Regulations apply to state waters of the Gulf and Atlantic

Issued: July 2020 New regulations are highlighted in red

(please visit: MyFWC.com/Fishing/Saltwater/Recreational

for the most current regulations)

All art: © Diane Rome Peebles, except snowy grouper (Duane Raver)

Reef Fish

Snapper

General Snapper Regulations:

- Snapper Aggregate Bag Limit - Within state waters of the Atlantic and Gulf, all species of spapper are included in a 10 fish per harvester per day aggregate bag limit in any combination of snapper species, unless stated otherwise.
- Seasons If no seasonal information is provided, the species is open year-round.



Snapper, Cubera ▲ ◆

Minimum Size Limits:

• Atlantic and Gulf - 12" (see below)

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- . Atlantic and Gulf 10 per harvester under 30", included within snapper aggregate bag limit
- . May additionally harvest up to 2 over 30" per harvester or vessel-whichever is less- and these 2 fish over 30" are not included within snapper aggregate



Snapper, Red

- **Minimum Size Limits:**
- Atlantic 20' • Gulf - 16"

Season:

- Atlantic Open year-round
- Gulf Open June 11-July 25

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- . Atlantic and Gulf 2 per harvester
- . Gulf Zero daily bag and possession limit for captain and crew on for-hire vessels.



Snapper, Vermilion ▲◆●X

Minimum Size Limits:

- Atlantic 12"
- Gulf 10'

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- Atlantic 5 per harvester not included
- within snapper aggregate bag limit • Gulf - 10 per harvester not included within snapper aggregate bag limit



Minimum Size Limits:

. Atlantic and Gulf - 8'

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- Atlantic 10 per harvester
- Gulf 100 pounds per harvester, not included within snapper aggregate

Other Snapper

Minimum Size Limits:

- Dog and Mahogany: Atlantic and Gulf- 12"
- No minimum size limit for other snappers

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

. Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester



Snapper, Gray (Mangrove)

Minimum Size Limits:

• Atlantic and Gulf - 10"

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

. Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per harvester



Minimum Size Limits:

• Atlantic and Gulf - 18"

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

. Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per harvester



Schoolmaster

Minimum Size Limits:

• Atlantic and Gulf - 10"

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

. Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester



Snapper, Yellowtail ▲ • X

Minimum Size Limits:

• Atlantic and Gulf - 12" fork length

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

· Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester

Grouper

Atlantic Grouper **General Regulations:**

- Atlantic grouper regulations apply to all state waters of the Atlantic and all state waters off Monroe County (Gulf and Atlantic sides).
- Atlantic Grouper Aggregate Bag Limit - all species of grouper plus golden tilefish in the Atlantic are included in a 3 fish per harvester per day aggregate bag limit in any combination of grouper/ golden tilefish species.
- Seasons If no seasonal information is provided, the species is open year-round.

Gulf Grouper General Regulations:

- · Gulf grouper regulations apply to all state waters of the Gulf except off Monroe County (where Atlantic rules apply).
- Gulf Grouper Aggregate Bag Limit - all species of grouper in the Gulf are included in a 4 fish per harvester per day aggregate bag limit in any combination of grouper species.
- . Seasons If no seasonal information is provided, the species is open year-round.
- * Zero bag limit for captain and crew of for-hire vessels applies to gag, black, and red grouper only.



Grouper, Black ▲ ◆ •

Minimum Size Limits:

- Atlantic 24'
- Gulf 24"

Season:

- Atlantic Closed Ian 1-April 30
- · Gulf Open year-round

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- . Atlantic 1 per harvester. Only 1 fish can be gag or black
- . Gulf 4 per harvester



Minimum Size Limits:

- Atlantic 20"
- Gulf 16"

Season:

- Atlantic Closed Jan. 1-April 30
- · Gulf Open year-round

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

 Atlantic - 3 per harvester . Gulf - 4 per harvester



Minimum Size Limit:

. Atlantic and Gulf - None

- · Gulf 4 per harvester

Gag Grouper

Atlantic - 24"

• Gulf - 24"

Season:

Minimum Size Limits:

Atlantic - Closed: Jan. 1-April 30

-June 30, & Sept 1-Dec. 31.

