

## **SPRING STRIPED BASS RECREATIONAL TROPHY-SIZE REPORT FORM**

This report must be filled out and submitted to the VMRC no later than June 30 of current year

Each fisherman, captain, or boat operator is responsible for complying with all requirements contained in Chapter 4VAC 20-252-10 et seq. This chapter requires each person the age of sixteen or older, participating in the Bay or Coastal Spring Trophy-Size striped bass recreational fisheries to obtain a Spring Recreational Striped Bass Trophy Permit from the Commission, prior to any participation, except when fishing from a legally licensed headboat or charter boat. It also requires all striped bass kept during the trophy season to be reported.

**FISHING SEASONS:** Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries--May 1 (12:01 AM) - June 15(11:59PM)

Coastal Virginia waters--May 1 (12:01 AM) - May 15 (11:59 PM)

**TROPHY POSSESSION SIZE:** Determined March 24, 2014; except for Potomac River Tributaries, where there is a 28-inch minimum (subject to change).

**POSSESSION LIMIT:** 1 trophy-size fish per person. When fishing from a boat or vessel, where the entire catch is held in a common hold or container, the possession limit shall be for the boat or vessel and shall be equal to the number of persons on board, legally eligible to fish, multiplied by the applicable personal possession limit. The captain or operator of the boat or vessel shall be responsible for any boat or vessel possession limit.

**GEAR:** Hook and Line fishing only

- NO SALE OF RECREATIONAL HOOK & LINE CAUGHT STRIPED BASS
- Alteration of striped bass while aboard any boat or vessel or while fishing from shore or pier so that total length - cannot be determined is prohibited.
- It shall be unlawful for any person to gaff or attempt to gaff any striped bass at any time.
- Transfer of any striped bass to another person while on the water or while fishing from a pier or shore is prohibited.
- Striped bass fishing is prohibited in Federal waters (beyond the Virginia three-mile limit line).

**NO POSSESSION of Trophy striped bass in the spawning reaches (defined below) May 1 through June 15:**

- **James River** - from a line connecting Dancing Point and New Sunken Meadow Creek upstream to a line connecting City Point and Packs Point.
- **Pamunkey River** - from the Route 33 Bridge at West Point upstream to a line connecting Liberty Hall and the opposite shore.
- **Mattaponi River** - from the Route 33 Bridge at West Point upstream to the Route 360 Bridge at Aylett.
- **Rappahannock River** - from the Route 360 Bridge at Tappahannock upstream to the Route 1 Bridge at Falmouth.

### **REPORT FORM HELPFUL HINTS:**

- Valid Commission permit identification numbers include a recreational license number, a FIP number, or a charter boat permit number.
- You must include length information on each trophy size striped bass that is kept or released.
- Lengths are total lengths in inches (to nearest 1/4 inch) and is measured in a straight line from tip of nose to tip of tail.
- Weights (in pounds) are optional, but preferred.

**ONLINE REPORTING is available at [www.vasaltwaterjournal.com](http://www.vasaltwaterjournal.com)**

<p><b>RETURN FORM TO:</b> <i>Virginia Marine Resources Commission Plans and Statistics Department 2600 Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor Newport News, VA 23607-0756</i></p>
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