Statewide Black Bass Regulations
Effective July 1, 2020

- Daily bag limit is 5 black bass (including Largemouth, Suwannee, Spotted, Choctaw, and Shoal Bass, individually or in total).
- Only 1 black bass may be 16 inches or longer in total length.
- There is no minimum length limit for Largemouth Bass.
- No person shall kill or possess any Suwannee, Shoal, Spotted, or Choctaw Bass less than 12 inches in total length.
Chipola River and its tributaries: No person shall kill or possess Shoal Bass on the Chipola River and its tributaries. Any Shoal Bass caught must be released immediately.

**Black Bass Identification**

*Largemouth Bass*

- Jaw extends beyond back of the eye
- **Notch in the dorsal fin**
- Side of body with distinct wide lateral stripe

*Shoal, Choctaw, Suwannee, and Spotted Bass*

- Jaw does not extend beyond back of the eye
- **No notch in the dorsal fin**

Suwannee, Choctaw, and Spotted Bass have a tooth patch on the tongue. Shoal Bass do not.

For additional information see myfwc.com/fishing/freshwater/regulations/

Ranges of black bass species in Florida:

- Northern Largemouth Bass and hybrids
- Choctaw Bass
- Choctaw Bass, Spotted Bass, Shoal Bass
- Suwannee Bass
- Florida Largemouth Bass

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