

# **SPEARFISHING**

**Valid: Sept 1 – Aug 31**

*Resident – Non-Resident*

*Alabama Game, Fish and Wildlife Law; Article 5; beginning with 9-11-170*

## **PRIVILEGE:**

- *Allows person completely submerged, to spear commercial or non-game fish in freshwater or saltwater state.*

## **NOTE:**

- *Appropriate freshwater and/or saltwater fishing license is also required for spearfishing.*
- *SW Gulf Reef Endorsement also required to fish gulf reef fish (see attached regulation page for list of species). Mandatory for all saltwater anglers 16 years and older - NO EXEMPTION. In addition to other required saltwater fishing licenses.*
- *Possession of speargun or spearing device in a boat or on the bank of a body of water is prima facie evidence of its use.*
- *Trip licenses are valid for 168 consecutive hours.*
- *License not required to frog gig.*

## **COST:**

- *Resident Annual*                                 \$6.00
- *Non-Resident Annual*                         \$8.50
- *Non-Resident 7-Day Trip*                   \$3.50

## **HOW TO PURCHASE YOUR LICENSE:**

- *Visit [www.outdooralabama.com/license-information](http://www.outdooralabama.com/license-information)*
- *Call **1-888-848-6887** (Immediate confirmation code is given. Additional processing fee of 2.5% of license cost plus \$5.25 convenience fee when using toll free number.)*
- *Visit the **Marine Resources Office***
  - *999 Commerce Street, Gulf Shores, AL 36547*
  - *2 North Iberville, Dauphin Island, AL 36542*
- *Visit the **Montgomery Office** (See address below)*
- *Mail a completed application (download at [www.outdooralabama.com/license-information](http://www.outdooralabama.com/license-information)) to:*  
*Dept. of Conservation, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries, Attn: License Sales*
  - *PO Box 301456, Montgomery, AL 36130-1456*
  - *64 N Union St., Ste. 567, Montgomery, AL 36104 (overnight/express)*



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION  
SPEARFISHING LICENSE



Valid: Sept 1 – Aug 31  
Resident

**LICENSE HOLDER:** All information is required. **PRINT OR TYPE ONLY INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex:  Male  
 Female  
 \*Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wt. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ht.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Eyes: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hair: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: Hm \_\_\_\_\_ Wk \_\_\_\_\_ Cl \_\_\_\_\_  
 Race: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Enter Hunter Education ID State & Number:<sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**Spearfishing – valid for freshwater and saltwater<sup>3</sup>.**

Spearfishing Annual \$ 6.00 [ ]

**In addition to Spearfishing license, you must possess either Freshwater and/or Saltwater Fishing<sup>3</sup>, depending on where you are fishing**

Freshwater Annual<sup>2</sup> \$ 14.05 [ ]

Saltwater Annual<sup>3</sup> \$ 24.75 [ ]

SW Reef Fish Endorsement<sup>3</sup> \$ 10.00 [ ]

Saltwater 7-Day Trip<sup>3</sup> \$ 10.30 [ ]

Trip licenses are valid for 168 consecutive hours

Trip Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Trip State Time: \_\_\_\_\_ AM PM

<sup>1</sup> **UTILIZING THE HUNTING PRIVILEGES WILL REQUIRE A HUNTER EDUCATION ID NUMBER. Applications without HUNTER EDUCATION ID NUMBER will result in 'supervision required' status for hunting privileges.**

<sup>2</sup> License includes privileges of the Wildlife Heritage License. This license includes: fishing in freshwater statewide with hook and line from the bank; fishing in WFF operated Public Fishing Lakes (daily lake permits required); hunting small game, except waterfowl, on WFF Wildlife Management Area (WMA map/permit required); and shooting on WFF managed shooting ranges.

<sup>3</sup> Required to fish gulf reef fish (see attached regulation page for list of species). Mandatory for all saltwater anglers 16 years and older - NO EXEMPTION. In addition to other required saltwater fishing licenses.

Visit [www.outdooralabama.com/license-information](http://www.outdooralabama.com/license-information) for more information and regulations on any of the privileges listed.

**Submit:** (1) completed application, (2) check or money order, and (3) copy of driver's license to: Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Div., Attn: License Sales, PO Box 301456, Montgomery, AL 36130-1456, or by walk-in or express mail requests: 64 N Union Street, Suite 567, 36104. Questions: (334) 242-3465 or [dcnr.wfflicense@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:dcnr.wfflicense@dcnr.alabama.gov).

