

# HUNTING, FISHING, AND TRAPPING

## 2009-2010 SEASON AND BAG LIMITS

**This information is for the hunting seasons and fishing bag limits remainder of the 2009-10 season, which will go thru August 2010.**

**If you are looking for the upcoming fall seasons, please refer to the 2010-11 seasons and bag limits.**

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### ALLIGATOR:

*By Special Permit Only*

Must register on-line at [www.outdooralabama.com](http://www.outdooralabama.com) between June 2 (8:00 a.m.) and July 13 (8:00 a.m.). Must be resident to register.

Mobile Delta (nighttime only)

*Sunset August 14 – Sunrise August 17  
Sunset August 21 – Sunrise August 24*

Barbour, Henry, Houston, and Russell counties (nighttime only)

*Sunset August 21 – Sunrise August 31*

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### BEAVER, NUTRIA, AND GROUNDHOG:

No Bag Limit – Daylight Hours Only

*No Closed Season*

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### STARLINGS, CROWS, AND BLACKBIRDS:

No Bag Limit – Daylight Hours Only

*No Closed Season*

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### BEAR, MOUNTAIN LION AND RUFFED GROUSE

*No Open Season*

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## **LEGAL ARMS AND AMMUNITION FOR HUNTING FULLY AUTOMATIC FIREARMS AND/OR SILENCED FIREARMS PROHIBITED.**

**GENERAL PROHIBITIONS:** It shall be unlawful for any person to use any method or have in their possession any weapon or ammunition contrary to this regulation while hunting or attempting to hunt game birds and animals or other species provided for herein unless expressly provided for by duly enacted laws of the State of Alabama. It shall be unlawful for any person to refuse to submit firearms and ammunition or any device, instrument or accessory used in hunting to Conservation Officers for inspection. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt with a bow or gun that has a light source attached that is capable of casting a beam of light (including a laser sight) forward of said bow or gun or to possess such a light source adapted for attachment to said bow or gun while hunting. It shall be unlawful to possess any equipment that uses electronics to increase the ability to see in the dark (night vision equipment) while hunting any species of wildlife, both protected or unprotected species. It shall be unlawful to possess fully automatic firearms or silenced firearms while hunting any species of wildlife.

**DEER: WHEN AND WHERE DOG OR STALK HUNTING IS ALLOWED** -Rifles using centerfire, mushrooming ammunition. Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller using buckshot, slugs, or single round ball. Muzzle-loaders and Black Powder Handguns--.40 caliber or larger, provided further it shall be illegal to possess other firearms while hunting with muzzleloaders during the special muzzleloader season. Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows. Handguns or pistols using centerfire, mushrooming ammunition.

**WHEN AND WHERE STALK HUNTING ONLY IS ALLOWED** – Same as above, except slugs or single round ball only may be used in shotguns.

**TURKEY:** Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller using standard No. 2 shot or smaller. Long bows or compound bows (no crossbows). Handguns or pistols using centerfire mushrooming ammunition, black powder handguns or pistols .40 caliber or larger. Handguns or pistols can only have open metallic sights (no scopes). Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit the possession of rifles, shotgun/rifle combinations (drilling) or buckshot and slugs when the hunter is stalk hunting both deer and turkey provided no person shoots or attempts to shoot turkey with the rifle or shotgun using buckshot or slugs.

**MIGRATORY BIRDS:** Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller, plugged with a one piece filler incapable of removal without disassembling the gun or otherwise incapable of holding more than 3 shells using standard No. 2 shot or smaller, except waterfowl must be hunted with steel shot only, T-size or smaller and waterfowl hunters shall not possess any other size steel shot or any size lead shot. Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows. Waterfowl may also be hunted with other shot compositions and shot sizes that are approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**RACCOON & OPOSSUM:** Nighttime hunting--Shotguns using No. 6 shot or smaller; .22 caliber rimfire firearms. Daytime hunting - See "OTHER GAME BIRDS OR ANIMALS".

**BOBCAT, GROUNDHOG, UNPROTECTED WILDLIFE, FOX, COYOTE & FERAL SWINE:** Rifles of any caliber. Handguns or pistols. Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller. During stalk gun deer season only, no buckshot may be used in shotguns. Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows.

**OTHER GAME BIRDS OR ANIMALS:** Rifles using rimfire ammunition or those operated by air. Muzzleloaders and black powder handguns of any caliber. Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows. Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller, using standard No. 4 shot or smaller. Handguns or pistols. Blowguns using darts propelled by the hunter's breath only. Sling shots.

**SPEAR:** DEER and FERAL SWINE may be taken by hand thrown spear during the open Bow and Arrow season on these species. The hand thrown spear shall have a sharpened blade a minimum of two inches in width. The spear shall only be hand thrown.

