

**From:** Jeff  
**To:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**Cc:** [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** Wave 1 Black Sea Bass Opening  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:51:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [Wave 1 Sea Bass.docx](#)

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Dr. Moore,

Please distribute the attached letter to council members for the October meeting.

Thanks You,  
Jeff Gutman

October 4, 2017

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
800 North State Street, Suite 201  
Dover, DE 19901

Dr. Chris Moore and Council Members,

I am aware that a wave 1 opening (February only) for Black Sea Bass is on the agenda for the upcoming October meeting. I am also aware that this is at least the fourth time this has come up this year as I have already been to meetings in Kitty Hawk, NC, Norfolk, VA, and Philadelphia, PA regarding this same issue. Unfortunately due to work constraints I cannot attend the upcoming October meeting in Riverhead, NY. Without reiterating what I have said over the past few meetings regarding the wave 1 opening, I would like to submit the following comments.

I fully support the opening of a 2018 wave 1 February fishery for Black Sea Bass. This is the only wave for which the Council has little or no data. I feel that the Council needs data from wave 1 so that the “catch” during the wave is no longer a “mystery” but a known quantity. I hope the data gained by a February 2018 opening will then aid the Council in crafting future management measures for the wave 1 fishery.

As an operator of a headboat in New Jersey I have no problem with my state sending scientists or data collectors out on my vessel to examine our catch during this time period.

Thank You,

Jeff Gutman, F/V Voyager

CC: Brandon Muffley

**From:** LEE MOMSWORRY  
**To:** [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Cc:** [Rob.Oreolly@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:Rob.Oreolly@mrc.virginia.gov)  
**Subject:** Comments on proposal to open Rec. BSB fishery in Feb. 2018  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:56:05 PM  
**Attachments:** [BSB WAVE 1 - 2018 Rec Opening.doc](#)

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Attached are my comments.

Harry Doernte

Harry L. Doernte  
5 Saunders Dr.  
Poquoson, VA 23662  
757-868-955

5 Oct. 2017

**momsworry2000@yahoo.com**

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Dr. C. Moore - M-AFMC

Subj: My comments on proposal to open Recreational BSB fishery in Feb. 2018 (WAVE 1)

Are there any indications or, better yet, proof (i.e. verification of VTR data) that the party/charter boat operators have learned to count any better than some of them did during the RSA days? If not, why are you wasting time on this proposal?

If the landings totals are so readily available that you can propose reductions in WAVES 3 or 5 of 2018, then why hasn't the fishery been shut down as soon as the RHL is exceeded?

Forget this nonsense and spend some time and effort trying to get the landings back into the advertised and published 50/50 recreational/commercial split.....

Harry

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#)  
**Cc:** [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sea bass opening  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:59:01 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Chris Steinert [<mailto:tunaslayer125@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 7:14 AM  
To: Moore, Christopher <[cmoore@mafmc.org](mailto:cmoore@mafmc.org)>  
Subject: Sea bass opening

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have worked on party boats for over 30 years. The purpose of this email is to show that I support the motion regarding the February black sea bass opening for 2018 that will be brought forth by Adam Nowalsky.

Many boats in New Jersey and New York have fished for black sea bass without any negative impact on the rebuilding. The industry has been more damaged than the sea bass stock with the current regulations.

Along with the motion, we also support having state observers on board for the collection of data.

It is time to reopen black sea bass for February 2018, and the foreseeable future.

Sincerely,

Capt. Dale Steinert

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#)  
**Cc:** [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Recreational February Sea Bass Opening  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:05:04 AM

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**From:** alexa bogan [mailto:alexabogan@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:43 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <cmoore@mafmc.org>  
**Cc:** whbogan@aol.com  
**Subject:** Recreational February Sea Bass Opening

Hello Dr. Moore,

I strongly support the motion that is going to be brought forth by Adam Nowalsky regarding the February black sea bass opening for 2018.

We fully support his plan and are willing to have state observers on board at their discretion for research and monitoring.

We have observed large numbers of black sea bass both inshore and offshore and I see no reason why they can't be opened in the winter, as they were for many years. A number of boats conducted this fishery for many years without any negative effect on the rebuilding of the sea bass stocks.

I represent several boats that sail from Brielle. The M/V Jamaica, Jamaica II, and Paramount. The party boat industry has been severely hurt by current regulations. This will be a shot in the arm for several businesses, with a minimal affect on the fishery.

