



## START ACTION NOTICE (SAN)

SAN # 2025-15

DOCKET # 2025-R-F-0025

1. TYPE OF ACTION AND THE REGULATION NUMBER AND NAME:

This action proposes to create a new regulation **3560 Total Length** that provides a detailed definition of total fish length.

2. PURPOSE OF ACTION:

This action will allow DNREC to enforce a standardized total length measure for fisheries regulations that use total length to define legal minimum and/or maximum fish length. Although this action is required for Delaware to remain in compliance with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Atlantic Striped Bass Fisheries Management Plan, the Division of Fish and Wildlife is opting to create a standalone regulation for total length that will apply to all tidal finfish species regulations that use total length as the legal measure of fish length, not solely to striped bass.

3. STATUTORY BASIS:

**7 Del Code § 903**

4. IS THIS PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL STATUTE OR REGULATION? IF SO, PROVIDE LINK TO FEDERAL MANDATE.

No.

5. DATE OF MOST RECENT AMENDMENT/REVIEW (indicate if review was pursuant to 29 Del.C. §10407):

New regulation.

6. LIKELY AFFECTED PUBLIC:

Recreational anglers and commercial fishermen

7. PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

Register Notice publication – February 2026

Public hearing – March 2026

Effective date – May 2026

8. REVIEW COMMITTEE:

Advisory Council on Tidal Finfisheries

9. RESPONSIBLE STAFF MEMBER (name, physical address, phone number and e-mail address):

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DNREC/DFW/Fisheries  
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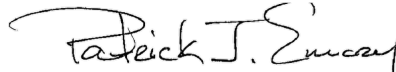
10. APPROVALS:



12/8/2025

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John H. Clark      Date  
Responsible Staff Member



12/8/2025

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Patrick J. Emory      Date  
Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife



Dec. 28, 2025

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Gregory Patterson      Date  
Secretary