. Gulf - State waters off all other

can be gag or black

• Gulf - 2 per harvester*

counties: Open June 1-Dec. 31

Daily Recreational Bag Limit: • Atlantic - 1 per harvester. Only 1 fish

Gulf - State waters off Franklin, Wakulla.

Jefferson and Taylor counties: Open April 1

Grouper, Snowy

· Atlantic - 1 per harvester

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:



- · Gulf Open year-round

- · Atlantic 3 per harvester
- . Gulf 2 per Harvester*



Grouper, Yellowfin & Yellowmouth

Minimum Size Limits:

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- · Atlantic 3 per harvester
- Gulf 4 per harvester



Grouper, Red

Minimum Size Limits: . Atlantic and Gulf - 20'

Season:

• Atlantic - Closed Jan. 1-April 30

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:



. Atlantic and Gulf - 20

Season:

- Atlantic Closed Jan. 1-April 30
- · Gulf Open year-round



Minimum Size Limits: · Atlantic and Gulf - None

Daily Recreational Bag Limit: • Atlantic and Gulf - 1 per vessel per day of each species



Other Grouper includes: · Rock Hind, Red Hind, Coney and

Minimum Size Limit:

Graysby

· Atlantic and Gulf - None

- Season:
- Atlantic Closed Jan. 1-April 30 · Gulf - Open year-round

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

Aggregate bag limits apply

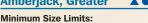


Reef Fish

Other Reef Fish (If no season information is provided, the species is open year-round)



Amberjack, Greater



• Atlantic - 28" fork length

- . Gulf 34" fork length

Season:

- · Atlantic Open year-round
- Gulf Open May 1-May 31, Aug. 1-Oct. 31

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

. Atlantic and Gulf - 1 per harvester



Minimum Size Limits:

- Atlantic 14"
- · Gulf None

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- Atlantic 3 per harvester
- Gulf 100 pounds



Great Barracuda

Regulations only apply in Collier, Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin counties.

Minimum Size Limits:

• Not less than 15" or more than 36"

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- 2 per person or 6 per vessel
- May possess one over 36" per vessel.
- . Unregulated in all other areas.



Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- Atlantic 1 per harvester
- Gulf 100 pounds or 2 per person, whichever

 Golden tilefish included within Atlantic Grouper aggregate bag limits



Atlantic regulations apply to Monroe county

Minimum Size Limits:

- Atlantic 16" fork length
- Gulf 14" fork length

Season:

- Atlantic Open May 1-Oct. 31
- · Gulf Open year round

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- Atlantic 1 per harvester
- Gulf 5 per harvester



Minimum Size Limits:

. Atlantic and Gulf - Cannot be less than 14" or greater than 22" fork length

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

· Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per person aggregate of the two species



Triggerfish (Gray)

Minimum Size Limits: • Atlantic - 12" fork length

- Gulf 15" fork length
- Season:

- · Atlantic Open year-round
- Gulf Open March 1-May 1

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- · Atlantic 10 per harvester
- · Gulf 1 per harvester



Minimum Size Limits:

- Atlantic 13"
- Gulf 10'

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- Atlantic 7 per harvester
- Gulf 100 pounds per harvester

Pelagics



Minimum Size Limits:

- Sailfish 63"
- Blue Marlin 99":
- White Marlin 66";
- Roundscale Spearfish 66"

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 1 per harvester aggregate bag limit

Remarks

- Measured tip of lower jaw to fork. All landed fish must be reported to NOAA within 24 hours 800-894-5528 or hmspermits.noaa.gov.
- HMS permit required in federal waters.



Wahoo

Minimum Size Limits:

None

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 2 per harvester

Blackfin Tuna

Minimum Size Limits:

• No minimum size limit

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 2 fish per person or 10 fish per vessel per day, whichever is greater.

Mackerel, King

Minimum Size Limits:

• 24" fork length

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- Atlantic (excluding Monroe) 2 per
- Gulf (including Monroe) 3 per harvester

Remarks

• Bag limit reduced to 1 in some state waters if federal waters are closed to recreational harvest.



