

# ALABAMA RECREATIONAL FISHING

THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL COPY OF THE LAWS OR REGULATIONS. THIS EXPLANATION OF THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS IS CORRECT AS OF THE DATE SPECIFIED. BEFORE TAKING PART IN THIS FISHERY PLEASE CALL 251-861-2882 OR 251-968-7576 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.OUTDOORALABAMA.COM FOR THE UPDATED INFORMATION. IT IS THE FISHERMAN'S RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN EFFECT AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

A SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE IS REQUIRED FOR **ALL PERSONS FISHING OR POSSESSING FISH IN SALTWATER AREAS OF ALABAMA**. RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 16 ARE EXEMPT. RESIDENTS AGE 65 AND OVER ARE EXEMPT. **RESIDENTS** MAY FISH FROM A **LICENSED PUBLIC FISHING PIER** IN THE INSIDE WATERS WITHOUT PURCHASING A FISHING LICENSE. A SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE IS ALSO REQUIRED IF USING A CAST NET, GIG, BOW, CRAB TRAP OR SPEARFISHING.

Alabama residents 65 and older, lifetime saltwater license holders, and those fishing from licensed public fishing piers must be registered with the Alabama Saltwater Angler Registry ([www.outdooralabama.com/licenses](http://www.outdooralabama.com/licenses)).

	ALABAMA	LOUISIANA	FLORIDA	ALL OTHERS
ANNUAL	24.35	91.10	48.10	52.20
<sup>1</sup> TRIP	10.15	28.85	30.10	28.85
PIER	6.40	11.85	11.85	11.85
SPEAR FISHING	6.00	8.50	8.50	8.50
<sup>2</sup> DISABLED	3.05	N/A	N/A	N/A
<sup>3</sup> GULF REEF FISH	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00

<sup>1</sup>Seven-day trip licenses are effective for 168 hours from the date and time of purchase.  
<sup>2</sup>Required to be renewed annually with supporting documents dated with the previous 12 months  
<sup>3</sup>Alabama Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement required for any person taking, attempting to take or possessing gulf reef fish.  
 NOTE: Annual licenses expire August 31 of each year.

## RECREATIONAL SIZE, DAILY CREEL AND POSSESSION LIMITS FOR STATE WATERS - REVISED September 2019

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT	SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
Sheepshead	12" min FL	10 per person	Snappers <sup>4</sup>		
Spotted Seatrout	15" min TL 22" max TL	6 per person 1 oversized fish allowed	• Red	16" min TL	2 per person
Red Drum (Redfish)	16" min TL 26" max TL	3 per person 1 oversized fish allowed	• Gray (mangrove, black)	12" min TL	10 per person
Cobia (Ling)	36" min FL	2 per person	• Vermillion (beeliner)	10" min TL	10 per person
King Mackerel	24" min FL	3 per person	• Lane	8" min TL	**
Spanish Mackerel	none	15 per person	Gray Triggerfish <sup>4</sup>	15" min FL	1 per person **
Florida Pompano	12" min TL	3 per person	Tarpon	60" min TL	\$61.00 tag required
Tripletail (Blackfish)	18" min TL	3 per person	Mullet	none	†
Flounder <sup>6</sup>	14" min TL	5 per person	Sharks		
Striped Bass *	16" min TL	2 per person *	• Sharpnose, Bonnethead	none	1 per person per day
Greater Amberjack <sup>4</sup>	34" min FL	1 per person	• Hammerhead, Great	78" min FL	1 per person per day
Lesser Amberjack	14" - 22" FL	**	• Hammerhead, Smooth	78" min FL	1 per person per day
Banded Rudderfish	14" - 22" FL	**	• Hammerhead, Scalloped	78" min FL	1 per person per day
Yellowfin Tuna	27" min CFL	3 per person	• Mako, Shortfin	71" min TL (M) 83" max TL (F)	1 per person per day
Bigeye Tuna	27" min CFL	no creel limit	• All Other Shark Species	54" min FL	1 per person per day
Gag Grouper <sup>4</sup>	24" min TL	2 per person ‡	* Only two Striped Bass are allowed within MRD Jurisdiction ‡ Mixed species grouper aggregate creel limit : 4 per person (No more than 2 red grouper and no more than 2 gag grouper included in aggregate) † There is a twenty (20) fish aggregate creel limit for reef fish species for which there is no other creel limit. <sup>4</sup> Alabama state waters open and close along with federal regulations. <a href="http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/bulletins/fishery_bulletins.htm">http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/bulletins/fishery_bulletins.htm</a> † Oct. 24 - Dec. 31, 25 mullet per person from the shoreline or 25 perboat. No mullet by cast net or snagging in Theodore Industrial Canal, Dog River, Fowl River, and their tributaries. <sup>6</sup> The taking or possession of flounder from Nov. 1- Nov. 30 is prohibited.		
Red Grouper <sup>4</sup>	20" min TL	2 per person ‡			
Black Grouper <sup>4</sup>	24" min TL	4 per person ‡			
Yellowfin Grouper <sup>4</sup>	20" min TL	4 per person ‡			
Scamp <sup>4</sup>	16" min TL	4 per person ‡			

