

# 2020 ALABAMA MARINE INFORMATION CALENDAR

MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION, ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Tidal Calendar Moon Phases Sunrise & Sunset Times Fishing Information State Record Fish Boating Access Information License Fees Fish Creel Limits

# Alabama Marine Resources Division

Mobile County	(251) 861-2882
Baldwin County	(251) 968-7576
24-Hour Enforcement Contact	(251) 476-1256

**Scott Bannon,** Director P.O. Box 189 Dauphin Island, AL 36528 (251) 861-2882

Jason Downey, Chief Enforcement Officer P.O. Box 189 Dauphin Island, AL 36528 (251) 861-2882

> Kevin Anson, Fisheries Section Chief P.O. Drawer 458 Gulf Shores, AL 36547 (251) 968-7576

The mission of the Marine Resources Division (MRD) is to manage the State's marine fishery resources through research, enforcement and education for the maximum benefit of the resources and the citizens of Alabama. To accomplish the mission the Division is comprised of enforcement, fisheries and administrative sections.

The **Enforcement Section** consists of 19 State Law Enforcement Officers primarily tasked with patrolling Alabama's shorelines, coastal waters and adjacent federal waters, enforcing state and federal laws and regulations relating to the conservation and protection of marine resources. Officers also enforce State laws relating to boating safety, hunting and freshwater fishing. They cooperate extensively with other federal and state agencies in the coordination of cooperative enforcement operations, investigative fisheries enforcement activities, training, public safety, search and rescue and other natural resource issues.

The Fisheries Section is responsible for making recommendations regarding fishery-related matters to managers. To meet this responsibility, fisheries staff conduct a variety of monitoring programs to gather data for many species of fish and invertebrates. These programs are divided into fishery-dependent and fishery-independent programs. The section also works with other Gulf of Mexico state and federal agencies, as well as the public, to collect data through various projects to describe Alabama's marine resources and supply information and recommendations for managing these resources at state, regional and national levels. It also oversees a mariculture program located at the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center (CPMC). Various marine species have been spawned and/or reared at the CPMC to support stock enhancement projects, fish movement and growth studies and mariculture research.

The **Administrative Section** handles accounting, billing, payroll, license sales and public inquiries. The Division staff is housed at two facilities, one on Dauphin Island and the other in Gulf Shores. Combined, the two facilities support approximately 70 employees.







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# What is the Sport Fish Restoration Program?



The Sport Fish Restoration Program (SFR) provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas fish and wildlife agencies for fishery projects, boating access and aquatic education. The Program is authorized by the Sport Fish Restoration Act (Dingell-Johnson DJ) of 1950.

The SFR Program was created to restore and better manage America's declining fishery resources and was modeled after the successful Wildlife Restoration Program. Through the purchases of fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels and import duties, the SFR Program is one of the most successful user pay, user benefit programs.

## What is the purpose?

- Restoration and management of fish species of material value for sport-fishing and recreation.
- Provide facilities that create or add to public access for recreational boating.
- Provide aquatic education to the public to increase understanding of water resources and associated aquatic life.

## What are eligible projects?

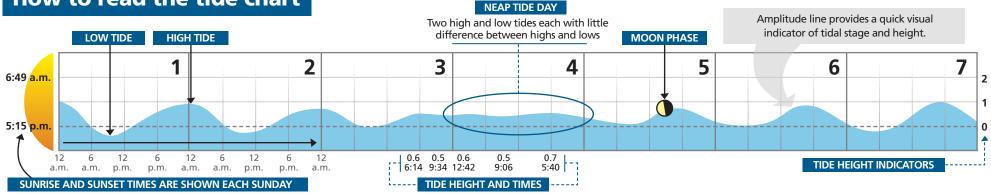
Projects restoring, conserving, managing and enhancing sport fish having material value for sport or recreation. Projects enhancing the public's understanding of water resources and aquatic life and assisting them in developing attitudes toward the aquatic environment.

## Where do SFR funds come from?

Excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels, import duties and interest are collected and appropriated to states and territories from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. These funds are apportioned based on a formula which includes land area and number of paid recreational fishing license holders.



## How to read the tide chart



## For the locations listed below, make the following adjustments:

Fort Morgan:	Fowl River:	Bon Secour:	Point Clear:	Perdido Pass:	Mobile River:	for na
add 00:05 - high	add 01:32 - high	add 00:38 - high	add 00:48 - high	add 00:17 - high	add 01:48 - high	for Da
add 00:17 - low	add 01:40 - low	add 00:32 - low	add 00:52 - low	add 00:19 - low	add 01:48 - low	predic

The tidal predictions provided in this calendar are for reference use only. Due to varying local conditions it should not be used for navigational purposes. Calculations allow for Daylight Savings Time. High and low water predictions are provided by the National Ocean Service.



Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines. Dauphin Island, AL ...... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W) For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes Low tide: add 19 minutes