License can also be issued by select WFF District Office, County Probate Office/License Commissioner, local agents (which includes most sporting good and bait & tackle shops in Alabama), our website [www.outdooralabama.com](http://www.outdooralabama.com) or by calling 1-888-848-6887 (additional processing fee of 2.5% of license cost plus \$5.25 convenience fee when using toll free number).

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check [ ] to be excluded from list sold by DCNR. If blank, you will be included.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

License Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*DCNR IS NOW REQUIRED BY SECTION 30-3-194(A) CODE OF ALABAMA 1975 TO COLLECT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ON ALL RECREATIONAL LICENSES BEING ISSUED/RENEWED.**

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION**

*The 2020-21 Recreational Licenses will be available Monday, August 24, 2020.*

**REDESIGNED COLLECTIBLE HARD CARD LICENSES AVAILABLE**

These credit card style cards are a collectible keepsake of your hunting and fishing memories.

- Each card is \$5.00 and should be received shortly after your purchase.
- Select any or all of the newly resigned 2021 cards.
- Your name, information and annual hunting and fishing privileges will be displayed on the back.

**ONLY SELECTED ANNUAL HUNTING AND FISHING PRIVILEGES CAN BE DISPLAYED.  
ALL OTHER PRIVILEGES (LIFETIME, TRIPS, ETC.) WILL DISPLAY ON THE PAPER LICENSE.**

Please indicate which designs you would like:

Deer Design



Turkey Design



Waterfowl Design



Freshwater Fishing Design



Saltwater Fishing Design



Shooting Sports Design

# Collectible Hard Cards \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5.00 each = TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ROUND-UP YOUR LICENSE COST:**

You can now 'round-up' the total cost of your recreational license purchase to the next dollar and your donation will help support research for wildlife, freshwater fishing or saltwater fishing.

My Total License Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and I would like to round-up to \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to support research for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Wildlife \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Freshwater Fisheries \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Saltwater Fisheries

**MAKE A 1-TIME DONATION:**

You can make a 1-time donation to help support research. You can select any or all wildlife, freshwater fishing and/or saltwater fishing.

I would like my donation to support research for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Wildlife \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Freshwater Fisheries \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Saltwater Fisheries

**DID YOU KNOW?:**

- The Division does not receive any state tax dollars.
- The Division is solely funded through license sales.
- Each license dollar is matched with federal funds through excise tax on sporting firearms, ammunition, fishing rods and reels, fishing line and other related hunting and fishing equipment.

*Your support is valuable in promoting wise stewardship, management and enjoyment of our natural resources.*

*If you would like any of these options, complete that section and attach to your application.  
Payment for license and optional items can be included in one check or money order.*



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION
SPEARFISHING LICENSE



Valid: Sept 1 - Aug 31
Non-Resident

LICENSE HOLDER: all information is required.

PRINT OR TYPE ONLY INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED

Name: CID #: Sex: Male Female
\*Social Security #: Driver's License State and #: Wt.
Date of Birth: Email: Ht.
Address: Eyes:
City: County: State: Zip: Hair:
Phone: Hm Wk Cl Race:

Check Type License Needed

Trip licenses are valid for 168 consecutive hours

Spearfishing - valid for freshwater and saltwater¹.

Spearfishing Annual \$ 8.50 [ ]
7-day Spearfishing Trip \$ 3.50 [ ] Trip Start Date:
Freshwater and/or Saltwater¹ also required Trip State Time: AM PM

In addition to Spearfishing license, you must possess either Freshwater and/or Saltwater Fishing¹, depending on where you are fishing

Annual Freshwater Fishing \$ 54.20 [ ] Annual Saltwater¹ Fishing \$ 53.10 [ ]
Louisiana \$ 62.20 [ ] Florida \$ 48.10 [ ]
Mississippi \$ 66.49 [ ] Louisiana (includes Freshwater privilege) \$ 91.10 [ ]
7-day Freshwater Fishing Trip \$ 30.40 [ ] 7-day Saltwater¹ Fishing Trip \$ 29.30 [ ]
Florida \$ 32.20 [ ] Florida \$ 30.10 [ ]
Georgia \$ 33.20 [ ]
Trip Start Date:
Trip State Time: AM PM
SW Reef Fish Endorsement¹ \$ 10.00 [ ]
Saltwater¹ Pier Fishing \$ 12.00 [ ]

¹Required to fish gulf reef fish (see attached regulation page for list of species). Mandatory for all saltwater anglers 16 years and older - NO EXEMPTION. In addition to other required saltwater fishing licenses.

Visit www.outdooralabama.com/license-information for more information and regulations on any of the privileges listed.

