



ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

ELIZABETH S. BISER  
*Secretary*

KATHY B. RAWLS  
*Director*

**FF-23-2022**

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **RE: BLACK SEA BASS – RECREATIONAL PURPOSES – NORTH OF CAPE HATTERAS – 2022 RECREATIONAL SEASON, SIZE, AND CREEL LIMITS**

**This proclamation supersedes Proclamation FF-28-2021, dated April 12, 2021. It establishes the 2022 season dates, size, and creel limits for the recreational black sea bass fishery effective at 12:01 A.M., May 15, 2022. The fishery will close at 11:59 P.M., December 11, 2022.**

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective at **12:01 A.M., May 15, 2022**, the following restrictions will apply to the recreational black sea bass fishery in Coastal Fishing Waters which includes the Atlantic Ocean **north of Cape Hatteras (35° 15.3'N. Latitude)**:

I. **SEASON**

It is unlawful to possess black sea bass for recreational purposes except from 12:01 A.M., on Sunday, May 15, 2022, until 11:59 P.M., Sunday, December 11, 2022.

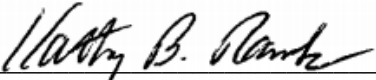
II. **SIZE AND CREEL LIMIT**

- A. It is unlawful to possess black sea bass less than **13 inches total length** (excluding the caudal fin filament).
- B. It is unlawful to possess more than 15 black sea bass per person per day taken for recreational purposes.
- C. It is unlawful to possess black sea bass for recreational purposes from Coastal Fishing Waters which includes the Atlantic Ocean north of Cape Hatteras except during the season specified in Section I. above.

III. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 113-134; 113-134.1; 113-170.4; 113-170.5; 113-182; 113-182.1; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52; and N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rules 15A NCAC 03H .0103; and 03M .0512.
- B. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued by the Fisheries Director under their delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. The intent of this proclamation is to maintain North Carolina's compliance with the requirements of the joint Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council/Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries Management Plan.
- D. In accordance with N.C. General Statute 113-221.1(c); all persons who may be affected by proclamations issued by the Fisheries Director are under a duty to keep themselves informed of current proclamations.

- E. Contact N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557; 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632 for more information or visit the division website at [www.ncmarinefisheries.net](http://www.ncmarinefisheries.net).
- F. **This proclamation supersedes Proclamation FF-28-2021, dated April 12, 2021. It establishes the 2022 season dates, size, and creel limits for the recreational black sea bass fishery north of Cape Hatteras effective at 12:01 A.M., May 15, 2022. The season will close at 11:59 P.M., December 11, 2022.**

By:   
Kathy B. Rawls, Director  
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES

April 7, 2022  
9:48 A.M.