## **JANUARY 2020**

O FULL

MOON

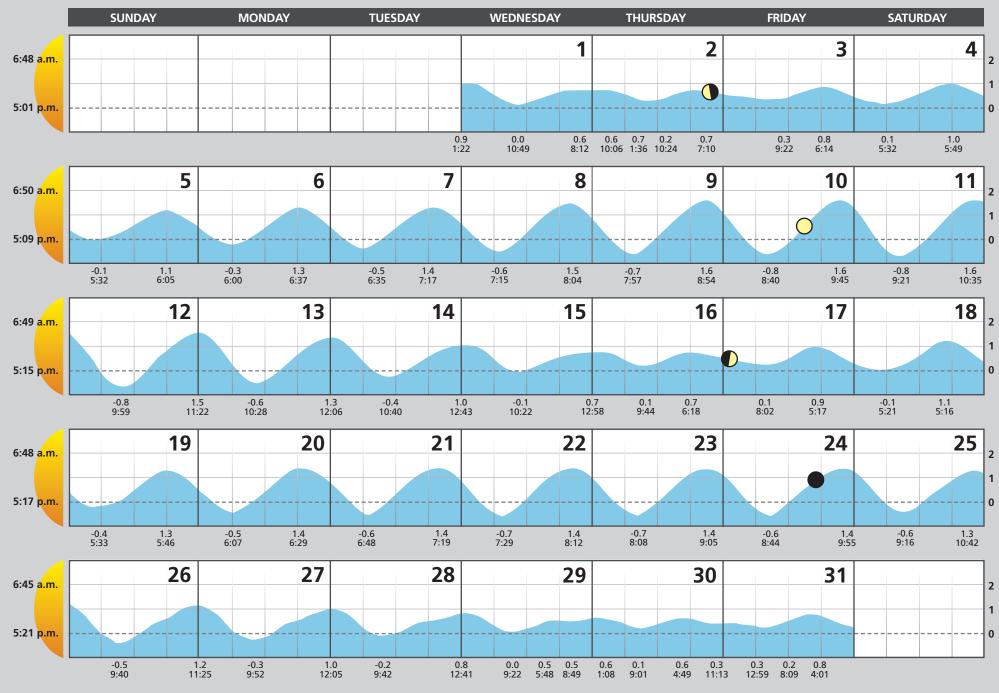
NEW

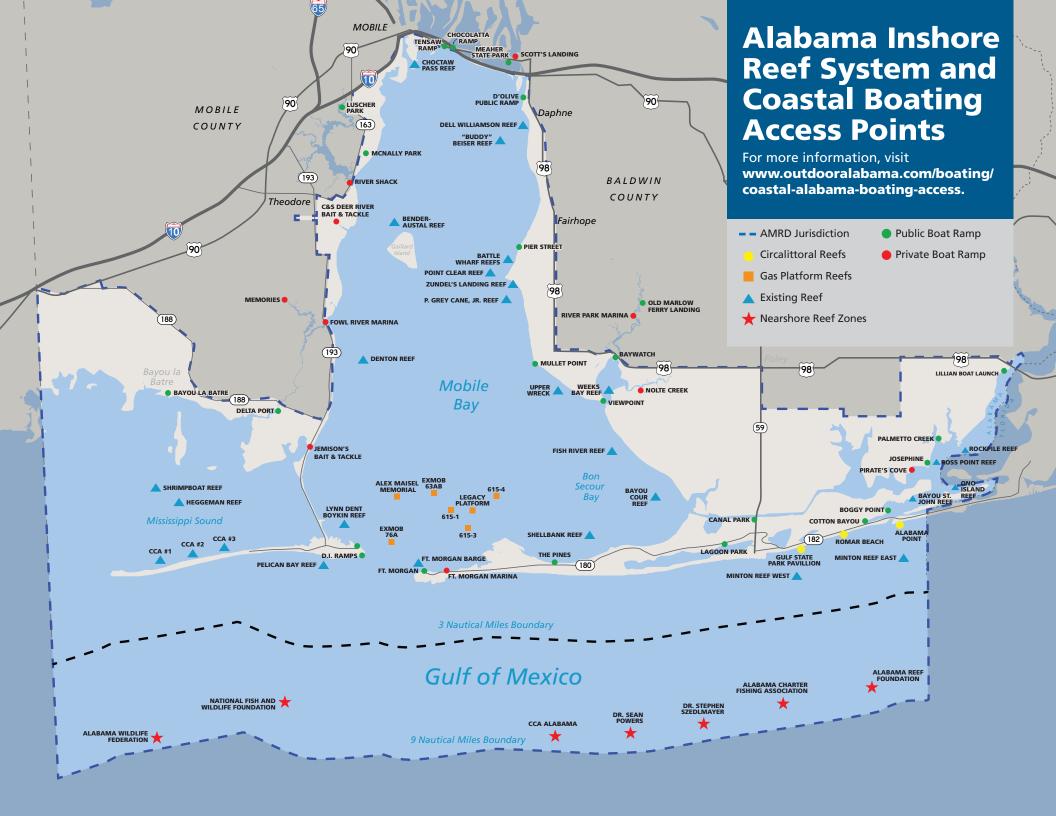
MOON

FIRST

QUARTER

QUARTER





## **FEBRUARY 2020**

O FULL

MOON

NEW

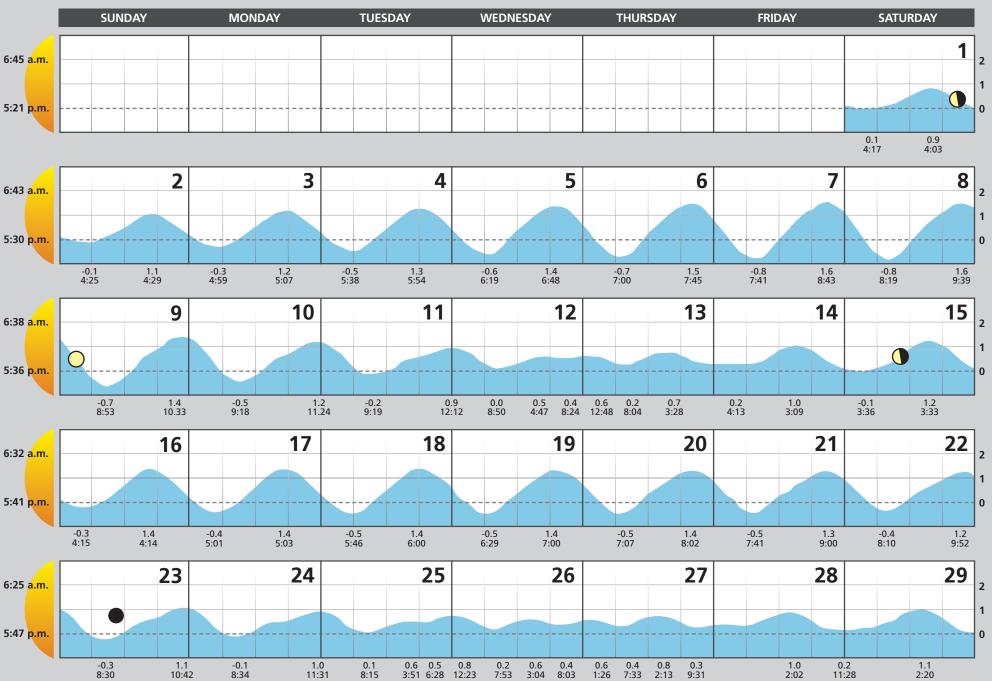
MOON

FIRST

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QUARTER

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines. For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes Low tide: add 19 minutes





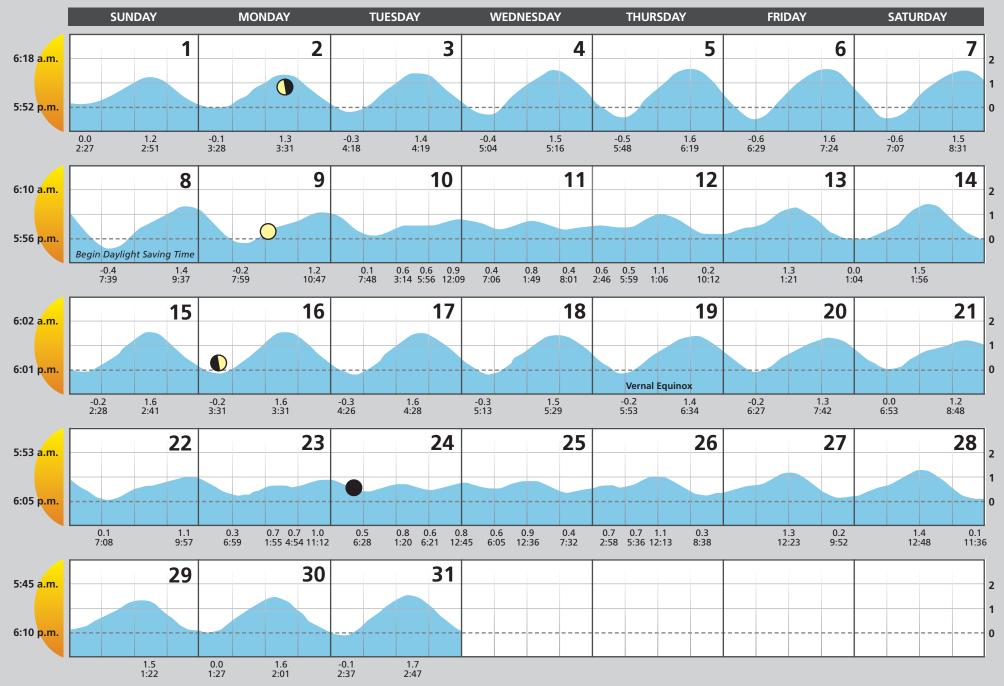
# **#ALSPORTFISH**

Want to be featured in our yearly calendar? Use our hashtag and you just might be selected.

> CRAIG NEWTON CLEMENT DARRELL TOWNLEY KEVIN OLSTEAD SUBMITTED PHOTOS



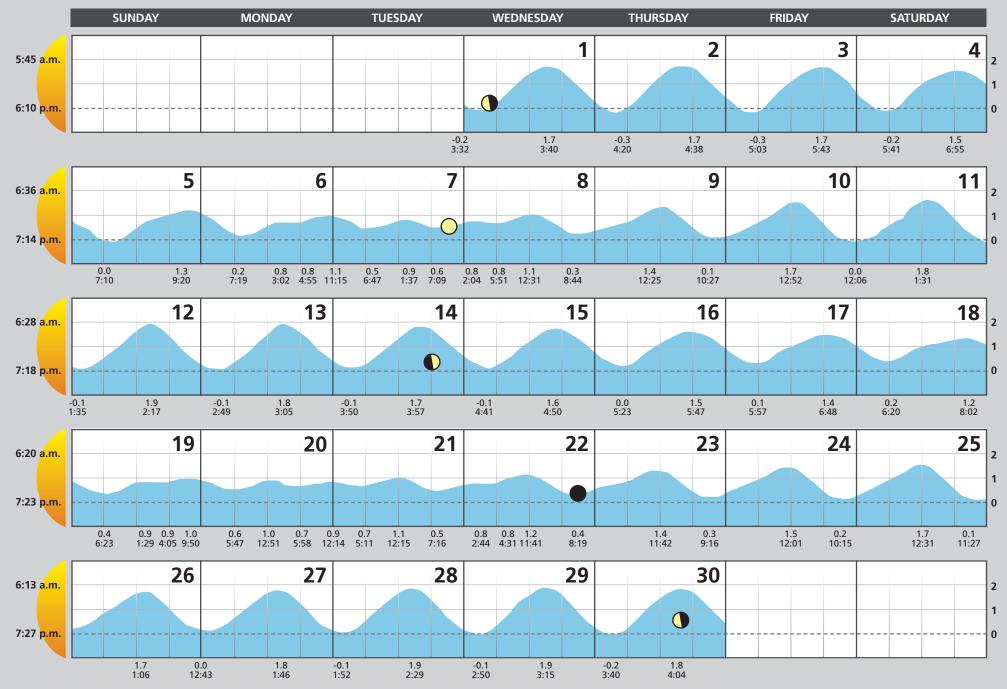
# **MARCH 2020**







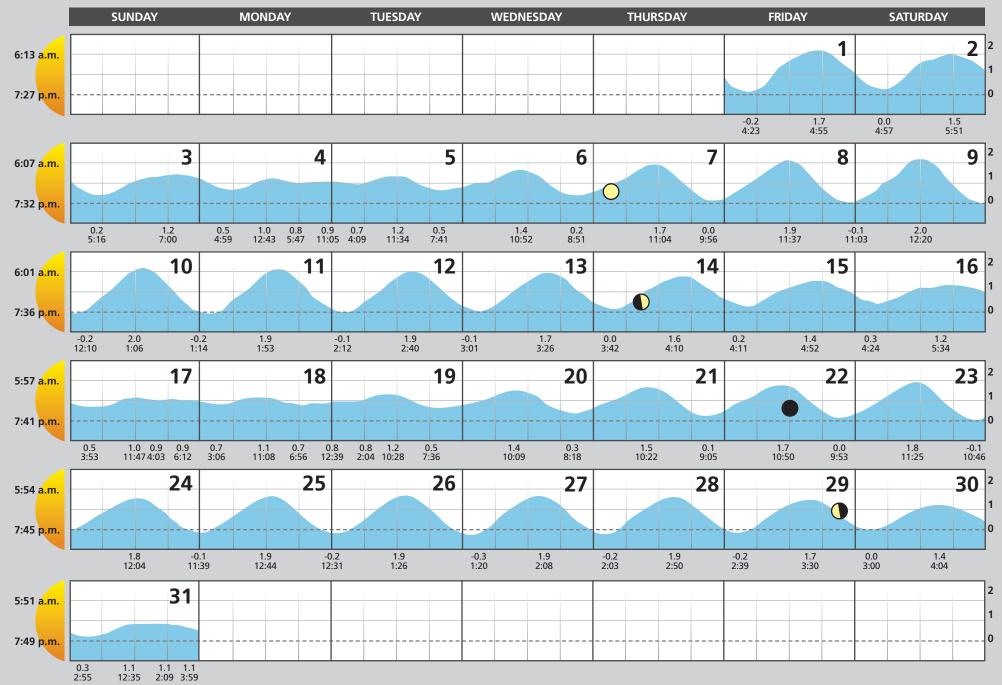
## **APRIL 2020**







## **MAY 2020**





# MANDATORY REPORTING

### SNAPPER CHECK INFORMATION CAN BE REPORTED THROUGH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- By smartphone using the Outdoor AL app. The app is available for IOS and Android devices at respective app stores.
- Online at www.outdooralabama.com







USE THE OUTDOOR AL APP TO SNAPPER CHECK! SEARCH OUTDOOR AL IN YOUR APP STORE TO DOWNLOAD THE ALL NEW OUTDOOR ALABAMA APP.

