

2008 MAINE STRIPED BASS REGULATIONS

Maine's striped bass regulations cover all Maine coastal waters up to the head of tide in all rivers. In addition, there are special regulations in effect from December 1 through June 30 in the Kennebec, Sheepscot and Androscoggin Rivers and all related tributaries (see below).

FEDERAL REGULATION

It is unlawful to fish for, take or possess striped bass in Federal waters (waters greater than 3 miles from shore).

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

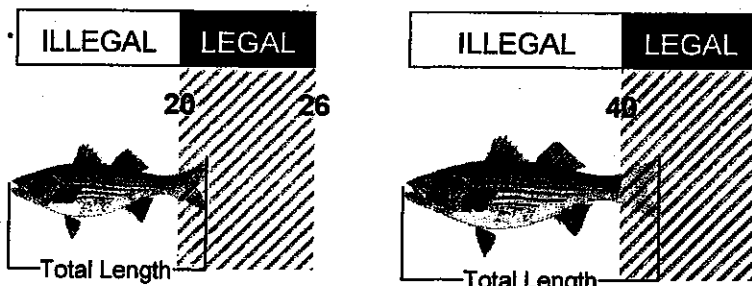
OPEN SEASON January 1 through December 31, inclusive (except the Kennebec watershed, see below).

BAG & SIZE LIMITS A person may take and possess 1 fish per day. The fish may be between 20 and 26 inches total length, inclusive, **OR** 40 inches or greater in total length.

TOTAL LENGTH Total length is a straight line measurement from the lower jaw to the tip of the tail with the tail pinched together.

DISPOSITION Personal use only, sale is prohibited. Fish must remain whole and intact.

GENERAL GEAR RESTRICTIONS Hook and line only, no gaffing of striped bass.



SPECIAL KENNEBEC** REGULATIONS

(including the Sheepscot and Androscoggin Rivers and all related bays and tributaries)

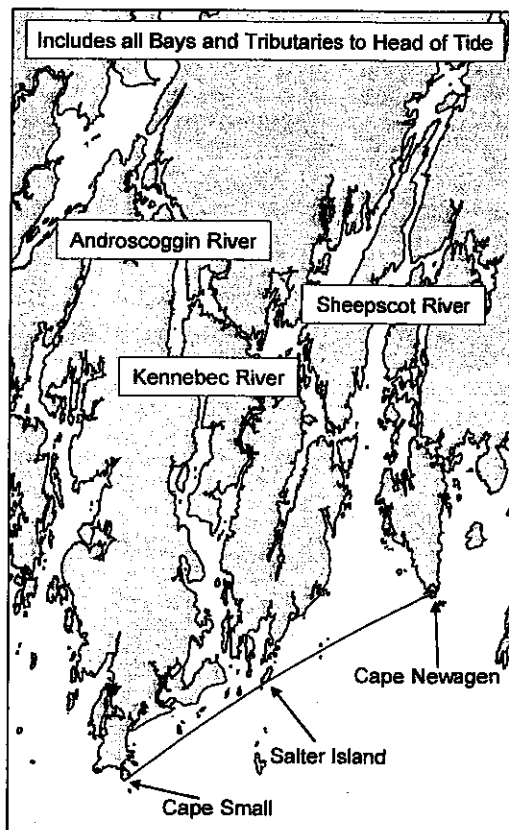
CATCH & RELEASE SEASON WITH SPECIAL GEAR RESTRICTIONS From May 1 through June 30, inclusive. Fishing in this area is restricted to single hooked* artificial lures only and use of or possession of marine bait, dead or alive, is prohibited.

OPEN SEASON July 1 through November 30, inclusive.

CLOSED SEASON Striped bass fishing is prohibited from December 1 through April 30, inclusive.

(* may be a single treble hook)

** The Kennebec watershed is defined as all coastal waters inside and upstream of a line drawn from the outer extremity of Cape Small, in Phippsburg, to the outer extremity of Salter Island, thence to the outer extremity of Cape Newagen, in Southport. This area includes the coastal waters of Popham Beach and the adjoining State Park, Reid State Park, and all riverine waters of the Kennebec, Sheepscot, and Androscoggin Rivers including all bays and tributaries of those rivers to the head of tide. Due to the removal of Edwards dam, the "head of tide" in the Kennebec River is now at the downstream side of the power line located approximately 4,200 feet upstream of the Father Curran Bridge in Augusta for enforcement purposes.



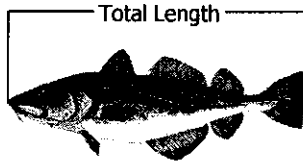
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

Marine Resources Laboratory
P.O. Box 8, West Boothbay Harbor, ME 04575-0008
Telephone (207) 633-9500
Fax (207) 633-9579

2008 MAINE MARINE RECREATIONAL SPORTFISHING REGULATIONS

The following Maine saltwater recreational fishing regulations are current as of March 1, 2008. **However, they are subject to change.** Please contact our office or your local Marine Patrol Officer with questions. All minimum lengths are total length, **NOT** fork length. The **sale of fish** by recreational anglers is prohibited.

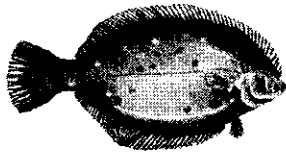
HOW TO MEASURE YOUR FISH



Total Length

from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail

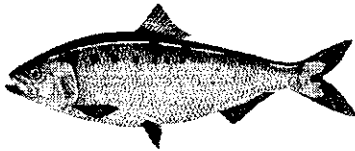
Winter Flounder (*Pleuronectes americanus*)



Minimum size 12"
8 fish per angler per day

Shad

(*Alosa sapidissima*)



No minimum size
Using only hook and line, a person may fish for or possess only two fish per day

Pollock

(*Pollachius virens*)



Minimum size 19"
EXCEPTION: A creel limit of 6 pollock per person per day that are under 19" total length is allowed for recreational anglers in Maine territorial seas.

Atlantic Halibut

(*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*)



Minimum size 38"
1 fish per boat per day
All retained fish shall immediately be tagged with an approved landings tag

Atlantic Salmon

(*Salmo salar*)



It is unlawful to angle, take or possess any Atlantic salmon from all Maine waters (including coastal waters). Any salmon incidentally caught, must be released immediately, alive and uninjured. At no time should the Atlantic salmon be removed from the water.

Atlantic Mackerel

(*Scomber scombrus*)



No size or bag limits

Bluefish

(*Pomatomus saltatrix*)



No minimum size
3 fish per angler per day

Brown Trout

(*Salmo trutta*)



Minimum size 14"
2 fish per angler per day

Redfish

(*Sebastes fasciatus*)



Minimum size 9"
No bag limits

Atlantic Cod

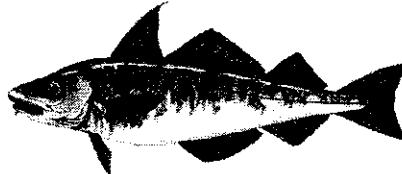
(*Gadus morhua*)



Minimum size 24"
10 fish per angler per day
Cannot retain cod from November 1 to March 31, inclusive.

Haddock

(*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*)



Minimum size 19"
No bag limits

Rainbow Smelt

(*Osmerus mordax*)



Method of take: hook and line, dip net

Bag Limit:

June 16 – March 14: no limit, personal use only unless harvester holds commercial fishing license, no license required to sell smelts taken thru ice.

March 15 – June 15: 2 quart limit regardless of method of take.

When fishing for **groundfish**, recreational anglers will be limited to **two hooks per line** and **one line per angler**.



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