

# ALABAMA SALTWATER ROD AND REEL FISHING LICENSE

**THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL COPY OF THE LAWS OR REGULATIONS IN EFFECT AND SHOULD NOT BE UTILIZED OR RELIED UPON AS SUCH. 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	LOUISIANA	ALL OTHERS
ANNUAL	29.00	98.00	53.00
TRIP	9.00	60.00	25.00
DISABLED*	1.00	N/A	N/A
* Good in fresh, salt and brackish waters of the state of Alabama			

## RECREATIONAL SIZE, DAILY CREEL AND POSSESSION LIMITS FOR STATE WATERS - REVISED AUG. 2008

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

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
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)	16" min TL	3 per person
Flounder	12" min TL	no creel limit
Striped Bass *	16" min TL	2 per person *
Greater Amberjack	28" min FL	1 per person
Lesser Amberjack	14" - 22" FL	no creel limit
Banded Rudderfish	14" - 22" FL	no creel limit
Yellowfin Tuna	27" min CFL	no creel limit
Bigeye Tuna	27" min CFL	no creel limit
Gag Grouper **	22" min TL	5 per person **
Red Grouper **	20" min TL	1 per person **
Black Grouper **	22" min TL	5 per person **
Yellowfin Grouper **	20" min TL	5 per person **
Scamp **	16" min TL	5 per person **

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
Snappers		
• Red	16" min TL	2 per person (2 per person in all waters)
• Gray (mangrove, black)	12" min TL	*** 10 per person
• Vermilion (beeliner)	10" min TL	*** 10 per person
• Lane	8" min TL	***
Gray Triggerfish	12" min TL	***
Tarpon	60" min TL	\$50.00 tag required to harvest each tarpon.
Sharks		
• Atlantic Sharpnose	none	2 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 : 5 per person (only 1 red grouper may be included in grouper aggregate)		
*** There is a twenty (20) fish aggregate creel limit for reef fish species for which there is no other creel limit. (for example, grunts, porgies, gray triggerfish, Lane snapper, etc. Only 10 vermillion snapper may be included in the 20-fish aggregate.)		

Prohibited Species: Goliath grouper (jewfish), Nassau grouper, Atlantic angel shark, Bigeye sand tiger, Dusky shark, Longfin mako, Sand tiger, Basking shark, Whale shark, White shark, Nurse shark, Smalltail shark, Smalltooth sawfish, Largetooth sawfish, Spotted eagle ray, Atlantic manta.

### 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. A rule of thumb leaving Mobile Bay: if you are south of the Farewell Buoy, you are in federal waters.

### Mississippi/Florida Waters

Mississippi and Florida also require saltwater fishing licenses. Florida's state waters extend 9 miles from the coastline. You can be fined for straying into another state's waters with fish caught in Alabama or federal waters.

### FISH MEASUREMENT