BRANDON FINNORN SUBMITTED PHOTO

## **JUNE 2020**

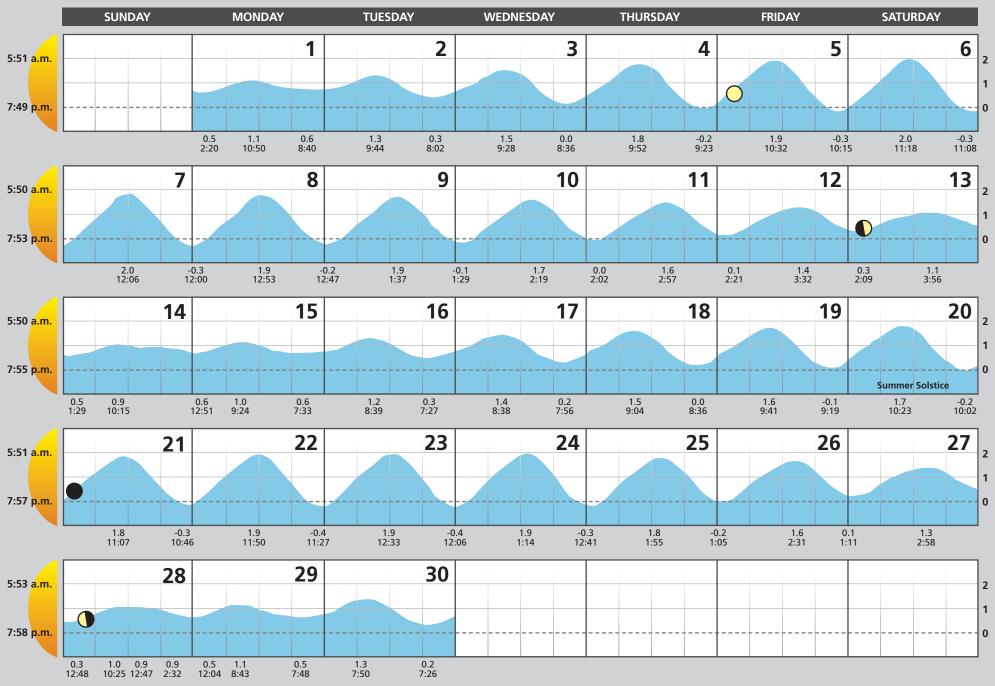
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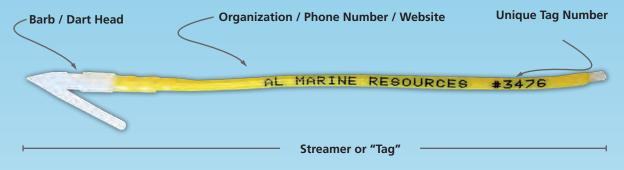
QUARTER



## **Saltwater Tagging Program**

The Alabama Marine Resources Division is conducting studies of reef fish. Biological staff from the Division will be tagging a variety of reef fish species including snappers, groupers, triggerfish, jacks, grunts and porgies. The Division's tags are a yellow streamer applied just below the fish's dorsal fin, in the left "shoulder." Text printed on the tag says "AL MARINE RESOURCES" with a 4-digit tag number and the Division's fish tag website.

## **Example of an AMRD Tag**



## **CURRENT FISH TAG PROGRAMS**

Below is a list of other agencies with tagging programs along our gulf coast. Each program has specific data needs so be sure to check the tag and match to the appropriate program.



## IF YOU CATCH A TAGGED FISH IN ALABAMA WATERS

#### **RECORD THE FOLLOWING CAPTURE INFORMATION:**

- Fish species, tag number, date of capture, fish length at the fork of the tail to the nearest 1/8 inch, specific catch location (GPS coordinates preferred), bottom depth, and type of capture if known.
- When releasing any fish, do NOT remove the streamer tag. Repeat captures of the same fish are possible. Simply record any of the above information about the fish that you are able to capture.
- Note any unusual circumstances regarding the catch (Ex: predator interactions, etc.).
- Pictures are welcome!

ORGANIZATION	TAG COLOR	IN SEASON LEGAL SIZE	OUT OF SEASON LESS LEGAL SIZE	REMOVE TAG?	KEEP CARCASS?	DATE & TIME	SPECIES	TAG NO.	FISH LENGTH	FISH WEIGHT	GPS COOR.	CONTACT INFO.	REWARD
ADCNR / MRD	Yellow	Keep & Report	Release & Report	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	DCNR.SWTags@dcnr.alabama.gov 251-968-7576	NONE
Auburn University	Red or Black	Keep & Report <sup>1</sup>	Release & Report	NO	YES <sup>2</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES <sup>3</sup>	251-990-4858	\$150⁵
CCAA ( Partnership w/ USouthAL)	Orange or Green	Keep & Report	Release & Report	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	www.tags.usouthal.edu 800-372-5980	t-shirt / hat
Harta Research Institute	Yellow	Keep & Report	Release & Report	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES <sup>4</sup>	snappercount@harteresearchinstitute. org 361-825-2525	Reward until 12/31/2019
USouthAL Fisheries & Ecology Lab	Various Green / Gray	Keep & Report	Release & Report	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	www.tags.usouthal.edu 800-372-5980	t-shirt / hat
USouthAL / AU High Dollar Red Snapper & Gray Triggerfish	Yellow	Keep & Report	Release & Report	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES⁴	RED@auburn.edu 855-818-9983	\$250 <sup>6</sup>
CCAA (Partnership w/ USouthAL) Cobia SAT. Tags	Black and Grey	Keep & Report	Release & Report	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	www.tags.usouthal.edu 800-372-5980	t-shirt / hat

<sup>1</sup> If a tagged shark is captured, it is requested to return shark alive with tag intact.

<sup>2</sup> Keep tag attached to fish. Gut cavity may contain transmitter.

<sup>3</sup> GPS Coordinates OR area on website map

<sup>4</sup> Include port of departure

<sup>5</sup> \$150 reward for fish carcass + tag. No reward for tag info from sharks.
<sup>6</sup> \$250 reward for fish tag. Tag must be kept and mailed to receive reward.

To learn more about tagging programs, visit outdooralabama.com/SWTAGPROGRAM.

## **Alabama Saltwater Recreational Fishing Licenses**

A saltwater fishing license is required for all persons fishing or possessing fish in saltwater areas of Alabama. Residents and nonresidents 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.

- Annual and seven-day trip licenses are available for residents and non-residents.
- **Note:** Annual licenses expire August 31 of each year.
- Seven-day trip licenses are effective for 168 consecutive hours from the date and time of purchase.
- The saltwater fishing license is required for angling with rod and reel, artificial bait, lure, gig, cast net, bow, recreational crab traps and 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/saltwater-registry). This registry is FREE.
- Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement will be required for any person possessing, taking or attempting to take any gulf reef fish species listed in Rule 220-3-.46. This endorsement is required for all resident and non-resident anglers 16 years of age and older, and includes: disabled, veterans appreciation, 65 and older, lifetime license holders, pier licenses, annual saltwater licenses, trip licenses, commercial fisherman, and charter boats.

#### SALTWATER LICENSE FEES **ALABAMA** LOUISIANA **FLORIDA ALL OTHERS** ANNUAL \$24.35 \$91.10 \$48.10 \$52.20 TRIP \$28.85 \$10.15 \$30.10 \$28.85 \$6.40 \$11.85 PIER \$11.85 \$11.85 SPEARFISHING \$6.00 \$8.50 \$8.50 \$8.50 DISABLED \$3.05 N/A N/A N/A DISABLED \$3.15 N/A N/A N/A VETERANS (20%) **GULF REEF FISH** \$10.00 \$10.00 \$10.00 \$10.00 **ENDORSEMENT**

## PURCHASE FISHING LICENSES ONLINE www.outdooralabama.com or 1-888-848-6887

With one call you can get your Alabama fishing and hunting licenses instantly. An authorization number will allow you to begin fishing or hunting the minute you hang up. Regular license fees plus a \$4.25 processing fee will be charged to your credit card.

## **NEW! Alabama Wildlife Art Hard Card Licenses Now on Sale**



## Take it With You Wherever You Go!

For an additional \$5 fee, purchasers can select from eight different cards that depict a variety of outdoors scenes. The art scenes include deer, turkey, freshwater fishing, saltwater fishing, wildlife heritage with an indigo bunting, sandhill crane and shooting sports. A deer and feral hog adorn the inaugural bait privilege license. A total of 32 license privileges are eligible for purchase as a hard card, including annual hunting and fishing licenses for residents and non-residents, state duck stamp, Wildlife Heritage and bait privilege licenses. Trip licenses, lifetime licenses and no-cost privileges are not included in this feature.

Visit https://www.outdooralabama.com/licensecards to learn more and browse available designs.

