Maine’s striped bass regulations cover all Maine coastal waters up to the head of tide in all rivers. In addition, there are special regulations in effect from December 1 through June 30 in the Kennebec, Sheepscot and Androscoggin Rivers and all related tributaries (see “SPECIAL KENNEBEC REGULATIONS” below).

FEDERAL REGULATION

It is unlawful to fish for, take or possess striped bass in Federal waters (waters greater than 3 miles from shore).

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

OPEN SEASON  January 1 through December 31, inclusive (except the Kennebec watershed, see below).

BAG & SIZE LIMITS  A person may take and possess 1 fish per day. The fish must be 28 inches or greater in total length.

“TOTAL LENGTH”  Total length is a straight line measurement from the lower jaw to the tip of the tail with the tail pinched together.

DISPOSITION  Personal use only, sale is prohibited. Fish must remain whole and intact.

GENERAL GEAR RESTRICTIONS

• Hook and line only, no gaffing of striped bass.
• No bait allowed when using treble hooks.
• It is unlawful to use multiple (more than two) barbed or barbless treble hooks on any artificial lure or fly while fishing for striped bass in territorial waters.
• It is unlawful to use any hook other than a non-offset circle hook when using bait.

Exception: Rubber or latex tube lures may be used without a circle hook as long as they are a minimum of 8 inches long and have a single hook protruding from the end portion of the tubing where bait may be attached.

TOTAL LENGTH

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<th>ILLEGAL</th>
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SPECIAL KENNEBEC** REGULATIONS

(including the Sheepscot and Androscoggin Rivers and all related bays and tributaries)

CATCH & RELEASE SEASON WITH SPECIAL GEAR RESTRICTIONS  From May 1 through June 30, inclusive. Fishing in this area is restricted to single hooked* artificial lures only and use of or possession of marine bait, dead or alive, is prohibited.

OPEN SEASON  July 1 through November 30, inclusive.

CLOSED SEASON  Striped bass fishing is prohibited from December 1 through April 30, inclusive.

(* may be a single treble hook)

** The Kennebec watershed is defined as all coastal waters inside and upstream of a line drawn from the outer extremity of Cape Small, in Phippsburg, to the outer extremity of Salter Island, thence to the outer extremity of Cape Newagen, in Southport. This area includes the coastal waters of Popham Beach and the adjoining State Park, Reid State Park, and all riverine waters of the Kennebec, Sheepscot, and Androscoggin Rivers including all bays and tributaries of those rivers to the head of tide. Due to the removal of Edwards dam, the “head of tide” in the Kennebec River is now at the downstream side of the power line located approximately 4,200 feet upstream of the Calumet Bridge at Old Fort Western in Augusta (formerly the Father Curran Bridge) for enforcement purposes.