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2019 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 207-633-9500.

The following Maine saltwater recreational fishing regulations are current as of July 15, 2019. **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.
Season: Cannot possess Atlantic cod from October 1 through September 14 inclusive.

HADDOCK (Melanogrammus aeglefinus)

Size: Minimum size 17 inches.
Bag limit: 15 fish per angler per day.
Season: Cannot possess haddock from March 1 through April 14 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)

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, halibut can be retained from May 11 through June 20th.
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-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.

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: hmspermits.noaa.gov or call 1-888-872-8862.

SHARKS

Size: Minimum size 9 inches.
No bag limit.

CUSK
(*Brosme brosme*)

No size or bag limits.

ATLANTIC WOLFFISH
(*Anarhichas lupus*)

Anglers are prohibited from possessing Atlantic wolffish.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
Marine Resources Laboratory
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To fish for sharks (blue, porbeagle, shortfin mako and common thresher sharks) a Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit is required. For permits and current fishing regulations visit: hmspermits.noaa.gov or call 1-888-872-8862.