

## CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Section §42-35-2.6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, following is a concise explanatory statement for the below identified regulation.

**AGENCY:** Department of Environmental Management

**DIVISION:** Marine Fisheries

**RULE IDENTIFIER:** 250-RICR-90-00-13

**RULE TITLE:** Cooperative Multi-State Possession and Landing Pilot Program for Summer Flounder

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** D. Borden recommended adding black sea bass or scup as eligible species under the pilot program. The rule was amended to include black sea bass, but not scup.

**CHANGE TO TEXT FROM PROPOSED TO FINAL RULE (identify any changes between the text of the rule as proposed and the text of the final rule and explain why these changes were made to the final text):** Several sections were amended to provide for the inclusion of black sea bass, consistent with public comment and the recommendation of the RI Marine Fisheries Council. See memo dated December 8, 2020 from Conor McManus, Deputy Chief, DEM Division of Marine Fisheries, which addresses this comment, and final decision memo, dated December 15, 2020, from Janet Coit, DEM Director, which sets forth the final regulatory decision. These memos are provided as “additional documentation” in the final rule filing.

**REGULATORY ANALYSIS:** In the development of the proposed amendment consideration was given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information.