

**2016**  
**Potomac River Fisheries Commission**  
**COMMERCIAL Fishing Seasons, Size and Catch Limits**

	<b>Open Season</b>	<b>Size Limits</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>
<b>American Eel</b>	January 1 – December 31	9" Minimum	No Limit
<b>Atlantic Croaker</b>	January 1 – December 31	No Limit	No Limit
<b>Black Bass - Large or Small Mouth</b>	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
<b>Black Drum</b>	January 1 – December 31	16" Minimum	1 Per Licensee
<b>Black Sea Bass *</b>	January 1 – December 31	TBA	TBA *
<b>Bluefish *</b>	January 1 – December 31	No Limit	No Limit *
<b>Catfish - Bullhead</b> <b>Channel</b> <b>White</b> <b>Blue</b>	January 1 – December 31	6" Minimum	No Limit
	January 1 – December 31	8" Minimum	No Limit
	January 1 – December 31	10" Minimum	No Limit
	January 1 – December 31	No Limit	No Limit
<b>Menhaden***</b>	January 1 – December 31	No Limit	Quota = 2,545,595***
<b>Pike/Chain Pickerel</b>	January 1 – December 31	14" Minimum	No Limit
<b>Red Drum</b>	January 1 – December 31	18" Minimum 25" Maximum	5 Per Licensee
<b>River Herring</b>	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
<b>Shad - American or Hickory</b>	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
<b>Snakehead</b>	January 1 – December 31	No Limit <sup>(2)</sup>	No Limit
<b>Spanish Mackerel *</b>	January 1 – December 31	14" Minimum	No Limit *
<b>Spot</b>	January 1 – December 31	No Limit	No Limit
<b>Spotted Sea Trout</b>	January 1 – December 31	14" Minimum	No Limit
<b>Striped Bass</b>	SEE REVERSE	SEE REVERSE	SEE REVERSE
<b>Sturgeon - Atlantic or Shortnose</b>	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
<b>Summer Flounder *</b>	January 1 – December 31	TBA	TBA**
<b>Tautog</b>	January 1 – December 31	14" Minimum	No Limit
<b>Weakfish **</b>	**July 28 – December 31	12" Minimum	50 lbs / day
<b>White Perch</b>	January 1 – December 31	6" Minimum	No Limit
<b>Yellow Perch</b>	January 1 – December 31	9" Minimum	No Limit

<sup>(1)</sup> – **Black Sea Bass** – The tail filament is not to be included in the total length of the fish.

<sup>(2)</sup> – **Snakehead** – It shall be unlawful to possess a live snakehead fish (of the family *Channidae*), only so long as necessary to **kill the fish** as specified in Order 2010-06.

\* Denotes fisheries that may have daily catch limits imposed or be closed immediately by Order of PRFC subject to the ASMFC/MAFMC established commercial landing quotas.

\*\* **Pound Netters** using fish cull panels as defined in Reg. III, Sec. 8(d) may possess up to 50 lbs. (1 bu.) of legal size weakfish from February 15<sup>th</sup> through July 27<sup>th</sup>. The allowance must be less than or equal to the poundage of other lawfully harvested species.

\*\*\* When the PRFC Atlantic menhaden catch limit is reached, all commercial fisheries shall be closed to all gear types. Pound net licensees are permitted to possess and/or land no more than 6,000 lbs. of menhaden for a single vessel per day.

All regulations subject to change.

**2016**  
**Potomac River Fisheries Commission**  
**COMMERCIAL Striped Bass Fishing Seasons, Size and Catch Limits**

**COMMERCIAL HOOK AND LINE**

**SIZE LIMITS**

Season:           **January 1 through March 1** .....18" min. & 36" max.  
                           June 1 through December 31 .....18" min. - no max.

Yearly Quota:   83,462 lbs. (11,505 tags) total for all licensees

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**POUND NET**

**SIZE LIMITS**

Season:           February 15 through March 25 .....18" min. & 36" max.  
                           June 1 through December 15 .....18" min. – no max.

Yearly Quota:   130,090 lbs. (22,000 tags) total for all licensees

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**MISCELLANEOUS COMMERCIAL GEAR**

**SIZE LIMITS**

*(Qualifying Haul Seine and Fyke Net Only)*

Season:           February 15 through March 25 .....18" min. & 36" max.  
                           June 1 through December 15 .....18" min. – no max.

Yearly Quota:   14,001 lbs. (2,300 tags) total for all licensees who have reported harvest of species other than striped bass using that particular gear type for the last 3 years.

Haul Seine       60% - 1,380 tags total for all licensees  
 Fyke Net         40% - 920 tags total for all licensees

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**GILL NET**

**SIZE LIMITS**

Season:           November 9, 2015 through February 14, 2016 .....18" Min.  
                           February 15 through March 25, 2016 .....18" min. & 36" max.

Yearly Quota:   355,810 lbs. (44,280 tags) total for all licensees

Setting Nets:   Each licensee shall be permitted to set and fish a single properly identified net in the number of their licensed locations (stands) as follows:

November 9, 2015 through February 29, 2015 .....all stands  
 March 1 through March 15 .....4 stands  
 March 16 through March 25 .....3 stands

SB - IDTags:    Each gill net licensee is limited to using only 60 tags per stand

For further information contact Potomac River Fisheries Commission (804) 224-7148 or (800) 266-3904