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Declaration of Regulation Change (16-10)

Under authority of Section 26-159a of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 26-159a-22 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection is authorized to establish or adjust, by declaration, closed seasons, length limits, creel limits, trip limits and trip limit adjustment values in order to comply with interstate fishery management plans (FMP) adopted by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) or the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC).

In accordance with the aforementioned authority, Section 26-159a-15. Scup (porgy) (*Stenotomus chrysops*) subsection (c) Commercial Fishery Possession Limits – is superseded by the following restrictions which shall be in effect between November 1, 2016 and December 31, both dates inclusive.

Scup.

(c) Commercial Fishery Possession and Landing Limits.

- (1) No person engaged in commercial fishing shall possess or land scup in excess of the following possession limits that are based on the coast wide scup quota and Connecticut's summer period scup quota as specified in the Scup Fishery Management Plan of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission:
 - (C) during the winter two period defined herein as the period between November 1 and December 31, both dates inclusive, the possession limit shall be ~~12,000~~ **18,000** pounds until 100% of the winter two coast wide quota has been landed, at which time the limit shall be zero pounds;
- (2) The possession and landing limits specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to the vessel, regardless of how many persons are on board. Possession limits shall apply per trip or per day, whichever is the longer period of time. No person shall transfer scup between vessels at sea. In any instance when there is a violation of the possession limit on board a vessel carrying more than one person when the catch is commingled, the violation shall be deemed to have been committed by the owner of the vessel, or the operator of the vessel, if the owner is not on board.
- (3) Any scup taken contrary to this section shall, without avoidable injury, be returned immediately to the water from which taken.



Robert J. Klee 10/15/16
Commissioner **Date**