Sincerely,  
Capt. Howard Bogan

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: 2018 sea bass  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:38:24 AM

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**From:** Allen Schrantz Sr. [mailto:allenssr@valleyprecisionllc.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <cmoore@mafmc.org>  
**Subject:** 2018 sea bass

mr moore i have been fishing new jersey party boats with family and friends for many years. i would hope to see a february 2018 sea bass season. thank you for your time.

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: February Black Sea Bass, NY  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:38:04 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Tangel [<mailto:captjoekingcod@yahoo.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:34 AM  
To: Moore, Christopher <[cmoore@mafmc.org](mailto:cmoore@mafmc.org)>  
Subject: February Black Sea Bass, NY

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have recently heard, that the state of NJ, has proposed to the Council a recommendation for a February 2018 BSB season. As a full time for hire operator, that has taken part in this fishery for many years, I hope the same would also be considered for New York. I would gladly volunteer my boat to carry observers for research, or anything else that would help.

Thank you for your time,  
Capt. Joe Tangel  
KING COD  
Moriches NY



**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Winter fishing  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:37:51 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Tunachris [<mailto:Tunachris@comcast.net>]  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:30 AM  
To: Moore, Christopher <[cmoore@mafmc.org](mailto:cmoore@mafmc.org)>  
Subject: Winter fishing

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have fished on New Jersey boats for many years and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give us the opportunity to do that once again.

Thank you  
Chris Eastburn

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Urgent  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:53:47 AM  
**Attachments:** [Jamaica.png](#)

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**From:** Matthew Gilbride FHA [mailto:fhteam2@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:53 AM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <cmoore@mafmc.org>  
**Subject:** Urgent

Hello Dr. Moore,

I am writing in hopes this will get your attention. I fish regularly in New Jersey. I like the fishing there and would like maintain our oceans and sea life healthy. It has come to my attention that some of the boats are urging their customers to contact you hoping to tilt the scale to their favors. However, I have also witnessed a lot of poaching while fishing inshore and offshore. The reason New Jersey has excellent sea bass fishing is because the season closes January 1st and the stocks get to build up again. If we keep the sea bass open after the new year, we will see a huge negative impact on the stocks. This movement I see on social media from fleets trying to get anglers to email you by providing them sample letters (see attached) which you will notice in your inbox, is only a propaganda benefiting the boats' pockets, not the ocean's.

With kind and sincere regards,

Ray McDougal

202-670-0293



125' Jamaica

27 mins · 🌐



If you would like to go winter sea bass fishing there will be a proposal put forth by the council for a February opening in 2018. If this interests you, please send a quick email to Dr. Chris Moore-  
cmoore@mafmc.org

The proposal is being put forth by New Jersey that will have a provision that the state may put observers on board to monitor catches and collect scientific data. We are in favor of that, and have no problem whatsoever with observers being on board.

We had made offshore winter trips for many years, and the stock rebuilt during that time without any negative impact. Thank you for your time and I hope to see you in February!

-Capt. Howard Bogan

SAMPLE LETTER:

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have fished on New Jersey boats for many years and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give us the opportunity to do that once again.

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Muffley, Brandon](#); [Mary Clark Sabo](#)  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 3:02:14 PM

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**From:** Greg DeMello [mailto:demello.greg@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:25 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <cmoore@mafmc.org>  
**Subject:**

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have fished on New Jersey boats for many years and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give us the opportunity to do that once again.

Thanks,  
Greg DeMello

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Feb 2018 seabass  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:43:02 PM

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**From:** Brian Degnan [mailto:bjd11185@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:13 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <cmoore@mafmc.org>  
**Subject:** Feb 2018 seabass

Hello Dr. Moore,  
I have fished on New Jersey boats for many years and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give us the opportunity to do that once again.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: February Sea Bass Fishing in NJ!  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:43:51 PM

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**From:** Mark Francis Sr [mailto:fishingfool115@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:18 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <cmoore@mafmc.org>  
**Subject:** February Sea Bass Fishing in NJ!

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have fished on New Jersey boats for many years and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give us the opportunity to do that once again.

# Jumbo Seabass



**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sea Bass Proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:43:29 PM

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**From:** Keith Burnet [mailto:kburnet774@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:17 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <cmoore@mafmc.org>  
**Subject:** Sea Bass Proposal

Dr. Moore,

I own and operate a NJ Charter boat and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give us the opportunity to do that once again.

