## 2021 MAINE SALTWATER RECREATIONAL FISHING REGULATIONS

If you are a recreational saltwater fisherman, a Maine law may require you to register with the **Maine Saltwater Recreational Fishing Registry**. To learn more or to register visit: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/saltwater">www.maine.gov/saltwater</a> or call 207-633-9500.

The following Maine saltwater recreational fishing regulations are current as of March 1, 2021. **However, they are subject to change.** Please contact our office or your local Marine Patrol Officer with questions. All minimum lengths are total length, **NOT** fork length. The **sale of fish** by recreational anglers is prohibited.

ATLANTIC COD (Gadus morhua)



Size: Minimum size 21 inches.

Bag limit: 1 fish per angler per day.

Recreational Season: April 1 -14
and Sept 15-30, inclusively.

Charter Season: April 1 -14 and
Sept 8-Oct 7, inclusively.

HADDOCK (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*)



**Size:** Minimum size 17 inches. **Bag limit:** 15 fish per angler per day. **Season:** Cannot possess haddock from March 1 through March 31 inclusive.

POLLOCK (*Pollachius virens*)



Maine Territorial waters: No size or bag limits.

Federal waters: Minimum size 19 inches & no bag limit.

ACADIAN REDFISH (Sebastes fasciatus)



**Size:** Minimum size 9 inches. No bag limit.

**CUSK** (*Brosme* brosme)



No size or bag limits.

Atlantic Halibut (*Hippoglossus*)



Size: Minimum size 41 inches.

**Bag limit:** Vessels may land no more than 5 fish (recreational) / 25 fish (charter) per year. All retained fish shall immediately be tagged with an approved landings tag. FMI: 207-624-6550

**Season:** Maine territorial waters, halibut can be retained from sunrise on May 18 through sunset on June 13th. **Method of take:** Anglers must use 14/0, 15/0, or 16/0 circle hooks.

**Federal waters**: No season, no more than 1 fish per day. For complete regulations see Chapter 34.07: www.maine.gov/dmr/laws-

## **WINTER FLOUNDER**

(Pleuronectes americanus)



**Size:** Minimum size 12 inches. **Bag limit:** 8 fish per angler per day.

### **BLACK SEA BASS**

(Centropristes striatus)



**Size:** Minimum size 13 inches. **Bag limit:** 10 fish per angler per day. **Season:** May 19 – September 21 and October 18 – December 31, inclusive.

## **ATLANTIC WOLFFISH**

(Anarhichas lupus)



Anglers are prohibited from possessing Atlantic wolffish.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

Marine Resources Laboratory
PO Box 8, West Boothbay Harbor, ME 04575-0008
Telephone (207) 633-9500 Fax (207) 633-9579

BLUEFISH (*Pomatomus saltatrix*)



Size: No minimum size.

Bag limit: 3 fish per angler per day.

Method of take: No bait with treble hook.

No more than two treble hooks per lure.

It is unlawful to use any hook other than a circle hook when using bait.

ATLANTIC MACKEREL (Scomber scombrus)



No size or bag limits.

# BLUEFIN TUNA

(Thunnus thynnus)



To fish for bluefin tuna, a Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit is required. For permits and current fishing regulations visit: <a href="https://mspermits.noaa.gov">https://mspermits.noaa.gov</a> or call 1-888-872-8862.

#### SHARKS



To fish for sharks (blue, porbeagle, and common thresher sharks) a Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit is required. For permits and current fishing regulations visit: <a href="https://mspermits.noaa.gov">https://mspermits.noaa.gov</a> or call 1-888-872-8862.

Anglers are prohibited from possessing shortfin make.