# **Commonly Caught Alabama Reef Fishes**



GRAY SNAPPER (BLACK/MANGROVE)

This is one of the few snappers found in shallow estuarine waters. Individuals may mingle with aggregates of pinfish or pigfish around wharfs.



**GAG GROUPER** Most "black grouper" from the Gulf are really

gags. The placement of artificial reefs in shallow shelf waters of the Gulf in recent years has greatly enhanced the gag grouper fishery.



## LANE SNAPPER

The color of the lane snapper is the quick way to distinguish it from other snappers. It is a rich red color with 8-10 yellow-gold parallel horizontal stripes along the side, and a large black diffuse spot under the dorsal fin.

## **RED SNAPPER**

The Gulf of Mexico is the center of abundance for northern red snapper. This is one of the Gulf's most important fish species; about 13 million pounds are taken in United States waters annually. Its esteemed reputation as one of the finest food fishes in the world is well deserved.



## **RED GROUPER**

Red groupers are most abundant in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. Most specimens taken by charter boat fishermen are in the 2- to 5-pound class, but red grouper may exceed 2 feet and 30 pounds. It is one of the more popular and commonly caught grouper species of the Gulf.

## **GRAY TRIGGERFISH**

The gray triggerfish is a wide-ranging fish in the western Atlantic. It is a very fine food fish, and is also a valuable commercial species.

### VERMILION SNAPPER (BEELINER)

This snapper favors rocky reefs in moderate to deep shelf areas. Groups amass on flatter tops of reefs or along gentler sloping reefs, avoiding steep drop-offs and ledges.



### **ATLANTIC SPADEFISH**

Spadefish are superb eating, and when the right spot is found along with a school in the right mood, a nice catch of pound-weight spadefish is a real possibility.



## **GREAT BARRACUDA**

Barracudas are voracious predators and hunt using a classic example of lie-in-wait or ambush. They rely on surprise and short bursts of speed (up to 30mph!) to overrun their prey.



There is no doubt that scamp is one of the most highly esteemed food fishes in the Gulf. When served at the finest seafood restaurants, it commands a price comparable to red snapper or pompano.



## **GREATER AMBERJACK**

There are four varieties of amberjack: greater amberjack, lesser amberjack, Almaco jack, and banded rudderfish. Federal and state minimum sizes on amberjacks make it imperative that you release any little jacks of whose identification you're not absolutely certain.

## **Commonly Caught Inshore and Coastal Pelagic Fishes**



### **KING MACKEREL**

The largest of the mackerels in our region, reaching 6 feet in length and up to 80 pounds. Throughout most of the Gulf, the king is a favorite offshore game fish.



### **TRIPLETAIL (BLACKFISH)**

One way to catch is by using long cane poles and live bait, lowering the bait within a perimeter of pilings, buoys or other obstructions. If nothing strikes in a few minutes, it's on the next spot.



### FLORIDA POMPANO

The Florida pompano commands the highest price per pound of any marine food fish in the continental U.S. Favorite foods are small shelled animals living in the upper layers of sandy bottoms.

SPANISH MACKEREL

Spanish mackerel are fast-moving, voracious

predators favoring shallow shelf waters. Sardines,

especially anchovies, are their main staple, and

their presence and abundance is often reflected by

that of the anchovy schools.



**COBIA (LING)** Cobia are attracted to large objects, including buoys, ships, sharks, turtles, and giant rays. This fish has many common names including cobia, cabio, ling, lemon fish and crabeater.



### SHEEPSHEAD

One of the largest members of the porgy family, sometimes exceeding 2 feet and 10 pounds. Though difficult to clean, its mild flavor rates high on the list of Gulf fishes. The gray-black vertical bars on its side make it easy to identify.



## SAND & SILVER SEATROUT (WHITE TROUT)

Small for sportfish, usually topping out at about 14 to 16 inches, and a couple of pounds, they are highly regarded for their sporting nature and flesh quality. Lumped together, they are known locally as "white trout."



### BLUEFISH

Blues prefer shallow water near drop-offs from shoals and banks and are especially susceptible to flashy lures and spoons. Be careful: bluefish can easily remove a finger, bone and all, in a single, clean snap.

## **RED DRUM (REDFISH)**

One of the largest drums, often exceeding a yard in length and 30-40 pounds. Big "bull" reds prefer offshore waters or deeper waters of estuaries, but younger "rat" reds frequent the shallows near piers and jetties. They prefer shellfish, but will not pass up a good chunk of fish if offered.

## **ATLANTIC CROAKER**

The flesh is of high quality, far superior to its reputation as only a mediocre panfish. Its name is derived from the croaking sound generated by the vibrating of a gas-filled swim bladder.



## SPOTTED SEATROUT (SPECKLED TROUT)

Spotted seatrout feed primarily on fishes and larger shellfish. Because they rely on vicious rapid first strikes to dismember their prey, they are noted as heavy hitters on artificial lures.

## **Recreational Size and Creel Limits for Alabama State Waters**

SPECIES

Scamp<sup>2,4</sup>

Snappers<sup>2</sup>

Lane

Tarpon Mullet

Sharks

Gray Triggerfish <sup>2</sup>

Bonnethead Hammerhead, Great

Mako, Shortfin

Red

Black Grouper 2, 4

Yellowfin Grouper <sup>2, 4</sup>

Gray (mangrove, black)

Vermilion (beeliner)

Atlantic Sharpnose,

Hammerhead, Smooth

Hammerhead, Scalloped

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
Sheepshead	12" min FORK LENGTH (FL)	10 per person
Spotted Seatrout	15" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	6 per person
	22" max TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	1 oversized fish allowed
Red Drum (Redfish)	16" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	3 per person
	26" max TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	1 oversized fish allowed
Cobia (Ling)	36" min FORK LENGTH (FL)	2 per person
King Mackerel	24" min FORK LENGTH (FL)	3 per person
Spanish Mackerel	none	15 per person
Florida Pompano	12" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	3 per person
Tripletail (Blackfish)	18" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	3 per person
Flounder <sup>6</sup>	14" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	5 per person
Striped Bass <sup>1</sup>	16" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	2 per person <sup>1</sup>
Greater Amberjack <sup>2</sup>	34" min FORK LENGTH (FL)	1 per person
Lesser Amberjack	14" - 22" FORK LENGTH (FL)	3
Banded Rudderfish	14" - 22" FORK LENGTH (FL)	3
Yellowfin Tuna	27" min CURVED FORK LENGTH	no creel limit
Bigeye Tuna	27" min CURVED FORK LENGTH	no creel limit
Gag Grouper <sup>2, 4</sup>	24" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	2 per person <sup>4</sup>
Red Grouper <sup>2, 4</sup>	20" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)	2 per person <sup>4</sup>

## ALL FISH MUST BE LANDED WITH THE HEAD AND FINS INTA

- <sup>1</sup> Only two striped bass are allowed within Marine Resources Division jurisdiction.
- <sup>2</sup> Alabama state waters open and close along with federal regulations.
- <sup>3</sup> There is a twenty (20) fish aggregate creel limit for reef fish species for which there is no other cree
- <sup>4</sup> Mixed species grouper aggregate creel limit: 4 per person (No more than 2 red grouper and no mor gag grouper included in aggregate).
- <sup>5</sup> Oct. 24 Dec. 31, 25 mullet per person from the shoreline or 25 per boat. No mullet by cast net or sr in Theodore Industrial Canal, Dog River, Fowl River and their tributaries.
- <sup>6</sup> The taking or possession of flounder from Nov. 1 30 is prohibited.

## FISH MEASUREMENT

TL = TOTAL LENGTH FL = FORK LENGTH **CFL =** CURVED FORK LENGTH

#### **USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE THE LENGTH OF A FISH:**

- For total length (TL) place the fish on a flat surface 1. with jaw closed. Squeeze tail together and turn it in such a way to obtain maximum total length.
- 2. For fork length (FL) measure in a straight line from the tip of snout to deepest notch in tail.
- For curved fork length (CFL tunas only) measure 3. using flexible rule from tip of upper jaw to deepest notch in tail.

### ΤΟΤΔ

CURVED FORK LENGTH
FORK LENGTH = FL

	All Other Shark Species	54" (FL) (30" dressed)	1 per person per day
ACT			
			tlantic Angel Shark, Bigeye Sand Tiger,
el limit. pre than 2	5,		pean Sharpnose Shark, Galapogos Shark, rk, Dusky Shark, Longfin Mako Shark,
	5 , 5		Shark, Smalltail Shark, Smalltooth Sawfish, k, Silky Shark, Sandbar Shark (unless the
snagging	5 7	5 , 5	it). www.fisheries.noaa.gov/rules-and-an-
AL LEN	G T H = <b>T L</b>		

SIZE LIMIT

none

none

24" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)

20" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)

16" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)

16" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)

12" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)

10" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)

8" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)

15" min FORK LENGTH (FL)

60" min TOTAL LENGTH (TL)

78" min FORK LENGTH (FL)

78" min FORK LENGTH (FL)

78" min FORK LENGTH (FL)

71" min FORK LENGTH (FL) (M)

83" min FORK LENGTH (FL) (F)

## REGULATIONS

All fishing regulations are subject to change so before going fishing check with the Marine Resources Division for any changes:

