



# 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

**Tuesday, December 08, 2015**

**TO: SUMMER FLOUNDER INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: 2015 EMERGENCY AMENDMENT NOTICE FOR VIRGINIA'S  
OFFSHORE SUMMER FLOUNDER FISHERY**

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The VMRC took action to increase the trip limit for the 30-day period that began on December 1, 2015. Effective Tuesday, December 8, 2015, vessels with a Virginia Summer Flounder Endorsement License will be allowed to possess aboard or land in Virginia up to 7,500 pounds of summer flounder from December 8 through December 30, 2015. Legally licensed vessels in the Virginia Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery shall be held to the following provisions:

- It is unlawful for any vessel to possess aboard or land in Virginia more than 7,500 pounds of summer flounder in addition to the North Carolina legal landing limit from December 8 through December 30, 2015.
- Land Summer Flounder in Virginia for commercial purposes more than twice during each consecutive 30-day period.
- It is unlawful for any vessel to land in Virginia any amount of summer flounder more than once in any consecutive 5-day period.
- Only vessels holding a valid Virginia Summer Flounder Endorsement License may possess summer flounder.
- 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.

*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

- 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.
- 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.

Any boat or vessel possessing summer flounder on board or entering Virginia waters for safe harbor shall contact the Marine Resources Commission Operations Center in advance of such entry into Virginia waters. Authorization for safe harbor must be approved by the Commissioner. Any vessel declaring a need for safe harbor may be subject to inspection by the United States Coast Guard Marine Safety Office.

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