From:	Dustin C. Leaning
To:	JAMES TIETJE
Cc:	Kiley Dancy; Coutre, Karson; Beaty, Julia; Savannah Lewis
Subject:	RE: [External] Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Amendment
Date:	Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:08:30 AM

From: patriottoo@aol.com [mailto:patriottoo@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 4:08 PM
To: Dustin C. Leaning <DLeaning@asmfc.org>
Subject: [External] Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Amendment

Dustin,

This amendment represents a very complex issues for three species that are very important to Massachusetts and my party boat business. I have been observing the management of them for over 40 years. Some years we catch our share of fish for our customers some years we have to avoid a species because every single fish is too small and we don't want to hurt fish or our future. Consistently over the years our catch has been slowly reduced by bag limits, size limits, and seasons, it never goes the other way.

It seems that the MIRP data has caused this amendment to be necessary as it now appears that the recreational sector has been catching more fish all along. So in the interest of keeping the actual ratios closer to reality we need to adjust. I know this is hard for all parties because it affects us all economically. Never the less if what you are saying is true and I am not going to debate the history, statistics or science, I think we should do the following:

1a-2 for flounder
1b-3 for scup
1c-2 for black sea bass
Phase it in right away.
Make it consistently catch based.
No transfers.

I know that we will all be monitoring the outcome of this change and as usual you try to improve the data and fishermen should always to be better conservationist and do everything we can to protect the resource.

Regards,
Jim Tietje
Patriot Party Boats