DAILY CREEL LIMIT

4 per person <sup>4</sup>

4 per person <sup>4</sup>

4 per person <sup>4</sup>

2 per person

10 per person

10 per person

1 per person <sup>3</sup>

1 per person per day

\$61 tag required to harvest each tarpon

3

Gulf Shores	(251)	968-7576
Dauphin Island	(251)	861-2882

www.outdooralabama.com

## **REPORT VIOLATIONS**

Marine Resources Division ...... (251) 476-1256

Illustration: Diane Rome F	eebles, Provided	by the Florida	Fish and Wildlife	Conservation	Commission, Div	ision of Marine F	isheries Managemer



FIRST

QUARTER

NEW

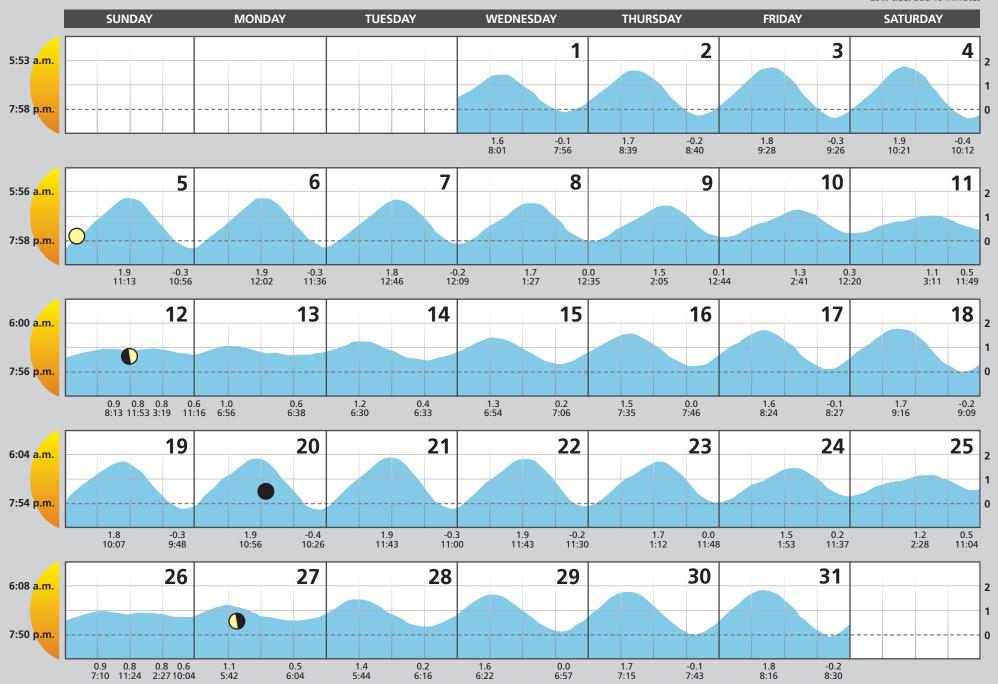
MOON

O FULL

MOON

QUARTER

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines. For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes Low tide: add 19 minutes



## **SPANISH MACKEREL AND JUVENILE KING MACKEREL**

## HOW TO TELL THEM APART

Both young King Mackerel and Spanish Mackerel have a similar shape and coloration. Because these fish often school together and feed on similar prey, anglers should know how to identify each species because size and creel limits vary.

Anglers usually rely too much on the presence of spots to identify Spanish and King Mackerels. Because of this mistake, the following are common violations:

Possession of undersized king mackerel

First dorsal fin is a uniform grayish color

Possession of more than two kings per angler

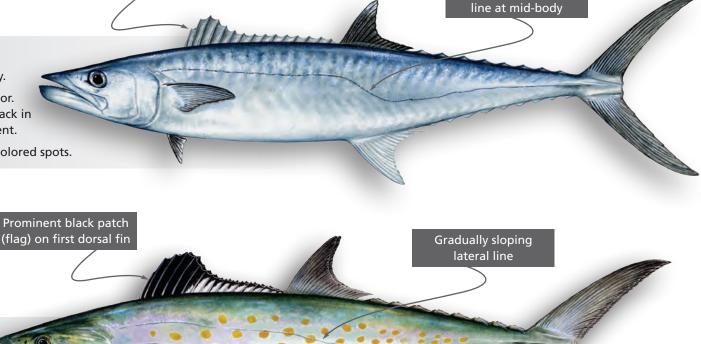
Abrupt drop in lateral

## **KING MACKEREL** (Juvenile is shown)

SIZE LIMIT: Minimum 24-inch fork length CREEL LIMIT: 3 per person

### **KING MACKEREL**

- Lateral line takes an abrupt drop at mid-body.
- First (spiny) dorsal fin is a uniform grayish color. As both species usually keep this fin folded back in a groove, this difference is not always apparent.
- Fish up to 30 inches have brassy or greenish colored spots.



Fork length measurement is from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail (caudal fin)

## SPANISH MACKEREL SIZE LIMIT: None in Alabama waters;

12-inch fork length in federal waters.

**CREEL LIMIT:** 15 fish per person; same for Alabama and federal waters.

### SPANISH MACKEREL

- Lateral line gradually slopes from the top edge of gill to the tail.
- First (spiny) dorsal fin has a prominent black patch.
- All sizes have distinct yellow spots along the body.

Illustrations: Diane Rome Peebles, Provided by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Marine Fisheries Management

