

## **POSSIBLE CHANGES TO REGULATIONS FOR STRIPED BASS — RECREATIONAL**

The department would like to make two changes to the recreational striped bass fishery. The changes have been implemented with public notices for several seasons and we would like to put them into regulation. Making the changes in regulation allows the public to be better informed since the rules are in one location.

1) Change the recreational size limit for the spring fishery in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries. The spring fishery is the third Saturday in April to May 15.

In order to implement Amendment IV of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Striped Bass the recreational size limit for striped bass in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries has been changed by public notice for several seasons. The limit was not changed in regulation because there was a possibility of management changes for the fishery. The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission will not be making management changes in the near future so the limit should be changed in regulation. The minimum size limit for the striped bass spring fishery is 35 inches.

2) Change the recreational size and creel limits for the Atlantic Ocean, its coastal bays, and their tributaries.

In order to implement the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Striped Bass the recreational limits for striped bass in the State waters of the Atlantic Ocean, its coastal bays, and their tributaries has been changed by public notice for several seasons. The limits were not changed in regulation because there was a possibility of management changes for the fishery. The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission will not be making management changes in the near future so the limits should be changed in regulation. The creel limit for State waters of the Atlantic Ocean, its coastal bays, and their tributaries will be two striped bass per person per day. The striped bass must be between 28 inches and 38 inches, inclusive, or greater than or equal to 44 inches.