

Christopher M. Blankenship

220-2-.162.224ER Wild Baitfish Regulation

Within the jurisdiction of the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, it shall be unlawful to transport any live baitfish, having been caught or harvested from streams, rivers, public lakes or reservoirs in Alabama, away from the waters in which they are caught. Further, it is unlawful to import any live baitfish, having been caught or harvested from streams, rivers, public lakes, or reservoirs from any area outside the State of Alabama. For the purposes of this regulation, baitfish are defined as any species of fish or crayfish (Superfamily *Astacoidea*) that are legal to use as bait for recreational or commercial fishing in Alabama.

This regulation does not prohibit the possession or the use of live baitfish on or within the waters from which they have been caught or harvested. Nor does it prohibit the possession, importation, or use of live baitfish acquired from commercial producers and bait shops located within or outside the State of Alabama, provided the origin of these fish was not from a wild caught source.

For purposes of this regulation, refer to 220-2-.42(1) for a description of the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries jurisdictional line.

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Statutory Authority: §§ 9-2-7, 9-2-8, and 9-2-12
Code of Alabama 1975

Penalty: As provided by law.

History: **New Rule:** Filed July 11, 2019; effective August 25, 2019. **Emergency Amendment:** Filed February 27, 2020; effective February 27, 2020.