Anglers must use non-offset non-stainless steel circle hooks when fishing for, retaining, possessing or landing sharks when using natural bait.

Anglers must use non-stainless steel circle hooks when fishing for, retaining, possessing or landing gulf reef fish when using natural bait.

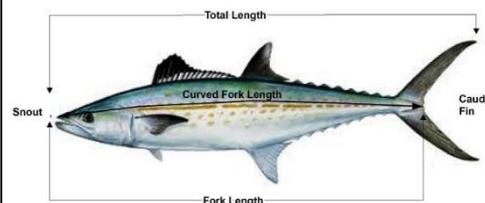
Any fished possessed in Alabama and harvested in federal or waters of another state that does not have a size, bag or creel limit must abide by Alabama size, bag and creel limits of that species.

### State - Federal Boundary

Gulf Reef Fish – State Waters extend 9 nautical miles (nm) from the beach (including Pelican /Sand Island) into the Gulf of Mexico. All other species – State Waters extend 3 nm from the beach (including Pelican/Sand Island) into the Gulf of Mexico

**Prohibited Species:** Goliath Grouper (Jewfish), Nassau Grouper, Atlantic Angel Shark, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Thresher Shark, Bignose Shark, Caribbean Reef Shark, Caribbean Shark, Sharpnose Shark, Galapagos Shark, Narrowtooth Shark, Night Shark, Sevengill Shark, Bigeye Sixgill Shark, Dusky Shark, Longfin Mako Shark, Sand Tiger Shark, Basking Shark, Whale Shark, White Shark, Smalltail Shark, Smalltooth Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, Spotted Eagle Ray, Atlantic Manta, Sixgill Shark, Sandbar Shark (unless the fisherman possesses a NOAA Fisheries sandbar shark research permit).

