

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 46-22, FAC (Effective Sept. 12, 1985)

- Minimum size limits: 16 inches total length in state waters from Florida/Alabama border east and south to a straight line drawn from Bowlegs Point in Dixie County southwesterly through Marker 16, and 18 inches total length in all other state waters
- Maximum size limit: Statewide possession limit of one redfish 32 inches total length, or larger, per person

RED DRUM (REDFISH) - Emergency Rule, CH 46ER86-3, FAC (Effective Nov. 7, 1986 – Feb. 4, 1987)

Prohibits all harvest of redfish in Florida waters. Prohibits sale of native redfish.

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 46-22, FAC (Effective Feb. 12, 1987)

- 18 inches total length minimum size limit extended to all state waters
- Establishes March and April as closed season to all harvest in state waters
- Must be landed in whole condition (head and tail intact)
- Prohibits use of treble hooks while fishing with natural bait
- Prohibits snatch hooking

RED DRUM (REDFISH) - Emergency Rule, CH 46ER87-1, FAC (Effective May 1, 1987 - July 29, 1987)

Prohibits all harvest in state waters. Prohibits possession, transportation, buying, selling, or exchanging a native redfish.

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 46-22, FAC (Effective July 9, 1987)

Continues emergency rule above for an indefinite period.

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 46-22, FAC (Effective Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 1987)

Temporary season opening for redfish to include:

- 1 fish recreational daily bag limit, with off-the-water possession limit of 2 fish
- 5 fish daily bag limit per vessel for commercial fishermen
- Size limit of 18 inches to 27 inches total length
- Use of treble hooks while fishing with natural bait prohibited

- Fish must be landed in whole condition (heads and tails intact)
- Redfish designated as "restricted species"
- Prohibits harvest of native redfish beginning 1/1/88; sale of native redfish allowed until 1/5/88

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 46-22, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 1989 - Oct. 1, 1991)

- Establishes 18-inch minimum size limit and 27-inch maximum size limit for redfish harvested in state waters
- Establishes daily bag limit of 1 native redfish per person and an off-the-water possession limit of 2 fish per person
- Prohibits the sale of native redfish
- Closes the months of March, April, and May to harvest and possession of redfish
- Allows the sale of redfish harvested elsewhere with proper documentation

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 46-22, FAC (Effective June 3, 1991)

Continues above rule indefinitely, declares redfish as a "protected species", and prohibits gigging and spearing of redfish.

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 46-22, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 1996)

- Eliminates the March, April, and May closed season
- Prohibits the simultaneous possession aboard a vessel of any gill net or entangling net together with any red drum
- Requires all red drum to be landed in a whole condition, and prohibits the possession of red drum that are not in a whole condition in or on state waters, on any public or private fishing pier, on a bridge or catwalk attached to a bridge from which fishing is allowed, or on any jetty
- Defines "total length" for red drum to mean the length of the fish measured from the most forward point of the head to the hindmost point of the tail

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 68B-22, FAC (Effective March 17, 2004)

Allows the executive director of the FWC, or a designee, to issue permits to participants in qualified catch and release redfish tournaments to catch, hold, and release fish under the following conditions:

- Tournament competitors and staff must attempt to release all redfish alive, including those fish that are weighed in
- Best management practices must be used for handling of fish

- Tournament boats must contain aerated or re-circulating live wells, with a minimum size of 18-gallons or the volumetric equivalent
- Dead redfish may not be discarded when fish are caught, held, and released
- Redfish must be placed in recovery tanks after weigh-in before being released
- The tournament must provide the FWC with a description of the release location (as a condition of the exemption permit, the FWC may specify the tournament release location)
- The tournament must submit a post-tournament report
- The tournament must agree to allow the FWC the opportunity to conduct research and onboard monitoring, as needed
- Two-person tournament teams may possess two redfish
- Tournament catch, hold, and release permits may only be issued to catch-and-release redfish tournaments that agree to all permit conditions
- All tournament competitors must possess a copy of the tournament catch, hold, and release exemption permit during the tournament

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 68B-22, FAC (Effective July 1, 2006)

Provides that, for purposes of determining the legal size of red drum, "total length" means the straight line distance from the most forward point of the head with the mouth closed, to the farthest tip of the tail with the tail compressed or squeezed, while the fish is lying on its side.

RED DRUM (REDFISH), CH 68B-22, FAC (Effective Feb. 1, 2012)

- Defines "Northeast region," "Northwest region" and "South region"
- Increases Bag limit in the Northeast and Northwest regions from 1 fish to 2 fish
- Establishes a statewide vessel limit of 8 red drum
- Eliminates the off-water possession limit
- Establishes that bag limits apply to the land in the area adjacent to the fishing site
- Establishes a transport possession limit of 6 fish per person

RED DRUM (REDFISH), EO 16-12 (Effective May 1, 2016)

Reduces the daily bag limit from two fish to one fish per person in the Northwest red drum management zone (Escambia County through Fred Howard Park near Pasco County)

RED DRUM (REDFISH), 68B-22.005, FAC (Effective Nov. 1, 2016)

Reduces the daily bag limit from two fish to one fish per person in the Northwest red drum management

zone

RED DRUM, EO 18-45 (Effective Sept. 28, 2018 – May 10, 2019)

- Temporary modification of regulations for red drum and snook in southwest Florida
- Adds the inclusions of all waters of Pasco, Pinellas and Hillsborough counties to provisions of EO 18-38
- Extends the expiration date of EO 18-38 to May 10, 2019
- This order supersedes EO 18-38

RED DRUM, EO 18-38 (Effective Aug. 30 – Oct. 12, 2018)

- Temporary modification of regulations for red drum and snook in southwest Florida
- A person must immediately release any Red Drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*) caught in or on the described region during the term of this order and may not possess a Red Drum in the described region
- A person may temporarily possess a Red Drum in or on the described region, only for the purpose photographing, measuring, or weighing (with a hand-held scale) such Red Drum
- A person who temporarily possesses a Red Drum pursuant to this paragraph must release such Red Drum alive and unharmed in the immediate area where it was caught, immediately after it has been photographed, measured, or weighed

RED DRUM (REDFISH), 68B-22.005, FAC (Effective Nov. 1, 2016)

Reduces the daily bag limit from two fish to one fish per person in the Northwest red drum management zone

RED DRUM, EO 19-14 (Effective May 11, 2019 – May 31, 2020)

- Temporary modification of regulations for red drum, snook, and spotted seatrout in Southwest Florida
- A person must immediately release any red drum, snook, or spotted seatrout caught in or on the described region during the term of this order and may not possess or land a red drum, a snook, or a spotted seatrout in the described region
- A person may temporarily possess a red drum, snook or a spotted seatrout in or on the described region, only for the purpose of photographing, measuring, or weighing (with a handheld scale) such red drum, snook, or spotted seatrout
- A person who temporarily possesses a red drum, a snook, or a spotted seatrout pursuant to this paragraph must release such red drum, snook, or spotted seatrout alive and unharmed in the

immediate area where it was caught, immediately after it has been photographed, measured, or weighed

- During the term of this order, no Red Drum Catch-Hold-and-Release Tournament Exemption Permit will be issued for activities conducted within the described region
- The provisions of this order apply in and on all Florida waters of the following geographic areas:
 - All Florida waters of Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, and Lee counties; and
 - All Florida waters of Collier County north of a line extending due east and due west from the south bank at the mouth of Gordon Pass