## **AUGUST 2020**

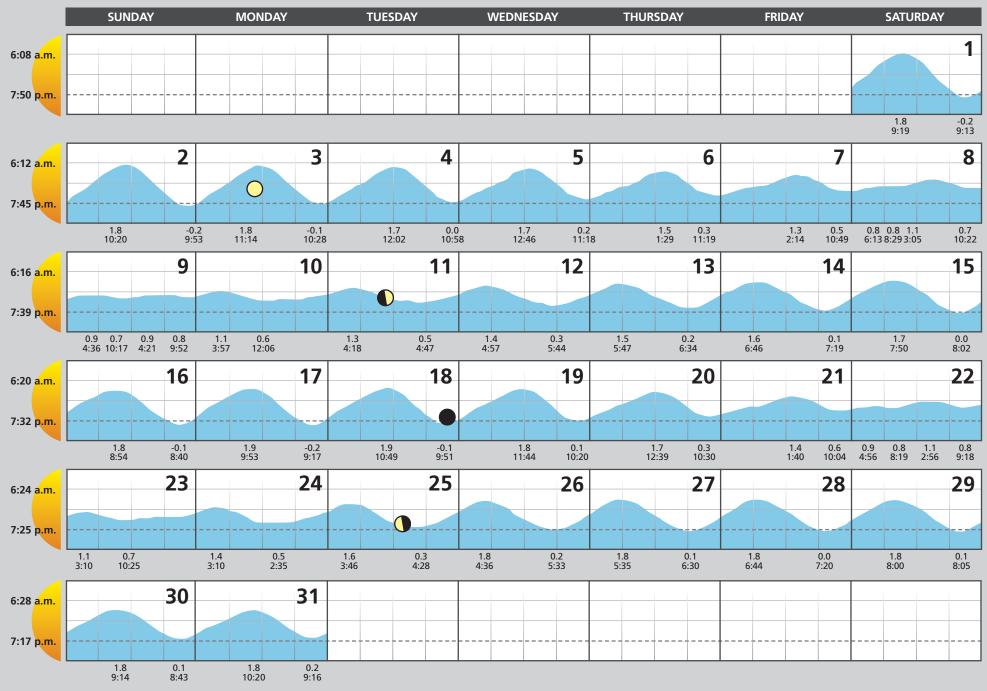
FIRST

QUARTER

QUARTER

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## **SEPTEMBER 2020**

O FULL

MOON

NEW

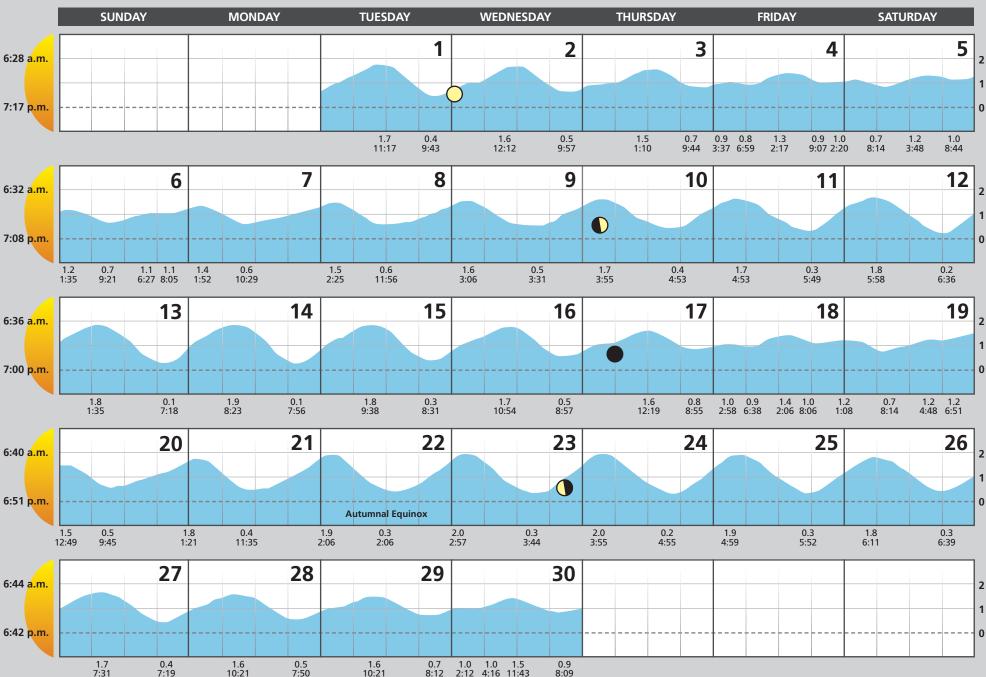
MOON

FIRST

QUARTER

QUARTER

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## **OCTOBER 2020**

O FULL

MOON

NEW

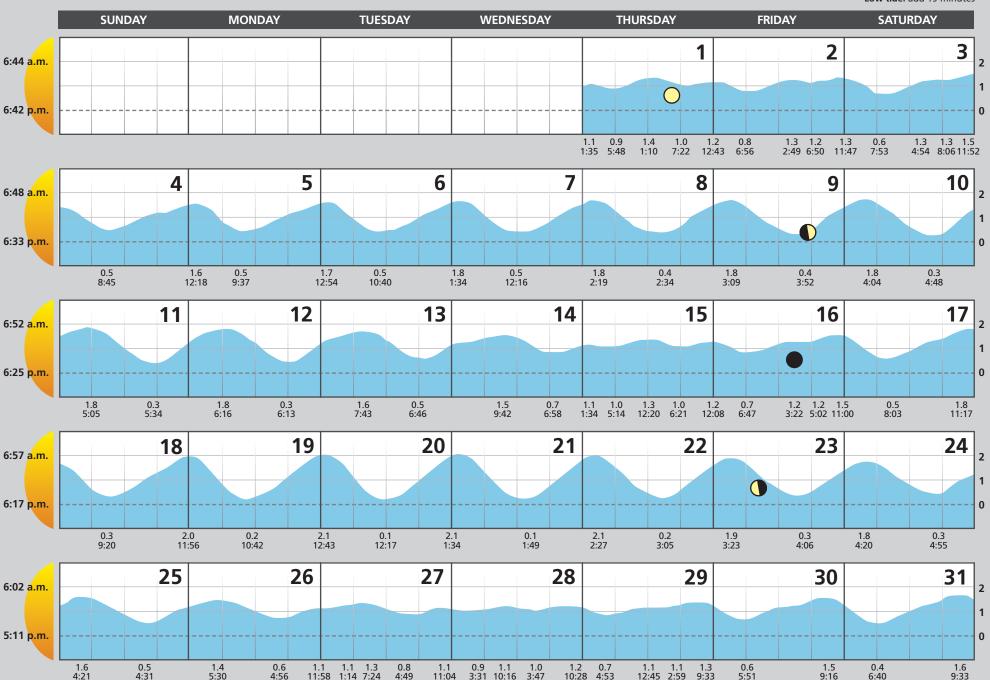
MOON

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## **SPECIAL REPORTING CONTACTS**



## **FISH KILLS**

## **INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

- Date and time fish kill was observed
- Location of fish kill
- Contact information of reporting party
- Species of fish involved
- Approximate number of fish



## **DOLPHINS AND WHALES**

Alabama's Marine Mammal Stranding Network Call 1-877-942-5343

### **INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

- Contact information of reporting party
- Date and time of stranding
- Exact location of stranding
- Estimated size of the animal
- General description of the animal



## TURTLE STRANDINGS

Alabama Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network Call 1-866-732-8878

## **INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

Contact information of reporting party

- Date and time of stranding
- Exact location of stranding
- Health of the animal (alive or dead)
- General description of the animal



## **MANATEE SIGHTINGS**

Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Manatee Sighting Network Call: 1-866-493-5803 Email: manatee@disl.org Online: manatee.disl.org



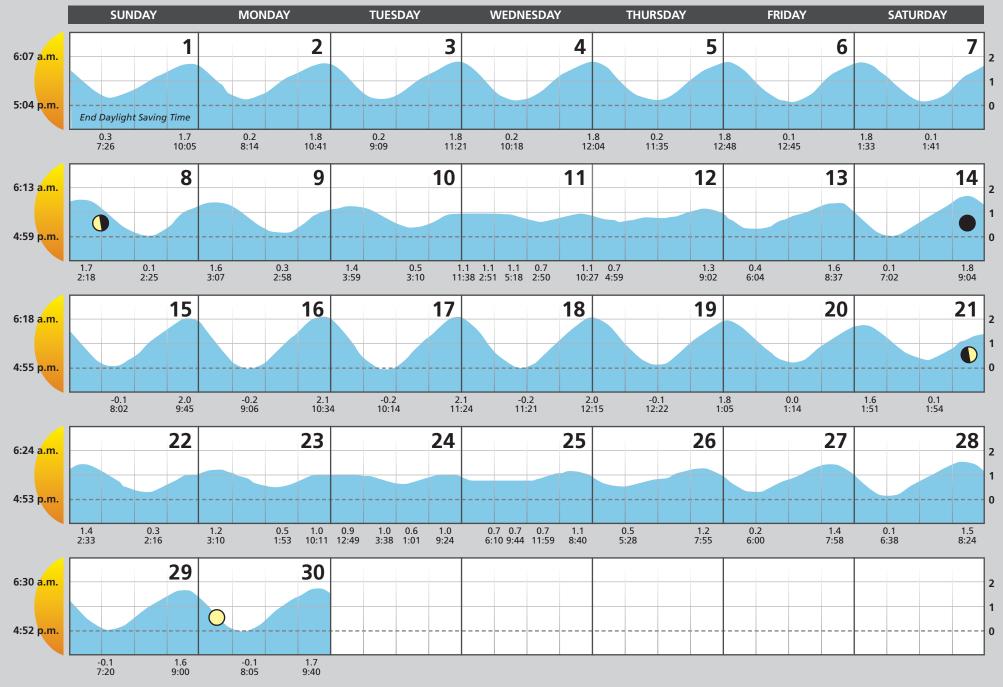
## INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Date and time of sighting
- Location of sighting
- Contact information of reporting party
- Number of animals and approximate size
- Any distinguishing marks or scars
- What they were doing
- How they were spotted
- Volunteer photos (if taken)