Minimum Size Limits:

• 2 per harvester

Minimum Size Limits: • 12" fork length

Daily Recreational Bag Limit: 15 per harvester



Minimum Size Limits:

Swordfish

• 47" lower jaw fork length with head attached or 25" cleithrum to keel length if head removed

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 1 per harvester per day, not to exceed a maximum of 4 per recreational (not forhire) vessel or 15 per for-hire vessel

Remarks

· All landed fish must be reported to NOAA within 24 hours 800-894-5528. HMS permit required in federal waters. Zero daily bag and possession limit for cantain and crew of for-hire vessels



Cobia (Ling)

Minimum Size Limits:

• 33" fork length

- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- Atlantic 1 per harvester not to exceed 6 per vessel . Gulf - 1 per harvester, not to exceed



Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

Remarks . Hook and line only. No snatch hooks.



Dolphinfish

- **Minimum Size Limits:**
- . Atlantic 20" fork length • Gulf - None

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 10 per harvester per day, not to



exceed 60 per vessel per day. Vessel limit does not apply to for-hire vessels.



Scan this code with your mobile device to view the regulations online.

2 per vessel

Buy your license online at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com or toll free at: 1-888-347-4356

Report fish and wildlife law violations toll free at: 1-888-404-3922

Coastal Species



Bluefish

Minimum Size Limits:

• 12" fork length

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

10 per harvester

Remarks

Changes coming



Size Limits:

• 22" fork Special Permit Zone (SPZ); Not less than 11" or more than 22" fork length all other areas

Closed Season:

• April 1-July 31 SPZ Only

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- 1 per harvester, not to exceed 2 per vessel SPZ;
- · 2 per harvester all other state waters

Black Drum

• Not less than 14" or more than 24"

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

. May possess one over 24". Snatching

Size Limits:

• 5 per harvester

prohibited.

- May possess 1 over 22" fork length outside the SPZ, not to exceed 2 over 22" fork per vessel per day. For map of SPZ, please see: MyFWC.com.
- . Zero daily bag and possession limit for captain and crew on for-hire vessels



Bonefish

0 per harvester

· Catch and release only

· Hook and line only

Weakfish

Minimum Size Limits:

· All other areas - no minimum

All other areas - 100 pounds per

· Regulations apply in parts of Nassau

See map at: MyFWC.com/Fishing/

Saltwater/Recreational/Weakfish

Nassau County - 12"

WMA - 1 per harvester

harvester

Remarks

County only.

· Weakfish Management Area (WMA) in

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

Remarks

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

Remarks

· May be harvested by spearing. Snatching prohibited.



Size Limits:

19" per vessel

- Not less than 15" or more than 19" • May not possess more than 1 over
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- 3 per harvester per day W.P. Zone
- 5 per harvester per day B.B. Zone
- 3 per harvester per day S. Zone
- 2 per harvester per day C.E. Zone
- 5 per harvester per day N.E Zone

Closed Season:

- Feb. W.P. Zone
- . Nov. Dec. C.E. Zone

Remarks

- See management zone map on pg. 7.
- Zero bag limit for captain and crew of for-hire vessels
- For current regulations see MyFWC.com
- · Remains Catch-and-release only in Pasco-Gordon Pass/Collier counties.



(Black) & Silver

Minimum Size Limits:

• 11" fork length

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

· 6 per harvester

. Hook and line, cast net and beach or

haul seine ONLY.

Mullet, Striped Pompano, Florida ▲ ★ 1 ■

Minimum Size Limits:

No minimum size

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 50 aggregate per harvester;

 Aggregate vessel limits Feb. 1-Aug. 31: 100 per vessel; Sept. 1-Jan. 31: 50 per vessel



African

· 24" fork length

Snook

(All species)

Size Limits:

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 2 per harvester per day, not to exceed 2 per vessel

Not less than 28" or more than 32"

Not less than 28" or more than 33"

• Atlantic (excluding Monroe) closed

Dec. 15-Jan. 31 and June 1-Aug. 31.

· Gulf including Monroe County, Dec. 1-

end of February, and May 1-Aug. 31.

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

Snook permit required for harvest

when saltwater license required. See

MyFWC.com for snook permit details.

Snatch hooks and spearing prohibited.

