



Instructions: This form may be used to apply for the Closed Season For-Hire Black Sea Bass Fishery. Please provide all requested information. Incomplete forms may result in the delay or non-issuance of a Letter of Authorization (LOA) to participate in this fishery.

DMF has received permission from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to allow for-hire vessels to choose an alternative management program for black sea bass for 2013 that maintains last year's bag limits while reducing the number of fishing days the vessel can participate in the fishery. Specifically, the following bag limits and open days will apply: 10 fish, May 11 – June 14; 20 fish, July 1 – August 11; and 20 fish, September 1 – October 10.

If you opt to participate in this Closed Season For-Hire Black Sea Bass Fishery, you must fill out the application below. Mail, fax or scan this application back to DMF by May 1. No applications will be accepted after May 1. Note: before applying, please consider the conditions that all participants will be required to abide by. Violation of any condition may result in immediate forfeiture of the LOA for the remainder of the 2013 season.

Conditions:

- 1) to maintain the vessel in this program for the entire year;
- 2) to abide by all black sea bass regulations concerning minimum size, bag limit, and season; the size limit shall be 14" and the bag limit on open fishing days shall be 10 fish during May 11 – June 14 and 20 fish during July 1 – August 11 and September 1 – October 10;
- 3) to agree that during the closed periods no black sea bass will be retained on the vessel for recreational purposes; the closed periods shall be June 15 – 30, August 12 – 31, and October 11 – May 10;
- 4) during the open days when not conducting a for-hire trip, to limit anglers onboard the vessel to 3 black sea bass per angler;
- 5) to restrict the captain and crew's retention of black sea bass during any for-hire trip to 3 fish per angler, which may be for personal use only; the higher for-hire bag limits apply to paying patrons only;
- 6) to commercially fish for black sea bass during the closed for-hire periods with no more than two people on board the vessel;
- 7) to comply with additional daily logbook reporting of black sea bass catch if not completing federally-required vessel trip reports; and
- 8) to agree to be held responsible for the compliance of all persons fishing aboard the vessel with the recreational fishing regulations.

Applicant Information		
Last Name:	First Name:	DMF ID:
Licensed Captain & Vessel Information		
Vessel Name:	Registration #:	
Business Name:	Operator Name:	
Operator Phone:	U.S. Coast Guard License #:	
Vessel Homeport:	Vessel Length:	

I certify under the pains and penalties of perjury that all information contained in the application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Applicant: _____
(Signature of applicant) _____ Date _____

Applications can be mailed to:
Division of Marine Fisheries
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
Attention: Shannon Davis

or faxed to: 617-626-1509
or scanned to: shannon.davis@state.ma.us