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# TPWD Sets Federal Red Snapper Season for 2020

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AUSTIN- The private recreational angler red snapper season opens Monday, June 1, 2020 for a projected 63-days in federal waters. Red snapper fishing is open year around in state waters. The season length is based on historical landing data, last year's fishing effort data and the state's allocation from the 2019 stock assessment. Bag and size limits will remain unchanged; 2 fish per person daily with a 16-inch minimum size limit in federal waters, and 4 fish per person daily with a 15-inch minimum in state waters.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has granted the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) the authority to establish the opening and closing of the red snapper fishery in federal waters off the Texas coast for private recreational anglers fishing from their own vessels. The federally permitted for-hire sector, which allows recreational anglers to fish from charter boats or headboats, will remain in its current management structure set by the federal government.

Texas must close the fishery when the state's allotted poundage is reached. The red snapper season can also be closed in Texas if the Gulf-wide Total Allowable Catch is exceeded. TPWD's Coastal Fisheries Division will be closely monitoring this fishery throughout the season and will close it when appropriate. At this time, the Covid-19 pandemic is not expected to affect the red snapper season, but TPWD will continue to monitor the situation and anglers should follow guidance from local authorities. The public will be notified of the any closings through TPWD's website, social media accounts and news releases.

Help TPWD better manage this resource by downloading the **iSnapper** app on your smart phone and reporting your red snapper landings.