3-day Trip Freshwater Family License available at the cost of a 7-day freshwater trip. See that license for more information.

Submit: (1) completed application, (2) check or money order, and (3) copy of driver's license to: Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Div., Attn: License Sales, PO Box 301456, Montgomery, AL 36130-1456, or by walk-in or express mail requests: 64 N Union Street, Suite 567, 36104. Questions: (334) 242-3465 or dcnr.wfflicense@dcnr.alabama.gov.

License can also be issued by select WFF District Office, County Probate Office/License Commissioner, local agents (which includes most sporting good and bait & tackle shops in Alabama), our website www.outdooralabama.com or by calling 1-888-848-6887 (additional processing fee of 2.5% of license cost plus \$5.25 convenience fee when using toll free number).

Applicant's Signature: Date:

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License Number: Amount Received: Date Issued:

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## **Section 9-11-170      SPEARING OF COMMERCIAL OR NONGAME FISH FOR SPORT – WHEN, WHERE AND HOW PERMITTED; NOTICE OF COMPETITIVE EVENTS**

(a) The spearing of commercial or nongame fish solely for the purpose of sport in all waters of this state, both fresh and salt, shall be lawful; provided, that the person engaged in the act of spearing shall be completely submerged. "Commercial or nongame fish" as used in this article shall be limited to those freshwater fish designated as such by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and all species of saltwater fish. "Spearing" as used in this article shall be limited to the use of a spear or similar instrument that is held in the hand of the person using same and the use of a weapon, other than a firearm, which propels or forces a projectile, arrow or similar device therefrom to which a wire, rope, line, cord or other means of recovering the propelled projectile, arrow or similar device is attached and is secured to the weapon or to the person using the weapon.

(b) When a group of individuals shall meet for the purpose of a competitive spearfishing event, notice thereof shall be given to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources at least one week prior thereto designating the time, date and place of the event.

## **Section 9-11-171      SPEARING OF COMMERCIAL OR NONGAME FISH FOR SPORT – LICENSE – REQUIRED; ISSUANCE; FEES; DISPOSITION OF REVENUE FROM SALE**

Each person engaged in the spearing of commercial or nongame fish shall, in addition to all other Alabama fishing licenses, have a commercial or nongame fish spearfishing license. The fee for the commercial or nongame spearfishing license shall be as follows: state resident's license, \$5.00; nonresident seven-day license, \$2.50; nonresident annual license, \$7.50. Said licenses shall be issued only by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Montgomery, Alabama. The revenue derived from the sale of the licenses provided for in this article shall be covered into the State Treasury to the credit of the Game and Fish Fund.

## **Section 9-11-172      SPEARING OF COMMERCIAL OR NONGAME FISH FOR SPORT – LICENSE - DISPLAY**

Said commercial or nongame spearfishing license must be kept in the boat or other base of operations for said skin diver and readily available for inspection by any conservation officer, agent or employee of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

## **Section 9-11-173      REGULATION OF SEASONS, HOURS, ETC.**

The Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources shall have the power to open and close spearfishing of commercial or nongame fish on any and all waters of this state or at any time of the day or night by regulation and shall have the power to further regulate or restrict spearfishing if he deems it necessary in the interest of good conservation practices.

## **Section 9-11-174      COMPLIANCE WITH WATER SAFETY LAWS**

The provisions of Chapter 5 of Title 33 of this code requiring a diver's flag to be displayed on the surface of the water where skin divers are operating and any and all other present and future regulations promulgated under authority of said act which affect the operation of skin divers must be obeyed by spear fishermen when engaged in spearfishing under authority of this article.

## **Section 9-11-175      POSSESSION OF SPEAR, ETC., EVIDENCE OF SPEARFISHING; EXCEPTION**

The possession of a spear, spear gun or spearing device in a boat, on the bank of a body of public water or on or in the public waters of this state shall be prima facie evidence to the court having jurisdiction that the person in possession of the same is engaged in spearfishing, unless said person is frog gigging only.

## **Section 9-11-176      PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE**

Any person who shall violate the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided for by law, except that the minimum fine under this article shall be \$25.00.

## **Section 9-11-83      COMMERCIAL OR NONGAME FISH DESIGNATED**

The following shall be considered commercial fish or nongame fish: drum, buffalo, channel catfish and all members of the catfish family and the spotted sucker and all members of the sucker family, including the species known as red horse and black horse.

