

# 2018 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](http://www.maine.gov/saltwater) or call 207-633-9505.

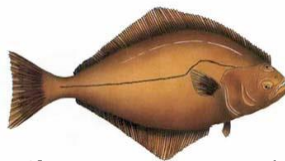
The following Maine saltwater recreational fishing regulations are current as of May 1, 2018. **However, they are subject to change.** Please contact our office or your local Marine Patrol Officer with questions. All minimum lengths are total length, **NOT** fork length. The **sale of fish** by recreational anglers is prohibited.

## ATLANTIC COD (*Gadus morhua*)



Anglers are prohibited from possessing Atlantic cod.

## 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:

<http://www.maine.gov/dmr/laws-regulations/regulations/index.html>

## 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.

## HADDOCK (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*)



**Size:** Minimum size 17 inches.

**Bag limit:** 12 fish per angler per day.

**Season:** Cannot possess haddock from September 17 through October 31 inclusive, and March 1 through April 14 inclusive.

## ATLANTIC MACKEREL (*Scomber scombrus*)



No size or bag limits.

## WINTER FLOUNDER (*Pleuronectes americanus*)



**Size:** Minimum size 12 inches.

**Bag limit:** 8 fish per angler per day.

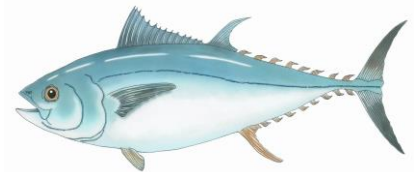
## POLLOCK (*Pollachius virens*)



**Maine Territorial waters:** No size or bag limits.

**Federal waters:** Minimum size 19 inches & no bag limit.

## BLUEFIN TUNA (*Thunnus thynnus*)



To fish for bluefin tuna, a Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit is required. For permits and current fishing regulations visit:

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov> or call 1-888-872-8862.

## ACADIAN REDFISH (*Sebastes fasciatus*)



**Size:** Minimum size 9 inches. No bag limit.

## 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.

## SHARKS



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:

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov> or call 1-888-872-8862.

## CUCK (*Brosme brosme*)



No size or bag limits.

## ATLANTIC WOLFFISH (*Anarhichas lupus*)



Anglers are prohibited from possessing Atlantic wolffish.



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