Atlantic excluding Monroe

Gulf and Monroe County

Closed Season:

1 per harvester



Minimum Size Limits:

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

8 per harvester

Remarks

- Snatching prohibited
- Vessel limit of 50 fish during March and April



Recreational Bag Limit:

• 1 per harvester per year. \$50 harvest tag required. Vessel limit of one fish. Harvest tag can only be used when fish is retained for potential IGFA record.

Remarks

· Tarpon over 40 inches must remain in the water during release. Spearing and snatch hooking prohibited. Bottom weighted jigs prohibited in Boca Grande Pass. See: MyFWC.com/Fishing/ Saltwater/Recreational/Tarpon for additional information.



Blue Runner Minimum Size Limits:

No minimum

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 100 fish per harvester



Size Limits:

Not less than 18" or more than 27"

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- 2 per harvester per day in the NE zone, and 1 per harvester in the NW and S zone. See map on p. 6
- Off the water possession limit of 6 fish

- Gigging, spearing, snatching prohibited. Harvest in Federal waters prohibited.
- Remains Catch-and-release only in Pasco-Gordon Pass/Collier counties

Can't find your fish in the regulations?

Florida's coastal waters are home to thousands of marine species, and the majority of these species have no specific regulations with regard to bag limits, size limits, gear restrictions or closed seasons. These species are often referred to as "unregulated species," although the name can be a bit misleading. State law provides that for any marine species that does not have specific regulations, harvesting more than 100 pounds or two fish (whichever is the greater amount) constitutes a commercial quantity and requires a commercial license. This means the recreational harvest limit for any unregulated species is 100 pounds or two organisms if the combined weight of the two organisms exceeds 100 pounds.









Examples of "unregulated species" include:

Ladyfish, bonito, menhaden, white grunt, southern stingray, gulf kingfish (whiting), pinfish, Atlantic croaker, jack crevalle, cero mackerel, hardhead catfish, gafftopsail catfish, lionfish.

* No license is required to harvest lionfish by dipnet, pole spear or Hawaiian sling and lionfish bag limit is unlimited for both Gulf and Atlantic state waters.

- ★ Spearing Prohibited
- Must remain in whole condition (removal of gills and guts allowed).
- Measured as total length. Total length is the straight line distance from the most forward part of the head with the mouth closed to the farthest tip of the tail with the tail compressed or squeezed together while the fish is lying on its side.
- State regulations apply in federal waters.

- Additional gear rules apply, please see: MyFWC.com
- Harvest prohibited by or with the use of any multiple hook (any hook with two or more points and a common shaft) in conjunction with live or dead natural bait.
- State Reef Fish Angler designation required when fishing for select reef fish species from a private vessel in the Gulf of Mexico or Atlantic Ocean.

Crustaceans and Mollusks



Bay Scallops

Season:

- Gulf County: Aug. 16-Sept. 24
- Franklin-NW Taylor County: July 1-Sept. 24, 2020
- Dixie and remaining Taylor County: June 15-Labor Day
- Levy, Citrus and Hernando counties: July 1-Sept. 24
- Pasco County: 10 days starting on 3rd Friday in July

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- 2 gallons whole or 1 pint meat per harvester; no more than 10 gallons whole, or 1/2 gallon meat per vessel anytime
- Dixie and remaining Taylor County: From June 15–30, one gallon whole/one cup meat per person or five gallons whole/two pints meat per vessel, whichever is less

Remarks

 Harvest allowed only in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico from the Pinellas - Pasco county line, to the west bank of the Mexico Beach Canal in Bay County. Direct transit through closed areas permitted.

Shrimp



• April & May closed in Nassau, Duval, St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler & Clay counties

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

. 5 gallons heads on per harvester or vessel, whichever is less

Remarks

 Visit: MyFWC.com/Fishing and select "Saltwater", "Regulations" and "Shrimp" for additional regulations specific to Dade, Nassau and Duval



Minimum Size Limit:

• Carapace must be greater than 3" measured in the water

- Sport Season open July 29-30, 2020
- Regular Season opens Aug. 6 through March 31

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

- Sport Season: 6 per harvester per day in Monroe County and Biscayne National Park, 12 in all other harvest areas.
- · Regular Season: 6 per harvester in all areas

• Recreational trapping prohibited. Spiny lobster permit required when license required. Harvest of egg-bearing females prohibited.