## **Regulation 220-3-.46      **OPEN SEASON FOR GULF REEF FISH SPECIES****

(1) During such period of time that the federal waters (adjoining Alabama waters) are open to the recreational harvest of a Gulf Reef Fish species, the recreational harvest of that Gulf Reef Fish species shall also be open in Alabama waters. Otherwise, when the federal waters are closed to the harvest of a Gulf Reef Fish species, Alabama waters will also be closed to the harvest of that species. However, Alabama state waters shall open and close to the recreational harvest of Red Snapper at the direction of the Commissioner through his designee, the Director of the Marine Resources Division. Notification of the opening and closing of state waters to recreational harvests shall be made through a press release.

(2) The possession of Red Snapper in Alabama state waters, during the time the waters are closed, is prohibited except for federally permitted for-hire vessels during the federal for-hire season.

(3) Gulf Reef Fish shall be defined as the fish listed below.

<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>
• <b><u>Triggerfishes:</u></b>	<i>Balistidae</i>
• Gray triggerfish	<i>Balistes capricus</i>
• <b><u>Jacks:</u></b>	<i>Carangidae</i>
• Greater amberjack	<i>Seriola dumerili</i>
• Lesser amberjack	<i>Seriola fasciata</i>
• Almaco jack	<i>Seriola rivoliana</i>
• Banded rudderfish	<i>Seriola zonata</i>
• <b><u>Wrasses:</u></b>	<i>Labridae</i>
• Hogfish	<i>Lachnolaimus maximus</i>
• <b><u>Snappers:</u></b>	<i>Lutjanidae</i>
• Queen snapper	<i>Etelis oculatus</i>
• Mutton snapper	<i>Lutjanus analis</i>
• Blackfin snapper	<i>Lutjanus buccanella</i>
• Red snapper	<i>Lutjanus campechanus</i>
• Cubera snapper	<i>Lutjanus cyanopterus</i>
• Gray (mangrove) snapper	<i>Lutjanus griseus</i>
• Lane snapper	<i>Lutjanus synagris</i>
• Silk snapper	<i>Lutjanus vivanus</i>
• Yellowtail snapper	<i>Ocyurus chrysurus</i>
• Wenchman	<i>Pristipomoides aquilonaris</i>
• Vermilion snapper	<i>Rhomboplites aurorubens</i>
• <b><u>Tilefishes:</u></b>	<i>Malacanthidae</i>
• Goldface tilefish	<i>Caulolatilus chrysops</i>
• Blueline tilefish	<i>Caulolatilus microps</i>
• Tilefish	<i>Lopholatilus chamaeleonticeps</i>
• <b><u>Groupers:</u></b>	<i>Serranidae</i>
• Speckled hind	<i>Epinephelus drummondhayi</i>
• Yellowedge grouper	<i>Epinephelus flavolimbatus</i>
• Goliath grouper	<i>Epinephelus itajara</i>
• Red grouper	<i>Epinephelus morio</i>
• Warsaw grouper	<i>Epinephelus nigritus</i>
• Snowy grouper	<i>Epinephelus niveatus</i>
• Black grouper	<i>Mycteroperca bonaci</i>
• Yellowmouth grouper	<i>Mycteroperca interstitialis</i>
• Gag	<i>Mycteroperca microlepis</i>
• Scamp	<i>Mycteroperca phenax</i>
• Yellowfin grouper	<i>Mycteroperca venenosa</i>

**Regulation 220-3-.87****GULF REEF FISH ENDORSEMENT**

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this rule, pursuant to the authority of Section 9-12-9 of the Code of Alabama, any person possessing, taking or attempting to take species or groups of species of gulf reef fish (as defined in Rule 220-3-.46) shall purchase an Alabama Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement. Likewise, any person who is required to purchase a license for a commercial party boat or commercial fishing vessel from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (Department) which is used for possessing or taking or attempting to take any species of gulf reef fish shall purchase an Alabama Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement.

(2) The annual fees and annual expiration dates for Alabama Gulf Reef Fish Endorsements shall be as follows:

a) Individual Anglers: \$10.00

Expiration Date: August 31

b) Fees for commercial party boats shall be as follows and the endorsement for each shall expire on September 30.

1. 1-6 passengers: \$150.00

2. 7-25 passengers: \$200.00

3. More than 25 passengers: \$250.00

c) Commercial fishing vessel: \$250.00

Expiration Date: September 30

(3) An endorsement for a commercial vessel must be maintained on the vessel. An endorsement issued to an individual angler must be in the possession of the angler when possessing, taking or attempting to take gulf reef fish.

(4) The following persons are not required to purchase an Alabama Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement:

a) An angler under the age of 16 years.

b) An angler possessing or taking or attempting to take gulf reef fish while on a commercial fishing vessel or commercial party boat licensed by the Department and for which a Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement has been issued.