# **NOVEMBER 2020**

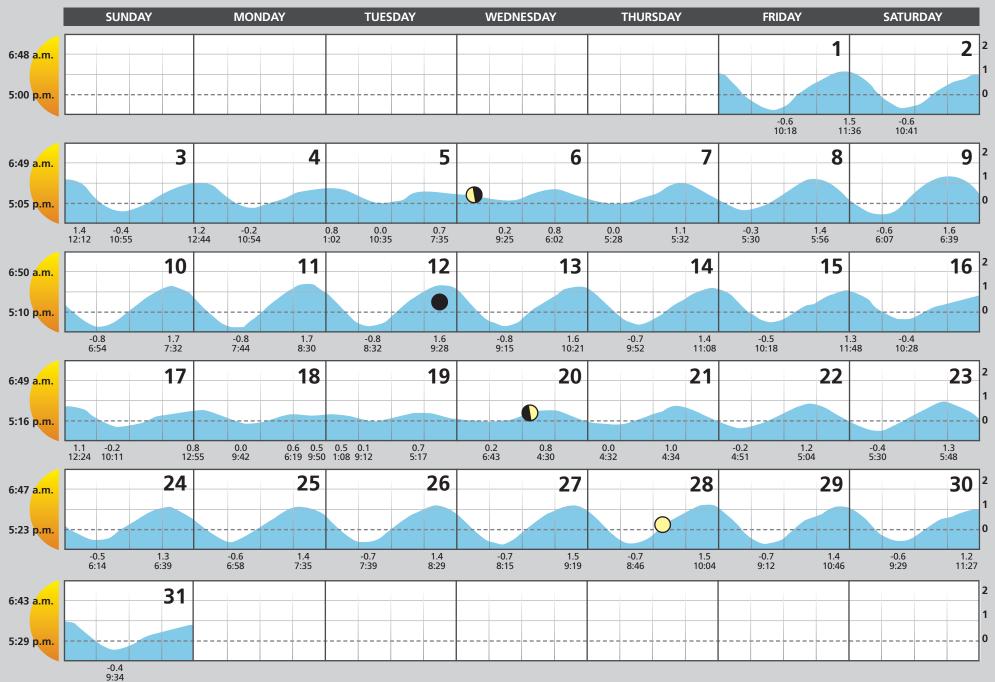




# **DECEMBER 2020**



# **JANUARY 2021**



## Alabama Record Saltwater Fish - 2019

SPECIES	LOCAL NAME	ANGLER	HOMETOWN	DATE CAUGHT	WEIGHT
Amberjack, Greater	Amberjack	Brian S. Andrews	Citronelle, Al	8/2/19	132lbs 12.8ozs
Angelfish, Blue	Same	Lilli Cooper	Waverly, la	7/28/18	3lbs 9.28ozs
Barracuda, Great	Barracuda	Steven Hawkins	Mobile, Al	7/15/05	52lbs 4ozs
Barrelfish	Same	Rickie David Posey	Deatsville, Al	7/12/09	25lbs 6ozs
Bass, Longtail	Same	Dayna Bowles	Duncan, Ok	3/19/10	5lbs 14ozs
Bass, Striped	Striper	Billy Henderson	Fairfield, Al	6/22/76	55lbs 0ozs
Bigeye	Bigeye Snapper	Yano Francis Serra	Coden, Al	6/28/06	3lbs 2ozs
Bluefish	Same	Alicia Walimaa	Meridian, Ms	6/5/04	17lbs 4ozs
Bonito, Atlantic	Same	Joe Zolczynski	Fairhope, Al	12/31/94	5lbs 5ozs
Brotula, Bearded	Same	Michael T. Dowdy	Mobile, Al	8/9/97	19lbs 8ozs
Catfish, Gafftopsail	Gafftop	Christian E. Butts	Pace, Fl	10/30/15	12lbs 7.4ozs
Catfish, Hardhead	Seacat	Cole Reed Kleffman	Seymour, In	10/9/18	3lbs 3oz
Chub, Bermuda	Same	Sherman Smith	Silverhill, Al	6/17/06	10lbs 5ozs
Chub, Yellow	Same	Thomas D. Jones	Daphne, Al	10/22/03	7lbs 4ozs
Cobia	Ling	Benjamin Elberry Fairey	Pensacola, Fl	4/18/95	117lbs 7ozs
Creolefish, Atlantic	Creolefish	Robert Jordan Barnhill	Robertsdale, Al	7/7/18	3lbs 5 ozs
Croaker, Atlantic	Croaker	Carl N. Billings	Mobile, Al	8/26/00	5lbs 8ozs
Cutlassfish, Atlantic	Ribbonfish	John Robert Frain	Cumming, Ga	6/5/15	3lbs 5ozs
Cubbyu	Same	Caroline Ann Ennis	Gulf Breeze, Fl	7/13/13	2lbs 3.7ozs
Doctorfish	Same	Pavel Malancea	Robertsdale, Al	9/13/07	1lb 4ozs
Dogfish, Smooth	Same	Dick Paul	Gulf Shores, Al	5/24/16	17lbs 11.20ozs
Dolphinfish	Dolphin/Mahi Mahi	Ashton Troy Mabire	Pensacola, Fl	5/26/07	65lbs 8ozs
Dolphinfish, Pompano	Same	Tyler M. Kennedy	Mobile, Al	6/30/12	4lbs 2ozs
Drum, Black	Black Drum	Robert Dean Disney	Irvington, Al	4/20/02	61lbs 0ozs
Drum, Red	Redfish	Al Mead	Theodore, Al	7/19/13	45lbs 9ozs
Eel, Spotted Spoon-Nose	Same	Brad Andre'	Spanish Fort, Al	7/12/08	1lb 4ozs
Escolar	Same	John Charles Mccann	Loganville, Ga	6/8/08	69lbs 10ozs
Filefish, Unicorn	Same	Willie Lee Brown Sr.	Birmingham, Al	10/12/91	8lbs 8ozs
Flounder, Southern	Same	Pete C. Melech	Mobile, Al	10/15/75	13lbs 3ozs
Grouper, Black	Same	David Mark Possien	Northport, Al	8/11/12	106lbs 3.2ozs
Grouper, Gag	Gag	Jere Austill, Jr.	Mobile, Al	1963	74lbs 8ozs
Grouper, Red	Same	Michael Dale Sargent, Jr.	Fulton, Mo	3/23/02	34lbs 9.6ozs
Grouper, Scamp	Scamp	Robert Andrew Conklin	Mobile, Al	7/22/00	29lbs 10ozs
Grouper, Snowy	Same	Tyler M. Kennedy	Mobile, Al	3/1/14	68lbs 7ozs
Grouper, Warsaw	Warsaw	Michael J. Driver	Pensacola, Fl	7/18/81	226lbs 0ozs
Grouper, Yellowedge	Same	Tyler M. Kennedy	Mobile, Al	6/30/12	48lbs 9.28ozs
Grouper, Yellowmouth	Same	Bradley Tinney	Vestavia, Al	4/27/19	12lbs 6.72ozs
Hake, Gulf	Same	Dick Paul	Gulf Shores, Al	9/25/16	5lbs 13.6ozs
Hake, Southern	Same	Jack L. Gaines li	Dauphin Island, Al	4/23/06	3lbs 4.48ozs
Hind, Red	Same	William Holmes Hill	Mobile, Al	7/17/87	2lbs 14ozs

Hind, Rock	Same	Daniel "Eli" Campbell	Mobile, Al	7/17/12	3lbs 7.2ozs
Hind, Speckled	Same	Braxton Brion Hardin	Northport, Al	5/28/11	39lbs 13ozs
Hogfish, Spanish	Same	Garrett Thomas Akridge	Mobile, Al	8/29/15	1lb 8.96ozs
Hogfish, Spotfin	Same	Bo Keough	Orange Beach, Al	2/16/18	1lb 1.2ozs
Jack, Almaco	Same	Harry Mac Barnes	Montgomery, Al	5/10/02	47lbs 8ozs
Jack, Crevalle	Cavalla	Joseph Condry Pope Iv	Alabaster, Al	10/31/14	40lbs 2ozs
Jack, Horse-Eye	Same	Curtis Neal Foster	Mobile, Al	7/7/17	27lbs 8ozs
Kingfish, Gulf/Southern	Whiting/Ground Mullet	Lamont Rigney	Eight Mile, Al	4/9/01	2lbs 16ozs
Ladyfish	Skipjack	Clinton A. Collier	Coden, Al	9/26/14	4lbs 10.6 ozs
Lionfish, Red	Same	Travis Wayne Pressor	Mulberry, Tn	6/1/16	2lbs 13.76ozs
Lizardfish, Inshore	Same	Taylor Andrepont	Lafayette, La	11/21/17	1lb 0ozs
Lookdown	Same	Terrell Keith Smith	Mobile, Al	8/24/97	2lbs 2ozs
Mackerel, King	Same	Jeremy Alan Goldman	Dauphin Island, Al	7/20/14	69lbs 15.84ozs
Mackerel, Spanish	Same	Linton Larry Matthews	Mobile, Al	10/19/93	8lbs 12ozs
Marlin, Blue	Same	Chris Ferrara	Baton Rouge, La	7/12/13	845lbs 13ozs
Marlin, White	Same	James Ashley Walters	Satsuma, Al	5/24/97	98lbs 13ozs
Moonfish, Atlantic	Moonfish	Nathan Gage Sedgeway	Wilmer, Al	6/29/19	1lbs 8ozs
Mullet, Striped	Mullet	Jakson Ira Newton	Monroeville, Al	7/8/19	1lb 15ozs
Oilfish	Same	James Allen Coker, Jr.	Mobile, Al	7/24/16	55lbs 2ozs
Permit	Same	Jerry W. Morgan, Jr.	Fort Scott, Ks	7/29/13	3lbs 12.8ozs
Pigfish	Same	Jeffrey Eisemann	O'fallow, Il	7/5/16	2lbs 4.6ozs
Pinfish	Same	Roy "Tojo" White	Coden, Al	5/15/01	3lbs 2ozs
Pomfret, Bigscale	Same	Addison Gilley	Orange Beach, Al	7/28/19	121lbs 11.6ozs
Pomfret, Keeltail	Same	Logan J. Green	Gulf Shores, Al	8/14/19	28lbs 11.8ozs
Pompano, African	Same	Rodney Michael Dutton	Mobile, Al	9/9/89	39lbs 7ozs
Pompano, Florida	Pompano	Patricia Lynn Cluck	Foley, Al	4/28/10	6lbs 13ozs
Porgy, Knobbed	Same	Tim Shirley	Dothan, Al	4/20/08	2lbs 15.68ozs
Porgy, Red	White Snapper	Jeremy Collings	Theodore, Al	4/2/11	7lbs 10.6ozs
Porgy, Whitebone	Porgy	Paul Saxton Wilcoxson	Russellville, Al	8/4/16	6lbs 1oz
Puffer, Smooth	Same	Brett L. Russell, Sr.	Gulf Shores, Al	4/2/13	10lbs 3ozs
Rosefish, Blackbelly	Same	Neal Foster	Mobile, Al	7/13/12	4lbs 1oz
Roughy, Big	Same	Lance Smith	Lithia Springs, Ga	6/6/14	5lbs 0ozs
Runner, Blue	Hardtail	Stacey Michele Moiren	Mobile, Al	6/28/97	11lbs 2.4ozs
Runner, Rainbow	Same	Laken Nicole Sullivan	Lynn Haven, Fl	9/10/06	19lbs 9ozs
Sailfish	Same	R. L. Meador, Jr.	Birmingham, Al	1974	81lbs 0ozs
Scorpionfish, Spiny Cheek	Same	Ike Farmer	Salem, Al	5/24/14	4lbs 4ozs
Scorpionfish, Spotted	Same	Curtis Neal Foster	Mobile, Al	7/19/15	3lbs 14ozs
Sea Bass, Black	Same	Steve W. Edwards	Marianna, Ar	7/31/00	3lbs 2ozs
Searobin, Blackwing	Sea Robin	Cecilia Danielle Musselwhite	Irvington, Al	4/24/05	1lb 13ozs
Seatrout, Sand/Silver	White Trout	Anthony "Ryan" Conklin	Coden, Al	7/12/97	6lbs 10.56ozs
Seatrout, Spotted	Speck	Willford Ducherme	Orange Beach, Al	5/6/80	12lbs 4ozs
Shark, Atlantic Sharpnose	Same	Craig Mironchuck	Bauxite, Ar	5/12/06	16lbs 3ozs
Shark, Bull	Same	Jeff Moore	Birmingham, Al	6/10/15	448lbs 4ozs