Clams (Hard)

Minimum Size Limits:

. 1" thick across hinge

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• One 5 gal. bucket per harvester or 2 per vessel (whole in shell)

Remarks

- Illegal to harvest from closed areas
- . Go to www.FloridaAquaculture.com for allowable harvesting areas.
- . May not harvest half hour after official sunset until half hour before official sunrise.

Crab, Stone

Minimum Size Limits:

3" claw

Closed Season:

May 16-Oct. 14

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 1 gal. claws per harvester or 2 gal. per vessel, whichever is less

Remarks

- 5 traps maximum. Visit MyFWC.com for statewide trap construction requirements and specific requirements that apply in Miami-Dade, Monroe and Collier. Illegal to possess whole crab. Harvest of egg-bearing crabs prohibited. See how to properly de-claw on our website. New trap registration requirements, visit GoOutdoorsFlorida.com to register.
- Changes coming Oct. 2020



Closed Season:

· Regional trap closures apply. See map on page 6 or visit MyFWC.com for 2020 trap closure dates and locations.

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

10 gallons whole per harvester

Remarks

 5 traps maximum. Trap requirements apply. Harvest of egg-bearing crabs prohibited. New trap registration requirements, visit GoOutdoorsFlorida. com to register.

Oysters

Minimum Size Limit:

Closed Season:

- June, July, Aug. in Dixie, Wakulla, Levy counties.
- . July, Aug., Sept. in all other areas except Apalachicola Bay which has open areas year-round.

Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

 2 bags per harvester or vessel except Apalachicola Bay

Remarks

- Apalachicola Bay: special bag limits and other harvest restrictions apply. See MyFWC.com for detailed information
- · Apalachicola Bay has summer & winter seasons/areas.
- · Harvest from approved shellfish areas during daylight hours only.
- . Go to FloridaAquaculture.com to determine the Open or Closed status of shellfish harvesting areas.
- May not harvest half hour after official sunset until half hour before official sunrise.
- 1 Bag = 60 lbs. or two 5 gal. buckets (whole in shell)
- · Harvest prohibited in any harvest area that is in the Closed status as determined by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- Bay County: Harvest and possession prohibited in West Bay Estuarine Habitat Restoration Project Zone
- Changes coming

Sharks

Retainable Sharks with a 54" fork length minimum ▲ ★1



Retainable Sharks with no minimum size limit A * 1

Finetooth, Smooth Dogfish, Florida Smoothhounds (not illustrated).



Retainable Sharks with a 83" fork length minimum ▲ ★1



Daily Recreational Bag Limit:

• 1 per harvester or 2 per vessel per day, whichever is less.

- . The retainable sharks are managed as a group for bag limit purposes. In other words, you can only harvest one shark per day and the shark that you harvest must be one of the retainable species.
- · Hook-and-line gear only.
- · Shore-based Shark Fishing educational course and permit required.
- · See list of prohibited species below.

Prohibited Species

It is unlawful to harvest, possess, land, purchase, sell or exchange the following species:

Goliath Grouper (Jewfish), Nassau Grouper, Sawfish, Atlantic Angel Shark, Basking Shark, Bigeye Sand Tiger Shark, Bigeye Sixgill Shark, Bigeye Thresher Shark, Bignose Shark, Caribbean Reef Shark, Caribbean Rharpnose Shark, Caribbean Rhar Dusky Shark, Galapagos Shark, Lemon Shark, Longfin Mako Shark, Narrowtooth Shark, Night Shark, Silky Shark, Sand Tiger Shark, Sandbar Shark, Sevengill Shark, Sixigill Shark, Smigll Shark, Spiny Dogfish, Whale Shark, The Company of White Shark, Tiger Shark, Greater, Scalloped and Smooth Hammerhead Shark, Manta Ray, Devil Ray, Spotted Eagle Ray, Longbill Spearfish, Mediterranean Spearfish, Sturgeon, Queen Conch, Calico Scallop, Stony, Hard, Black and Fire Corals, Sea Fans, Bahama Starfish, and Longspine Urchin. Harvest of live rock in state waters is prohibited. Puffer fish harvest is prohibited in Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties.

FWC - Division of Marine Fisheries Management, 1875 Orange Ave. Tallahassee, FL 32311