



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Marine Resources Commission

2600 Washington Avenue

Third Floor

Newport News, Virginia 23607

Molly Joseph Ward  
Secretary of Natural Resources

John M.R. Bull  
Commissioner

December 18, 2014

**TO: SUMMER FLOUNDER INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2014 DIRECTED VIRGINIA OFFSHORE SUMMER FLOUNDER FISHERY**

Effective 3:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time (EST), Sunday, December 21, 2014, the Directed Virginia Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery will close. Vessels that have entered Virginia waters and secured to an offloading site by 3:00 P.M., EST, Sunday, December 21, 2014 may possess and offload 10,000 pounds of Summer Flounder. As a reminder:

- 1) It is unlawful for any vessel to land in Virginia any amount of summer flounder more than once in any consecutive 5-day period. Therefore only vessels that have landed prior to December 17, 2014 will be eligible to land on December 21, 2014.**
- 2) Only vessels holding a valid Virginia Summer Flounder Endorsement License may possess summer flounder.
- 3) It shall be unlawful for a licensed seafood buyer or federally permitted seafood buyer to fail to contact the Marine Resources Commission Operation Station (757-247-2265 or 1-800-541-4646), prior to a vessel offloading Summer Flounder harvested outside of Virginia. The buyer shall provide to the Commission the name of the vessel and its captain and the anticipated or approximate offloading time.
- 4) Once offloading of any vessel is complete and the total weight of the landed Summer Flounder has been determined, the buyer shall contact the Marine Resources Commission Operations Station and report the vessel name and corresponding total weight of Summer Flounder landed.
- 5) It shall be unlawful, for any person, to offload, from a boat or vessel, for commercial purposes, any Summer Flounder during the period of 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

*An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat*

[www.mrc.virginia.gov](http://www.mrc.virginia.gov)

Telephone (757) 247-2200 (757) 247-2292 V/TDD Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646 V/TDD

After 3:00 P.M., EST, December 21, 2014, it shall be unlawful for any person harvesting Summer Flounder outside of Virginia's waters to do any of the following:

- 1) Possess on board any vessel in Virginia waters any amount of Summer Flounder, in excess of 10% by weight, of Atlantic croaker or the combined landings, on board a vessel, of black sea bass, scup, squid, scallops and Atlantic mackerel.
- 2) Possess on board any vessel in Virginia waters any amount of Summer Flounder, in excess of 1,500 pounds, landed in combination with Atlantic croaker.
- 3) Fail to land and sell the vessel's entire harvest at the point of landing.

If you have questions or comments contact Joe Grist at (757) 247-2236 or Joe Cimino at (757)247-2237