



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marine Resources Commission
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December 21, 2023

TO: SUMMER FLOUNDER INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

SUBJECT: OPENING OF VIRGINIA'S 2024 DIRECTED OFFSHORE SUMMER FLOUNDER FISHERY

2024 Winter Open Periods

- **Winter 2024, Virginia will open its Directed Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery for 4 periods. The open dates and landing limits are as follows:**
 - The landing limit for the Offshore (EEZ) Fishery from Monday January 1 through Wednesday January 31, 2024 is 10,000 pounds. Vessels may land a maximum of 10,000 pounds for the entire period of January 1 through January 31, 2024.
 - The landing limit for the Offshore (EEZ) Fishery from Thursday February 1 through Thursday February 29, 2024 is 10,000 pounds. Vessels may land a maximum of 10,000 pounds for the entire period of February 1 through February 29, 2024.
 - The landing limit for the Offshore (EEZ) Fishery from Friday March 1 through Sunday March 31, 2024 is 10,000 pounds. Vessels may land a maximum of 10,000 pounds for the entire period of March 1 through March 31, 2024.
 - The landing limit for the Offshore (EEZ) Fishery from Monday April 1 through Tuesday April 30, 2024 is 10,000 pounds. Vessels may land a maximum of 10,000 pounds for the entire period of April 1 through April 30, 2024.

An Agency of the Natural and Historic Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646

- **During the open Directed Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery periods, each vessel shall hold a Virginia Summer Flounder Endorsement License and adhere to the below restrictions:**
- It shall be unlawful for any vessel to land in Virginia any amount of summer flounder more than once in any consecutive 5-day period.
- It shall be unlawful to possess aboard any vessel in Virginia waters any amount of summer flounder in excess of the total of the Virginia landing limit (10,000 pounds) and the amount of the legal North Carolina or New Jersey landing limit or trip limit.
- It shall be unlawful for any person to possess aboard any vessel, in Virginia, any amount of summer flounder, once it has been projected and announced that 100% of the quota described in 4VAC20-620-30 A has been taken.
- For additional requirements please visit <https://mrc.virginia.gov/Regulations/fr620.shtm>

Additional Information

All announcements regarding the opening and closing of Virginia's Directed Offshore Flounder Fishery can be found on the home page of the agency website (<https://mrc.virginia.gov>), by clicking the link for "Summer Flounder Notices" under the section labeled Commercial Fishing.

If you have questions or comments, contact Jill Ramsey at (757) 247-2243.