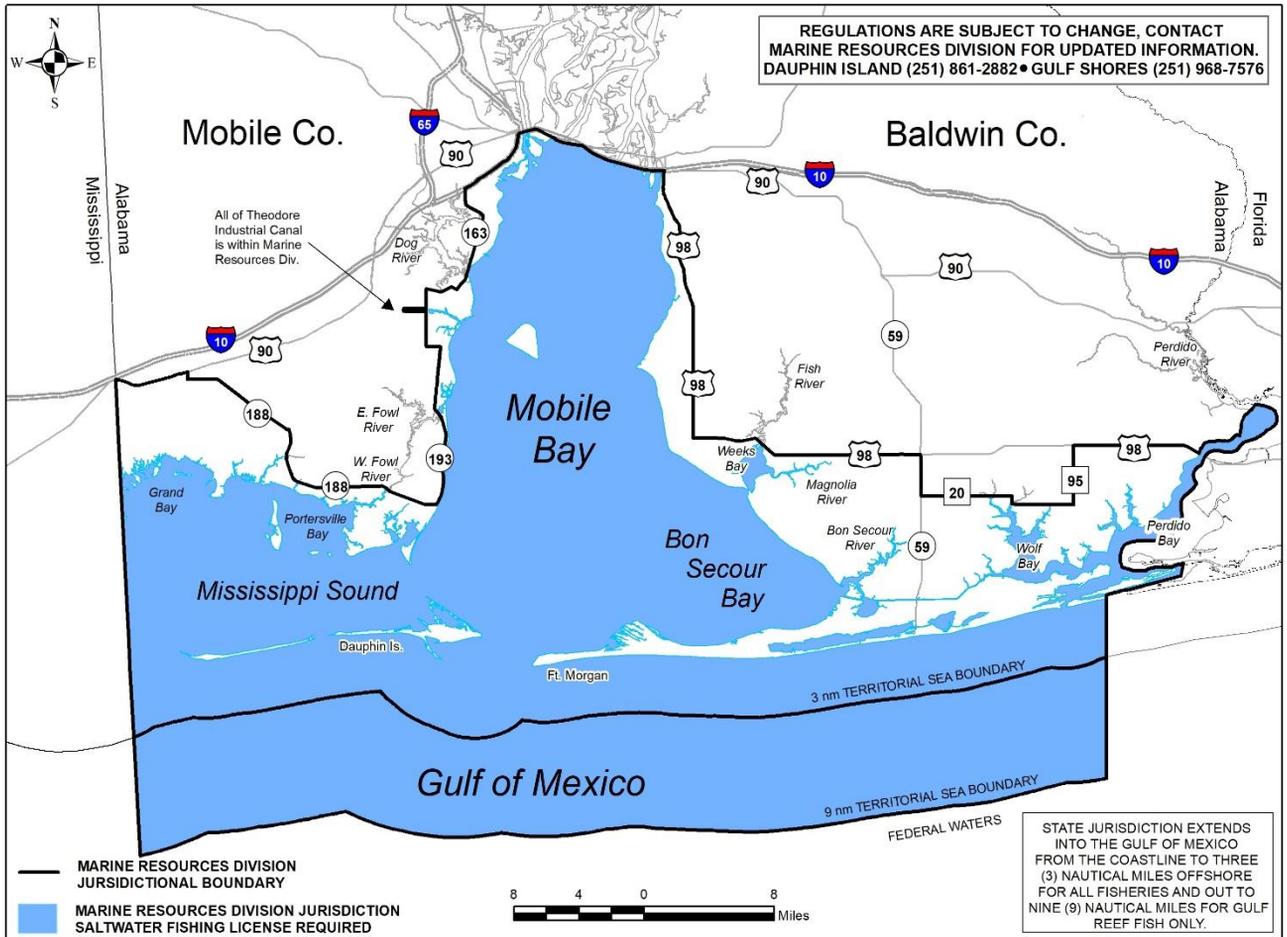
### FISH MEASUREMENT



# ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION JURISDICTION

▲ Beginning at the Mississippi state line, a **Saltwater Fishing License is required** in those waters south of a meandering line following U.S. Highway 90 eastwardly to its junction with State Highway 188; State Highway 188 eastwardly to its junction with State Highway 193; /State Highway 193 northwardly (all of Theodore Industrial Canal is in Marine Resources Div. jurisdiction) to its junction with State Highway 163; /State Highway 163 northwardly to its intersection with Interstate Highway 10; Interstate Highway 10 eastbound lane (exc. that portion of Interstate 10 which lies north of U.S. Highway 90 Battleship Parkway) to Interstate Highway 10's intersection with U.S. 98; U.S. Highway 98 southwardly and easterly to its intersection with State Highway 59; State Highway 59 southwardly to its intersection with Baldwin Co. Highway 20; Baldwin Co. Highway 20 eastwardly to its intersection with Baldwin Co. Highway 95; Baldwin Co. Highway 95 northwardly to its intersection with U.S. Highway 98; U.S. Highway 98 eastwardly to its intersection with the western shore of Perdido Bay; From the west shore of Perdido Bay northwardly to the intersection of the Florida state line and the mouth of the Perdido River. ■



Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries laws, regulations, and licensing requirements apply to all fresh water lakes (farm ponds etc....), within Marine Resources Division jurisdiction (shaded area). All of Theodore Industrial Canal is within Marine Resources Division jurisdiction.