

For more information please read our [2009-2010 Saltwater Fishing Rules and Regulations Guide](#) (3.4 MB pdf)

SPECIES	Minimum Length in Inches	Number of Fish Bag/Possession
Cobia	33 FL	2
Flounder	12 TL	15
Red Drum ¹	18 TL to 30 TL **	3
Spotted Seatrout	13 TL	15
King Mackerel	24 FL	2
Spanish Mackerel	No Limit	15
Red Snapper	16 TL	2
Vermilion Snapper	10 TL	20 in aggregate
Lane Snapper	8 TL	
Gray Triggerfish	12 TL	
Almaco Jack	No Limit	
Goldface Tilefish	No Limit	
Anchor Tilefish	No Limit	
Tilefish	No Limit	
Blackline Tilefish	No Limit	
Blueline Tilefish	No Limit	
Goliath Grouper (Jewfish) ²	No Take	No Take
Nassau Grouper ²	No Take	No Take
Warsaw Grouper	No Limit	1/vessel
Red & Yellowfin Groupers	20 TL	5 in aggregate
Black & Gag Groupers	22 TL	
Scamp	16 TL	
Other Groupers	No Limit	
Speckled Hind	No Limit	1/vessel
Gray, Schoolmaster, Cubera, Dog, Mahogany, and Yellowtail Snappers	12 TL	10 in aggregate
Mutton Snapper	16 TL	
Queen, Blackfin, Silk & Wenchman Snappers	No Limit	
Greater Amberjack	28 FL	1
Lesser Amberjack and Banded Rudderfish	14 FL to 22 FL ** slot limit	5 in aggregate
Hogfish	12 TL	5
Bigeye Tuna	27 CFL	No Limit
Yellowfin Tuna	27 CFL	3
Blue Marlin	99 lower jaw FL	No Limit
White Marlin	66 lower jaw FL	No Limit
Sailfish	63 lower jaw FL	No Limit

Longbill Spearfish	No Take	No Take
Sharks - Large Coastals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandbar <i>Carcharhinus plumbeus</i> Blacktip <i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i> Dusky ² <i>Carcharhinus obscurus</i> Spinner <i>Carcharhinus brevipinna</i> Silky <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> Bull <i>Carcharhinus leucas</i> Bignose ² <i>Carcharhinus altimus</i> Narrowtooth ² <i>Carcharhinus brachyurus</i> Galapagos ² <i>Carcharhinus galapagensis</i> Night ² <i>Carcharhinus signatus</i> Caribbean reef* <i>Carcharhinus perezi</i> Tiger <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> Lemon <i>Negaprion brevirostris</i> Sand tiger ² <i>Odontaspis taurus</i> Bigeye sand tiger ² <i>Odontaspis noronhai</i> Nurse <i>Ginglymostoma cirratum</i> Scalloped hammerhead <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> Great hammerhead <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i> Smooth hammerhead <i>Sphyrna zygaena</i> Whale ² <i>Rhincodon typus</i> Basking ² <i>Cetorhinus maximus</i> White ² <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> 	37 TL	1 up to 3/vessel Please note the ² after the common name indicates "No Take." Possession of these species is prohibited by state ordinance and federal law.
Sharks - Pelagic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortfin mako <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> Longfin mako ² <i>Isurus paucus</i> Porbeagle <i>Lamna nasus</i> Thresher <i>Alopias vulpinus</i> Bigeye thresher ² <i>Alopias superciliosus</i> Blue <i>Prionace glauca</i> Oceanic whitetip <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> Sevengill ² <i>Heptranchias perlo</i> Sixgill* <i>Hexanchus griseus</i> Bigeye sixgill ² <i>Hexanchus vitulus</i> 	37 TL	1 up to 3/vessel Please note the ² after the common name indicates "No Take." Possession of these species is prohibited by state ordinance and federal law.
Sharks - Small Coastals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atlantic sharpnose <i>Rhizoprionodon terraenovae</i> Caribbean sharpnose ² <i>Rhizoprionodon porosus</i> Finetooth <i>Carcharhinus isodon</i> Blacknose <i>Carcharhinus acronotus</i> Smalltail ² <i>Carcharhinus porosus</i> Bonnethead <i>Sphyrna tiburo</i> Atlantic angel ² <i>Squatina dumeril</i> 	25 TL	4 Please note the ² after the common name indicates "No Take." Possession of these species is prohibited by state ordinance and federal law.
Crabs - Hard Shells	5 ***	No Limit
Crabs - Soft Shell	No Limit	No Limit

¹ Recreational fisherman may retain only one Red Drum over 30 inches TL.

² Possession of these species is prohibited by state ordinance and federal law.

** Range represents minimum and maximum lengths.

*** As measured from the tip of one lateral spine across the back of the shell to the tip of the opposite lateral spine.

TL = Total Length - Straight line distance from tip of snout to tip of tail.

FL = Fork Length - Straight line distance from tip of snout to fork of tail.

CFL = Curved Fork Length - Tip of the upper jaw to the fork of tail measured along the contour of the middle of the body.

Federal Regulations May Differ from State Regulations. Please refer to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council for Federal Regulations (888-833-1844, www.gulfcouncil.org)

NOTE: Fishing seasons for some species may be closed by order of the Commission on Marine Resources. Advance notice of such closures will be given.

Recreational fishermen not fishing in Mississippi waters may transport and land fish that meet the minimum size and creel limits of the waters in which they were legally caught. They must possess a valid saltwater sport fishing license as may be required in the waters where the fish were caught.

It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to sell or offer for sale any seafood caught in or landed in the State of Mississippi.

It shall be unlawful for recreational fishermen to possess fish with heads, tails or flesh removed until delivered to the final destination; however, fish may be eviscerated, scaled or have gills removed. Charter and recreational boats, fishing in the Gulf of Mexico over 24 continuous hours, may possess filleted fish in Mississippi waters, if they have filed a float plan with the DMR in advance.

The information on this page is an abstract of the rules and regulations in effect at the time of publishing. Fishermen are responsible for obeying fishing rules in full. Complete laws are available at the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530.

For more information call the DMR at (228) 374-5000 or [email](#).