



**New Jersey's Striped Bass Bonus Program
PARTY AND CHARTER BOAT INSTRUCTIONS: 2025**

Only the ORANGE Bonus Permits are valid for 2025.
Permits are issued by owner and vessel and are only valid on the vessel which they are issued.





MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:

**Complete a Trip Report for each directed striped bass fishing trip,
even if no fish were caught or no Bonus fish were harvested.**

- Submit Trip Reports every Monday for the prior week of fishing.
- If no trips were taken in a week, report you "Did Not Fish" via email or by leaving a message at 609-748-2074.
- Complete the Trip Report as follows:
 - 1) Trip Information:
 - Record date, location, # anglers on vessel, start time, and # hours fished.
 - 2) Released and Kept Striped Bass (not Bonus fish):
 - Measure all striped bass caught (kept and released) to the longest length by pinching the tail. Round lengths down to the nearest inch.
 - Tally the lengths of all striped bass kept and released in corresponding size bin (excluding harvested Bonus fish).
 - If released fish are less than 15" or greater than 46", list lengths in the "Comments" section.
 - 3) Harvested Bonus Fish:
 - Record **length and weight** of **ALL** harvested **Bonus fish** of trip next to corresponding Permit #.
 - If no Bonus fish were harvested during trip, check box for "No Bonus Harvest".
- Submit all reports by email (sbbp@dep.nj.gov), mail (address below), or fax (609-748-2032). Smartphone pictures of Trip Reports are accepted and can be emailed directly to sbbp@dep.nj.gov. Pictures must be legible.

NJ DEP Fish & Wildlife (NJFW) is required to submit weekly harvest reports to ASMFC to ensure the quota is not exceeded. Any party/charter boat failing to submit Trip Reports weekly to NJFW may not be considered for the 2026 Striped Bass Bonus Program.

PERMIT PROCEDURES:

-  Securely attach permit to fish immediately upon capture and prior to transportation.
-  Participants are allowed ONE Bonus fish from 24" to less than 28" in total length, per person.
-  Bonus permits are only valid from May 15 through December 31, 2025.
-  All employees should be instructed on proper Bonus Program techniques and regulations.

At the end of the season, NJFW requires that all Trip Reports, unused permits, and other Bonus Program materials are returned to our office via mail by January 15, 2026.

Should a 2026 Bonus Program exist, those who failed to return 2025 materials may not be eligible for the 2026 Bonus Program.

A limited number of permits will be issued in 2025 based on NJFW's discretion. If the cumulative harvest weight reaches the quota (200,798 pounds), the program will be terminated for the remainder of the calendar year. Please email sbbp@dep.nj.gov if you have any questions or comments.

**NJ DEP Fish & Wildlife
Nacote Creek Research Station
PCBT Harvest Report
PO Box 418
Port Republic, NJ 08241**