



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marine Resources Commission

Building 96

380 Fenwick Road

Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

August 10, 2021

TO: SUMMER FLOUNDER INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF VIRGINIA'S DIRECTED OFFSHORE SUMMER FLOUNDER FISHERY

Effective 11:59 P.M., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), Sunday, August 15, 2021, the Directed Virginia Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery will close. Vessels that have entered Virginia waters and secured to an offloading site prior to 11:59 P.M., EDT, Sunday, August 15, 2021, may possess and offload up to 12,500 pounds of summer flounder, minus any previous landings since June 15, 2021.

Therefore, after 11:59 P.M., EDT, Sunday, August 15, 2021, it shall be unlawful for any person harvesting Summer Flounder outside of Virginia's waters to do any of the following:

1. Possess on board any vessel in Virginia waters any amount of Summer Flounder, in excess of 10% by weight, of Atlantic croaker or the combined landings, on board a vessel, of black sea bass, scup, squid, scallops and Atlantic mackerel.
2. Possess on board any vessel in Virginia waters any amount of Summer Flounder, in excess of 1,500 pounds, landed in combination with Atlantic croaker.
3. Fail to land and sell the vessel's entire harvest at the point of landing.

The bycatch provisions above will be in place after 11:59 P.M., EDT, Sunday, August 15, 2021 until the third (fall) opening of the 2021 Directed Offshore Fishery, which will be established by the Commission on August 24, 2021. (when announced, can be found at <https://mrc.virginia.gov/index.shtm>).

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

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 (757) 247-2292 V/TDD Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646 V/TDD