# FISHING

## DAILY CREEL LIMITS, POSSESSION LIMITS AND SIZE LIMITS

The creel and possession limits for fish in all public waters of this state, except as otherwise provided for certain State and Federally owned and/or managed fishing lakes and ponds, shall be as follows:

<b>Black Bass</b> .....	10
(Includes Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted and Redeye or Coosa Bass only. The take or harvest of Shoal Bass which occupy tributary waters of the Chattahoochee River drainage is prohibited.)	
<b>Walleye</b> .....	2
<b>Sauger</b> .....	10
(There is a 14 inch minimum length limit on Sauger with an exception of allowing three fish less than 14 inches in total length.)	
<b>White Bass, Yellow Bass, Saltwater Striped Bass, and Hybrids or Combinations</b> .....	30
(No more than six of the 30 can exceed 16 inches in total length and no more than six may be Saltwater Striped Bass. See exceptions for Weiss Reservoir; and further restrictions for Lewis Smith Reservoir and Lake Martin.)	
<b>Crappie</b> .....	30
(It is illegal to possess any Crappie less than nine inches in total length taken from Alabama public waters, including Aliceville Reservoir and Pickwick Reservoir. Waters exempt from the nine-inch Crappie limit include impoundments less than 500 surface acres, and the reciprocal waters of the Chattahoochee River and Impoundments and their tributaries, Bear Creek Reservoir (Big Bear Lake of the B.C.D.A. Lakes), Lake Jackson at Florala and Weiss Reservoir. See exception for Weiss Reservoir.	
<b>Catfish</b> .....	
(It is illegal to possess more than one (1) catfish over 34 inches in total length taken from Alabama public waters. No blue or flathead catfish over 34 inches in total length may be transported live beyond the boundaries of this state unless permitted in writing by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. This size limit shall not apply for harvest of blue catfish and flathead catfish from river basins where blue catfish and flathead catfish are not native. These river basins include the Perdido, Conecuh, Blackwater, Yellow, Choctawhatchee, Chipola, and Chattahoochee Rivers.)	
<b>Bream</b> .....	50
<b>Rainbow Trout</b> .....	5
<b>Alligator Gar</b> .....	1

The creel and possession limits provided for above shall not apply to fish held live for release by the sponsor or its designated agent after a bona fide fishing tournament provided they are released unharmed to the public waters from which they were taken as soon as reasonably possible on the same day they were taken.

**NOTE:** It is a violation of Alabama law for any person to transport more than one day's creel limit of any species of fish beyond the boundaries of this state. It is a violation of Alabama law for any person to fillet freshwater fish while on public waters except when fish are being prepared for immediate cooking and consumption, provided however, that fish may be drawn or gutted with heads left attached.

**NOTE: IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY ANGLER TO FISH WITH MORE THAN THREE RODS AND REELS, OR POLES, OR ANY COMBINATION THEREOF ON WEISS RESERVOIR OR NEELY HENRY LAKE AT ANY TIME.**

THERE IS NO CLOSED SEASON ON ANY FRESHWATER GAME FISH.

**NOTE:** Total length of fish measured from the front of the mouth to the tip of the tail with both mouth and tail closed.

**SIZE LIMITS** - As provided for above, as posted in State and Federally owned and/or managed public fishing lakes and ponds, and as follows:

1. **Demopolis Reservoir** - It is illegal to possess any Black Bass less than 14 inches in total length.
2. **Guntersville Reservoir** - It is illegal to possess any largemouth or smallmouth bass less than 15 inches in total length.
3. **Harris Reservoir** - It is illegal to possess any largemouth bass between 13 inches and 16 inches in total length.
4. **Lake Jackson at Florala** - Creel limit of five Black Bass greater than 12 inches in total length. Only one of the five can be over 22 inches in total length.
5. **Lake Martin** - It is illegal to possess more than two White Bass, Yellow Bass, Saltwater Striped Bass and hybrids or combinations that are over 16 inches in total length in the daily creel limit.
6. **Lewis Smith Reservoir** - It is illegal to possess more than two White Bass, Yellow Bass, Saltwater Striped Bass and hybrids or combinations that are over 16 inches in total length in the daily creel limit.
7. **Lewis Smith Reservoir** - It is illegal to possess any Black Bass between 13 inches and 15 inches in total length.
8. **Little Bear Creek Reservoir of the B.C.D.A Lakes** - It is illegal to possess Largemouth Bass between 13 inches and 16 inches in total length.
9. **Pickwick Reservoir** - It is illegal to possess any Smallmouth Bass less than 14 inches in total length or any Crappie less than 9 inches in total length.
10. **Walter F. George Reservoir (Lake Eufaula) and its Tributaries** - It is illegal to possess any Largemouth Bass less than 14 inches in total length.
11. **Weiss Reservoir** - It is illegal to possess Crappie less than 10 inches in total length. It is **legal** to possess 30 White Bass, Yellow Bass, Saltwater Striped Bass and hybrids or combinations of any size.
12. **West Point Reservoir and its Tributaries** - It is illegal to possess any Largemouth Bass less than 14 inches in total length.
13. **Wilson Reservoir** - It is illegal to possess any smallmouth bass less than 14 inches in total length.

SPECIAL CREEL LIMITS APPLY ON THE RECIPROCAL WATERS OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER AND IMPOUNDMENTS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES—CHECK LOCALLY.