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Recreational Coastal Waters Guide for Sportsfishermen

Attention: Weakfish changed April 5, 1999 - See <u>Proclamation FF-15-99</u> - 14 Inch Minimum/10 Per Person Per Day

This page last updated 4-12-99

We have provided a smaller version of the Rec Guide (without shellfish and crab limits) which should print out on one sheet of paper for your convenience. You can find it here. IMPORTANT Check with Division of Marine Fisheries for most current minimum lengths and catch limits. 919-726-7021 or 800-682-2632 (North Carolina only). For inland water limits contact Wildlife Resource Commission 919-733-3633.

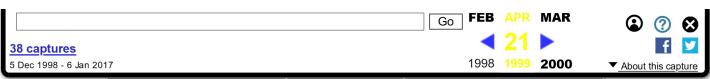
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State Regulations for waters 0 - 3 miles offshore.

TL = Total Length FL = Fork Length LJFL = Lower Jaw Fork Length

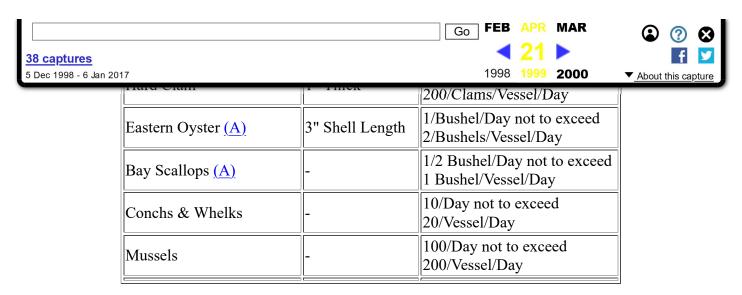
Finfish Species	Minimum Length	Catch Limits
Amberjack (C)	28" FL	3/Day
Striped Bass (A) (C)	(<u>A</u>)	(<u>A)</u>
Bluefish	No Size Limit	10/Day
Cobia	33" FL	2/Day
Dolphin (B)	_	10/Day (<u>B</u>)
King Mackerel	20" FL	3/Day
Spanish Mackerel	12" FL	10/Day
Sharks, (excluding Atlantic Sharpnose) (F) (K)	(No finning)	-

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White Marlin	66" LJFL	1/Day
Sailfish	57" LJFL	1/Day
Red Drum (Channel Bass, Puppy Drum)	18" TL (<u>D</u>)	1/Day
Flounder	13" TL (Internal) 15" TL (Ocean) (G) (J)	No Limit (Internal) 8/Day (Ocean) (G)
Spotted Seatrout (Speckled)	12" TL	10/Day
Gray Trout (Weakfish)	14" TL	10/Day
Tarpon (C)	-	1/Day <u>(C)</u>
Sturgeon	UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS	-
Eels	6" TL	-
Black Sea Bass (E)	8" TL (<u>E</u>) 10" TL (<u>I</u>)	Season closes North of Hatteras August 1 - 15, 1998
Hogfish	-	-
Grouper (Black, Gag, Red, Scamp, Yellowfin, & Yellowmouth Grouper)	20" TL	5/Day (species combined; Includes only 1 Speckled Hind and 1 Warsaw)
Speckled Hind (Kitty Mitchell)(C)	-	1/Vessel/Day
Warsaw Grouper (C)	-	1/Vessel/Day
Nassau Grouper & Jewfish	UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS	-
Red Porgy (Silver Snapper)	12" TL	-
Dog, Gray, Cubera, Mahogany, Queen, Schoolmaster, & Yellowtail Snapper	-	10/Day (Species combined; Includes up to 2 Red Snapper
Mutton Snapper	-	-
Silk and Blackfin	12" TL	-
Red Snapper	20" TL	2/Day
Vermillion Snapper	10" TL	10/Day
Scup	7" TL	-
Other Species	Minimum Length	Catch Limits (Per Person)

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What the letters mean! (A) Contact DMF for seasons, areas, or other limits. (B) Charter vessel limit of 60/Trip. (C) No-Sell Provision (D) No possession of fish over 27" (E) South of Cape Hatteras. To become 10" TL in fall of 1998. (F) All sharks not retained must be released in a manner that ensures maximum probability of survival. (G) Also applies to gigging in the ocean. (H) Federal permit required (508) 281-9370 (I) North of Cape Hatteras, effective 1/1/1997 (J) State restrictions apply during passage through state waters. (K) No retention of whale, basking, white, sand tiger, and bigeye sand tiger: (bag limit may include an additional allowance of 2 Atlantic sharpnose per person per trip).

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