

CHAPTER 340

AN ACT concerning the taking of striped bass and amending P.L.1987, c.83.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 1 of P.L.1987, c.83 (C.23:5-45.1) is amended to read as follows:

C.23:5-45.1 Daily limit for taking striped bass.

1. a. Except as permitted pursuant to subsection c. of this section, a person shall not take from the marine waters or other waters of the State in any one day, or have in the person's possession at any time, more than two striped bass. Each of the striped bass taken in accordance with this subsection shall be at least 28 inches in length.

b. A person shall not fillet, or remove the head or tail, or parts thereof, of any striped bass at sea, except this subsection shall not apply to striped bass that have been filleted under authority of, and in accordance with, a special permit therefor which may be issued by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to an inspected vessel licensed to accommodate 15 or more passengers.

c. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, by public notice placed in the New Jersey Register, shall establish management measures for striped bass in and upon the marine waters and other waters of the State, which management measures shall be consistent with the Striped Bass Management Plan of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Upon the approval of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, these management measures shall provide for the taking in one day, or the possession at any time, of striped bass in addition to the two striped bass permitted pursuant to subsection a. of this section and shall include the size and quantity limits and the areas and the seasons for the taking of such additional striped bass.

The department shall monitor the catch provided for in this subsection and provide for its discontinuance as necessary to keep the State in compliance with the allowances of the commission.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 12, 2006.