

2017 MAINE MARINE RECREATIONAL SPORTFISHING 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: www.maine.gov/saltwater or call 207-633-9505.

The following Maine saltwater recreational fishing regulations are current as of August 8, 2017. **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*)



NEW 2017

Anglers are prohibited from possessing Atlantic cod.

HADDOCK (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*)



NEW 2017

Size: Minimum size 17 inches.

Bag limit: 12 fish per angler per day.

Season: Cannot possess haddock from September 17 through October 31 inclusive, and March 1 through April 14 inclusive.

POLLOCK (*Pollachius virens*)



NEW 2017

Maine Territorial waters: No size or bag limits.

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

ACADIAN REDFISH (*Sebastes fasciatus*)



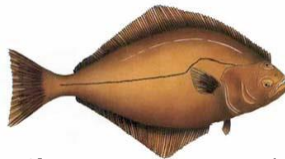
Size: Minimum size 9 inches.
No bag limit.

CUSK (*Brosme brosme*)



No size or bag limits.

ATLANTIC HALIBUT (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*)



Size: Minimum size 41 inches.

Bag limit: Vessels may land no more than 5 fish per year.

All retained fish shall immediately be tagged with an approved landings tag. FMI: 207-624-6550

Season: Maine territorial waters, cannot retain halibut from July 1 to April 30 inclusive.

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:

<http://www.maine.gov/dmr/laws-regulations/regulations/index.html>

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.

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.

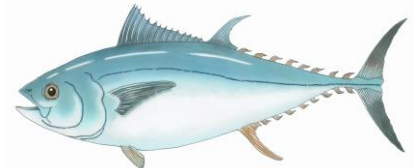
It is unlawful to use any hook other than a circle hook when using bait.

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:

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov> or call 1-888-872-8862.

SHARKS



To fish for sharks (blue, porbeagle, shortfin mako and common thresher sharks) a Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit is required. The minimum size is 54 inches, straight fork length. For permits and current fishing regulations visit:

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov> or call 1-888-872-8862.



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