

# ALABAMA RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSE

THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL COPY OF THE LAWS OR REGULATIONS. THIS EXPLANATION OF THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS IS CORRECT AS OF THE DATE SPECIFIED. BEFORE TAKING PART IN THIS FISHERY PLEASE CALL 251-861-2882 OR 251-968-7576 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.OUTDOORALABAMA.COM](http://WWW.OUTDOORALABAMA.COM) FOR THE UPDATED INFORMATION. IT IS THE FISHERMAN'S RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN EFFECT AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

A SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE IS REQUIRED FOR **ALL PERSONS FISHING OR POSSESSING FISH IN SALTWATER AREAS OF ALABAMA**. RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS 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. A SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE IS ALSO REQUIRED IF USING A CAST NET, GIG, BOW, CRAB TRAP OR SPEARFISHING.

Annual and seven-day trip licenses are available for nonresidents.

Annual, seven-day trip, and saltwater pier licenses are available for 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.

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/licenses](http://www.outdooralabama.com/licenses)).

	ALABAMA	LOUISIANA	FLORIDA	ALL OTHERS
ANNUAL	23.00	90.10	48.45	49.20
TRIP	9.70	26.85	30.10	27.30
PIER	6.15	11.25	11.25	11.25
SPEAR FISHING	6.00	8.50	8.50	8.50
**DISABLED	3.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
** Disabled license good in fresh, salt and brackish waters of Alabama				

## RECREATIONAL SIZE, DAILY CREEL AND POSSESSION LIMITS FOR STATE WATERS - REVISED Sept 2015

State waters include inshore waters to three (3) miles offshore.

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
Sheepshead	12" min FL	10 per person
Spotted Seatrout	14" min TL	10 per person
Red Drum (Redfish)	16" min TL 26" max TL	3 per person 1 oversized fish allowed
Cobia (Ling)	33" min FL	2 per person
King Mackerel	24" min FL	2 per person
Spanish Mackerel	none	15 per person
Florida Pompano	12" min TL	3 per person
Tripletail (Blackfish)	18" min TL	3 per person
Flounder	12" min TL	10 per person
Striped Bass *	16" min TL	2 per person *
Greater Amberjack ****	34" min FL	1 per person
Lesser Amberjack	14" - 22" FL	***
Banded Rudderfish	14" - 22" FL	***
Yellowfin Tuna	27" min CFL	no creel limit
Bigeye Tuna	27" min CFL	no creel limit
Gag Grouper ** ****	22" min TL	2 per person **
Red Grouper ** ****	20" min TL	2 per person **
Black Grouper ** ****	22" min TL	4 per person **
Yellowfin Grouper **	20" min TL	4 per person **
Scamp ** ****	16" min TL	4 per person **

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
Snappers ****		
• Red	16" min TL	2 per person
• Gray (mangrove, black)	12" min TL	10 per person
• Vermilion (beeliner)	10" min TL	10 per person
• Lane	8" min TL	***
Gray Triggerfish ****	14" min FL	2 per person ***
Tarpon	60" min TL	\$61.00 tag required
Mullet	none	*****
Sharks		
• Sharpnose, Bonnethead	none	1 per person per day
• Hammerhead, Great	78" min FL	1 per person per day
• Hammerhead, Smooth	78" min FL	1 per person per day
• Hammerhead, Scalloped	78" min FL	1 per person per day
• All Other Shark Species	54" FL (30" dressed)	1 per person per day
* Only two Striped Bass are allowed within MRD Jurisdiction		
** Mixed species grouper aggregate creel limit : 4 per person (No more than 2 red grouper and no more than 2 gag grouper included in aggregate)		
*** There is a twenty (20) fish aggregate creel limit for reef fish species for which there is no other creel limit.		
**** Alabama state waters open and close along with federal regulations. <a href="http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/bulletins/fishery_bulletins.htm">http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/bulletins/fishery_bulletins.htm</a>		
***** Oct. 24 - Dec. 31, 25 mullet per person from the shoreline or 25 per boat. No mullet by cast net or snagging in Theodore Industrial Canal, Dog River, Fowl River, and their tributaries.		

### State - Federal Boundary

State waters extend into the Gulf of Mexico 3 miles south of Alabama's coastline from Florida almost due west along the Fort Morgan peninsula and Dauphin Island to Mississippi; however, the line bulges southward 3 miles from Sand Island.

Prohibited Species: Goliath Grouper (Jewfish), Nassau Grouper, Atlantic Angel Shark, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Thresher Shark, Bignose Shark, Caribbean Reef Shark, Caribbean Sharpnose Shark, Galapagos Shark, Narrowtooth Shark, Night Shark, Sevengill Shark, Bigeye Sixgill Shark, Dusky Shark, Longfin Mako Shark, Sand Tiger Shark, Basking Shark, Whale Shark, White Shark, Nurse Shark, Smalltail Shark, Smalltooth Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, Spotted Eagle Ray, Atlantic Manta, Sixgill Shark, Silky Shark, Sandbar Shark (unless the fisherman possesses a NOAA Fisheries sandbar shark research permit).

### FISH MEASUREMENT