Appreciate your help

Capt Keith Burnet



**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Winter Seabasd  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:44:02 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Dennis Peck [<mailto:dgpeck@optonline.net>]  
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:26 PM  
To: Moore, Christopher <[cmoore@mafmc.org](mailto:cmoore@mafmc.org)>  
Subject: Winter Seabasd

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have fished on (owned/operated, worked on, etc) New York party and charter boats for many years. We have previously enjoyed winter Sea Bass fishing trips in the past. I hope the Council will seriously consider the recommendation to allow a season in February 2018. As an (owner, operator, deckhand) avid angler, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Traditionally, we have taken part in this fishery, while watching the Black SeaBass stock explode during the same time period. Please give us the opportunity to responsibly take part in this fishery once again.Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Black SeaBass  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 7:14:15 PM

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**From:** bagus56@aol.com <bagus56@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 6:10 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher  
**Subject:** Black SeaBass

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have fished on (owned/operated, worked on, etc) New York party and charter boats for many years. We have previously enjoyed winter Sea Bass fishing trips in the past. I hope the Council will seriously consider the recommendation to allow a season in February 2018. As an (owner, operator, deckhand) avid angler, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Traditionally, we have taken part in this fishery, while watching the Black SeaBass stock explode during the same time period. Please give us the opportunity to responsibly take part in this fishery once again.

Thank you,

Barry Kaplan

bagus56@aol.com

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Black SeaBass  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 7:14:52 PM

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**From:** Matty Devine <mattyd.devine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 5:52 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher  
**Subject:** Black SeaBass

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have fished on (owned/operated, worked on, etc) New York party and charter boats for many years. We have previously enjoyed winter Sea Bass fishing trips in the past. I hope the Council will seriously consider the recommendation to allow a season in February 2018. As an (owner, operator, deckhand) avid angler, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Traditionally, we have taken part in this fishery, while watching the Black SeaBass stock explode during the same time period. Please give us the opportunity to responsibly take part in this fishery once again

Matty Devine

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Wave 1 - Black Seabass Opening February 2018  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 7:13:59 PM

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**From:** Mark Cusumano <markcusumano@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 6:36 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher  
**Subject:** Wave 1 - Black Seabass Opening February 2018

Dr. Moore.

I currently own and fish on For Hire vessels in NY State and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips over the years. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give New York anglers and For Hire businesses the opportunity to enjoy this great resource our local waters have to offer.

Sincerely.

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*Captain Mark Cusumano*  
*20 Willis Street*  
*Northport, NY 11768*

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Winter 2018 Black Sea Bass  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 7:15:11 PM

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**From:** Duffy <duffy35@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 5:40 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher  
**Subject:** Winter 2018 Black Sea Bass

Hello Dr. Moore

My name is Don Johnsen and I reside in Floral Park, NY.

My friends and I have participated in previous winter BSB fishing seasons and have enjoyed the experience. We are hoping that the council will approve the opening of a February 2018 BSB fishery for recreational/ for hire season for NY and NJ vessels.

Thank You

Don Johnsen

Duffy35@yahoo.com

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Muffley, Brandon](#); [Mary Clark Sabo](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Winter sea bass 2018  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:14:20 PM

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**From:** Chris T [mailto:[njpondguy@yahoo.com](mailto:njpondguy@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 12:46 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <[cmoore@mafmc.org](mailto:cmoore@mafmc.org)>  
**Subject:** Winter sea bass 2018

Hello Dr. Moore,

I have fished on New Jersey boats for many years and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give us the opportunity to do that once again.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Chris Tallarico MCAC  
[chris@njpondguys.com](mailto:chris@njpondguys.com)  
732-768-3032

**From:** [Moore, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Mary Clark Sabo](#); [Muffley, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Winter seabass proposal for February opening in 2018  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:14:09 PM

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**From:** Gim Yee [mailto:madcrab@LIVE.COM]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** Moore, Christopher <cmoore@mafmc.org>  
**Subject:** Winter seabass proposal for February opening in 2018

Hello Dr. Moore,  
I have fished on New Jersey boats for many years and previously enjoyed winter sea bass fishing trips. I hope the Council will follow through with the recommendation for a February 2018 season. As an avid fisherman, there is not much else to fish for at that time of year. Please give us the opportunity to do that once again.

Gim Yee