



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marine Resources Commission

380 Fenwick Road
Building 96
Fort Monroe, VA 23651

David L. Bulova
Secretary of Natural
and Historic Resources

Joseph D. Grist
Commissioner

October 1, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: SPECKLED TROUT BUYERS

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL SPECKLED TROUT BUYER REPORTING

The 2026/27 directed commercial speckled trout season opened on Tuesday September 1, 2026. This letter serves as a reminder that Chapter 4 VAC 20-280-55 requires any licensed seafood buyer to report **daily purchases of speckled trout**, from August 1 through November 30, until the commission announces that the directed commercial landings quota has been reached for the current fishing year. Please call the Commission's Interactive Voice Recording System (800-937-9247, Option 1 then Option 5) and report **any purchases** of speckled trout, in pounds, on a daily basis, beginning September 1, 2026.

Please note that the 2026-2027 commercial speckled trout season will be open from September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027.

When it is projected that the directed commercial landings quota of 51,104 pounds will be met by a certain date within the above period, the Marine Resources Commission will provide notice and the fishery will move into an incidental catch fishery.

Once the directed fishery closure is announced and the fishery moves to incidental catch, it shall be unlawful for any Commercial Fisherman Registration Licensee to take, harvest, land, or possess more than the daily incidental catch limit for the remainder of the fishing year. *The daily incidental catch limit shall be 50 pounds of speckled trout per licensee aboard the vessel, not to exceed 100 pounds per vessel.*

The VMRC appreciates your cooperation in continuing the successful management of this important resource.

For any questions or concerns, please contact Shakira Goffe at (757) 247-2115 or Jill Ramsey at (757) 247-2243.

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www.mrc.virginia.gov

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