## Alabama Record Saltwater Fish - 2019 (Continued)

Shark, Lemon	Same	Terry L. Smith	Mobile, Al	7/21/95	278lbs 8ozs
Shark, Shortfin Mako	Same	Larry A. Johnson	Orange Beach, Al	8/20/78	737lbs 0ozs
Shark, Tiger	Same	Larry Gene Eberly	Gulf Shores, Al	6/24/90	988lbs 8ozs
Sharksucker	Same	Bill Arnold	Cantonment, Fl	6/4/16	8lbs 7.84ozs
Sheepshead	Same	Patric Garmeson	Daphne, Al	3/29/19	13lbs 14ozs
Snapper, Cubera	Same	Ladon Swann	Coden, Al	8/14/15	94lbs 3ozs
Snapper, Dog	Same	Mike E. Nelson	Orange Beach, Al	7/22/18	16lbs 4ozs
Snapper, Gray	Mangrove/Black	Pam Ward	Fairhope, Al	5/16/07	18lbs 0ozs
Snapper, Lane	Same	Scott E. Jordan	Saraland, Al	7/15/11	8lbs 1oz
Snapper, Mutton	Same	Marcus Bryant	Semmes, Al	6/25/06	20lbs 12ozs
Snapper, Red	Same	Melvin E. Dunn, Jr.	Theodore, Al	6/1/02	44lbs 12ozs
Snapper, Silk	Same	Robert Brett Rutledge	Mobile, Al	9/10/16	9lbs 0ozs
Snapper, Vermilion	Beeliner	John W. Doss	Theodore, Al	5/31/87	7lbs 3ozs
Snapper, Yellowtail	Same	Jeremy Findley	Maylene, Al	7/5/11	6lbs 15ozs
Spadefish, Atlantic	Spadefish	Ashley Nichole Osburn	Wilmer, Al	7/14/07	8lbs 8ozs
Spearfish, Longbill	Spearfish	Valerie P. Johnson	Fairhope, Al	1976	53lbs 0ozs
Squirrelfish	Same	Michael Simmons	Conway, Ar	8/4/06	1lb 1oz
Stargazer, Southern	Same	Michael Bryant	Mobile, Al	4/13/06	6lbs 4.5ozs
Stingray, Roughtail	Same	Dan R. Midgette	Semmes, Al	8/6/00	160lbs 0ozs
Stingray, Southern	Same	Gordon Grady Mcglawn	Aliceville, Al	7/26/07	1511bs 3.2ozs
Swordfish	Broadbill	Wendell L. Sawyer, Jr.	Mobile, Al	9/16/06	448lbs 0ozs
Tarpon	Same	Billy Wildberger	Mobile, Al	8/15/92	203lbs 0ozs
Tilefish	Northern	Dick Paul	Pensacola, Fl	4/23/14	35lbs 5.6ozs
Tilefish, Blueline	Same	Joe Fresolone	Mobile, Al	6/1/14	10lbs 14ozs
Tilefish, Goldface	Golden-Eyed	Jeffrey M. Dodd	Trenton, Tn	7/18/19	5lbs 7ozs
Tilefish, Sand	Tilefish	Tommy Wiles	Alabaster, Al	6/9/16	2lbs 3ozs
Toadfish, Gulf	Oyster Fish	Andrew Montgomery	Mobile, Al	8/13/05	2lbs 8ozs
Toadfish, Leopard	Same	James Myrick	Sand Rock, Al	10/1/06	4lbs 3ozs
Tomtate	Ruby Red Lips	Lauren Ogle	Muncie, In	8/1/14	1lb 4.8ozs
Triggerfish, Gray	Triggerfish	Robby Myers	Axis, Al	5/31/93	13lbs 8ozs
Triggerfish, Ocean	Same	Chad R. Hilton	Gulfport, Ms	8/10/13	7lbs 10ozs
Triggerfish, Queen	Same	Jake Taffaro, Jr.	Elberta, Al	7/6/99	7lbs 8ozs
Tripletail	Blackfish	Bob Barnes	Bayou La Batre, Al	1976	37lbs 5ozs
Tuna, Bigeye	Same	Bobby Abernathy	Merryville, La	10/26/14	236lbs 0ozs
Tuna, Blackfin	Same	David Denicola	Colts Neck, Nj	4/11/14	43lbs 5.12ozs
Tuna, Bluefin	Same	John Engquist	Baton Rouge, La	6/3/06	829lbs 6ozs
Tuna, Skipjack	Same	Strom Smith	Ocean Springs, Ms	8/31/13	32lbs 6.4ozs
Tuna, Yellowfin	Same	Matthew Paul Eusner	Ashland, Ky	6/3/06	221lbs 7.2ozs
Tunny, Little	Bonito	W.a. March, Jr.	Mobile, Al	1956	21lbs 0ozs
Wahoo	Same	David Matthew Sumrall	Mobile, Al	5/6/06	123lbs 6ozs
Wreckfish	Same	Doug Mallonee	Semmes, Al	5/30/06	68lbs 6ozs

## **CONSERVATION CONTACTS**

#### ALABAMA DEPT. OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

64 N Union Street Montgomery, AL 36130 www.outdooralabama.com

#### **COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

Christopher M. Blankenship, Commissioner Edward F. Poolos, Deputy Commissioner (334) 242-3486

#### STATE LANDS DIVISION Patti McCurdy, Director (334) 242-3484

STATE PARKS DIVISION Greg Lein, Director (334) 242-3334 www.alapark.com

#### WILDLIFE & FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION Charles Sykes, Director (334) 242-3465

WFF DISTRICT 5 OFFICE

30571 Five Rivers Blvd Spanish Fort, AL 36527 (251) 626-5474

#### WEEKS BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE

L.G. Adams, Manager 11300 U.S. Hwy. 98 Fairhope, AL 36532 (251) 928-9792 www.weeksbayreserve.com

#### MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION

Scott Bannon, Director P.O. Box 189 Dauphin Island, AL 36528 (251) 861-2882

Major Jason Downey Chief Enforcement Officer Mobile County (251) 861-2882

#### **CLAUDE PETEET MARICULTURE CENTER**

Kevin Anson, Chief Marine Biologist P.O. Drawer 458 Gulf Shores, AL 36547 (251) 968-7576 ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY / MARINE PATROL SOUTHERN DIVISION 27557 Larry C. Kelley Lane Orange Beach, AL 36561

## 1 (888) 903-2583

### **OTHER STATE AGENCIES**

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES (334) 240-7171 www.agi.alabama.gov

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (334) 271-7700 www.adem.state.al.us

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (800) 252-1818 www.alabamapublichealth.gov

ALABAMA BUREAU OF TOURISM & TRAVEL 1 (800) ALABAMA www.alabama.travel

#### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ALABAMA & STATE OIL & GAS BOARD (205) 349-2852 www.gsa.state.al.us

### FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES

BON SECOUR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE (251) 540-7720 www.fws.gov/bonsecour

#### U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE DAPHNE FIELD OFFICE (251) 441-5181 www.fws.gov/daphne

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY MOBILE DISTRICT-CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Regulatory Branch (Permits) - (251) 690-2658 Wetlands Permits - (251) 694-3776 Map Sales - (251) 441-5631 www.sam.usace.army.mil U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION IV (404) 562-9900 www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-epa-region-4southeast

NOAA FISHERIES SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE (727) 824-5301 www.sero.nmfs.noaa.gov

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (334) 887-4581 www.al.nrcs.usda.gov

### PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

#### **ALABAMA WILDLIFE FEDERATION**

3050 Lanark Road Millbrook, AL 36054 (800) 822-9453 www.alabamawildlife.org

#### ALABAMA WILDLIFE CENTER

Oak Mountain State Park 100 Terrace Drive Pelham, AL 35124 (205) 663-7930 (office) (205) 663-7930 ext. 2 (hotline) www.awrc.org

#### WEEKS BAY FOUNDATION

11401 U.S. Highway 98 Fairhope, AL 36532 (251) 990-5004 www.weeksbay.org

#### COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION - ALABAMA

(251) 478-3474 www.ccaalabama.org

## THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF ALABAMA

2100 1st Ave. North, Suite 500 Birmingham, AL 35203 (250) 251-1155 www.nature.org/alabama

## MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA

SEA GRANT CONSORTIUM (251) 861-3018 www.masgc.org MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM (251) 431-6409 www.mobilebaynep.com

## MOBILE COUNTY WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION ASSOC.

P.O. Box 16063 Mobile, AL 36616 (251) 343-6711 www.mcwca.org

#### **MOBILE BAYKEEPER**

450C Government St. Mobile, AL 36602 251-433-4BAY www.mobilebaykeeper.org

#### ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

2014 Sixth Avenue North, Suite 200 Birmingham, AL 35203 (205) 322-3126 www.aeconline.org

#### ALABAMA COASTAL FOUNDATION

250 Conti Street Mobile, AL 36602 (251) 990-6002 www.joinacf.org

## MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION

**United States Coast Guard – Sector Mobile** 1500 15th Street, Brookley Complex Mobile, AL 36615

PRIMARY PHONE: (251) 441-5720

EMERGENCY PHONE: (251) 441-6211

EMERGENCY RADIO: VHF 16

homeport.uscg.mil/mobile

## **MARINE TOWING INFORMATION**

**Sea Tow - Mobile** (251) 973-0345

BoatUS Towing 1-800-391-4869

## Alabama's Offshore Artificial Reef Zones

The permitted reef zones off the coast of Alabama comprise the largest artificial reef program in the United States. The multiple permit zones consist of 1,062 square miles of permitted bottoms containing nearly 2,000 public reef structures and 9,000 privately permitted structures. The program initially began in the 1950s and contains reefs made of a variety of cleaned and approved materials including bridge spans, ships, army tanks, dry docks, farm equipment, pre-fabricated reef balls/pyramids, repurposed concrete and decommissioned oil and gas platforms. The reef zone provides habitat for corals, barnacles, sponges, crabs, urchins, worms, baitfish and reef fish.



### ALABAMA'S OFFSHORE ARTIFICIAL REEF ZONES – MAP

