable federal regulations are followed.

For more information regarding the management of scup in Massachusetts, please visit our website (www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).