

**FACE SHEET  
FOR FILING DOCUMENTS  
WITH THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

(Pursuant to Commonwealth Documents Law)

**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE**

<p>Copy below is hereby approved as to form and legality. Attorney General</p> <p>_____ (DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL)</p> <p>_____ DATE OF APPROVAL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check if applicable. Copy not approved. Objections attached.</p>	<p>Copy below is hereby certified to be a true and correct copy of a document issued, prescribed or promulgated by:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Pennsylvania Fish &amp; Boat Commission</b></u> (Agency)</p> <p>DOCUMENT/FISCAL NOTE NO. _____</p> <p>DATE OF ADOPTION: <u>04/09/2024</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">/s/ Timothy D. Schaeffer</p> <p>BY: _____ <b>Timothy D. Schaeffer</b> Executive Director</p> <p>Title: _____ (EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CHAIRMAN OR SECRETARY)</p>	<p>Copy below is hereby approved as to form and legality. Executive or Independent Agencies</p> <p style="text-align: center;">/s/ Renae Kluk Kiehl</p> <p>BY: _____ Renae Kluk Kiehl Chief Counsel</p> <p style="text-align: center;">04/08/2024</p> <p>_____ DATE OF APPROVAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><del>(Deputy General Counsel)</del> (Chief Counsel, Independent Agency) (Strike inapplicable title)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check if applicable. No Attorney General approval or objection within 30 days after submission.</p>
--	---	--

**Notice**

**Temporary Change to Fishing Regulations  
58 Pa. Code § 61.2. Delaware River, West Branch Delaware River and Estuary**

The Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (Commission), acting under the authority of 58 Pa. Code § 65.25 (relating to temporary changes to fishing regulations), has taken immediate action to amend 58 Pa. Code § 61.2 (relating to Delaware River, West Branch Delaware River and River Estuary). Specifically, the Executive Director has amended this section to reduce the daily limit of striped bass to one and adjust the legal harvestable length slot limit to 22 to less than 26 inches from the Pennsylvania line upstream to Calhoun Street Bridge (Delaware Estuary) from May 1, 2024, through May 31, 2024. All gear restrictions will remain the same. These actions are being taken to meet the requirements of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC).

At its January 2024 quarterly meeting, the ASMFC's Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board, which includes the Commonwealth as a member, approved Addendum II to Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for striped bass. The Addendum modifies recreational measures to reduce fishing mortality by 14.1% in 2024, among other management provisions. Addendum II builds upon the 2023 emergency action by changing the measures in the FMP to reduce fishing mortality and support stock rebuilding. All Addendum II measures must be implemented by May 1, 2024. This temporary change to 58 Pa. Code § 61.2 is designed to meet this objective in concert with a previous temporary change to fishing regulations which was published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on January 6, 2024, at 54 Pa.B. 69.

To address the coast-wide regulation directed by the ASMFC, the Commission's Executive Director has taken immediate action to make the following modifications to fishing regulation:

§ 61.2. Delaware River, West Branch Delaware River and River Estuary.

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) The following seasons, sizes, and creel limits apply to the Delaware River, West Branch Delaware River, and Delaware Estuary and tributaries, from the mouths of the tributaries upstream to the limit of the tidal influence and the Lehigh River from its mouth upstream to the first dam in Easton, Pennsylvania:

SPECIES	SEASONS	MINIMUM SIZE	DAILY LIMIT
* * * * *			
STRIPED BASS and HYBRID STRIPED BASS	<del>April 1</del> <u>May 1</u> through May 31	<del>[21]</del> <u>22</u> to less than <del>[24]</del> <u>26</u> inches	<del>[2]</del> <u>1</u>
* * * * *			

The Executive Director will cause these temporary modifications to fishing regulations to be posted in the vicinity of the regulated waters, and the modified regulations will be fully effective and enforceable when so posted. These temporary modifications will remain in effect until January 1 of the following year or six months after they are effected, whichever comes later unless the Commission shall by then, by appropriate action, have approved the designation or redesignation of waters or shall have approved the revision to the regulation in question.

FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION:




---

Timothy D. Schaeffer  
Executive Director