



Redfish Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permit Application

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Marine Fisheries Management
620 S. Meridian St., Mail Station 4B3, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600
Ph: 850-487-0554 • Fax: 850-487-4847

Complete all information that is applicable to your permit request. If additional space is required other than what is provided on the form, you may provide additional attachments as long as they are clearly marked and identifiable. Documents submitted separately from an application form must be marked (or files named) with the applicant's name and affiliation. Applications will not be evaluated until all requested information and reporting documentation required by previously issued Redfish Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permits have been submitted.

(Please Print or Type)

A. GENERAL APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____
Organization Name: _____
Tournament Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: () _____ Fax: () _____
Alt. Phone Number: () _____
Email Address**: _____ @ _____

****To provide more timely exchange of information please check this box:**

I authorize FWC to send me future correspondence regarding this application, including requests for additional information and final agency permitting actions by either e-mail or express delivery. Future agency actions will be provided henceforth by either e-mail or express delivery.

Have you ever had a fisheries or wildlife related permit suspended or revoked? YES NO
If yes, please explain:

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Certification: I hereby swear and affirm by signature that the information submitted in this application and supporting documents is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to criminal penalties. I further state that I will abide by all applicable State, Federal, and local laws. Any false statements or misrepresentations when applying for this permit may result in felony charges and will result in revocation of this permit. By signing this document, I also agree to comply with the reporting requirements outlined in section "G" of this application form.

B. ELIGIBILITY. A Redfish Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permit may only be issued to the director of a catch-and-release fishing tournament that agrees to the following permit conditions:

- 1) Tournament anglers and tournament staff must attempt to release alive all redfish that are caught, including those fish that are weighed-in.
- 2) Each two person team of tournament anglers possesses no more than two live redfish in the boat's live well or recirculating tank at any one time.
- 3) All boats used in the tournament must contain recirculating or aerated live wells that are at least 2.4 cubic feet or 18 gallons in capacity.
- 4) Dead redfish possessed by a two person team of tournament anglers are not discarded. A dead redfish is considered harvested and will count as the daily bag limit for the team of tournament anglers who harvested that

fish.

- 5) Redfish must be maintained in an aerated recovery holding tank prior to release. Recovery holding tank requirements may be specified in the tournament exemption permit at the FWC's discretion in order to increase survival of released redfish.
- 6) The tournament must provide the FWC with a description of the aerated recovery holding tank(s) used to maintain redfish alive after weigh in.
- 7) The tournament must provide the FWC with a description of the location where tournament caught redfish will be released after weigh in. In order to increase survival of released redfish, release locations may be specified in the tournament exemption permit at the FWC's discretion.
- 8) The tournament must agree to allow FWC staff the opportunity to collect research data and conduct research and onboard monitoring during the tournament, as needed, and,
- 9) The tournament must submit a post-tournament report to the FWC indicating the number of fish weighed-in each day of the tournament, the number of fish weighed-in dead each day, and the number of fish that died after being weighed-in, but prior to release each day. The FWC may specify additional tournament reporting requirements as a condition of the tournament exemption permit.

C. SCOPE OF AUTHORITY.

Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permits do not authorize activities:

- 1) Outside of state waters (seaward of 3 nautical miles on the Atlantic and 9 nautical miles on the Gulf of Mexico).
- 2) Within any state or federal park.
- 3) Within the following areas of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS): Western Sambo and Tortugas North Ecological Reserves; Cheeca Rocks, Eastern Dry Rocks, Hen and Chickens, Newfound Harbor Key, Rock Key, and Sand Key Sanctuary Preservation Areas (SPAs); or Eastern Sambo Research Only Area.
- 4) Within any Manatee Limited Entry Area (No Entry or Motorboat Prohibited Zones).

D. TOURNAMENT INFORMATION.

I. Is the tournament catch-and-release? *Check one:* YES NO

II. Number of active participants. Tournaments must have 50 or more active participants for a Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permit to be valid.

Number of Active Participants: _____ Number of Boats: _____

If the tournament will have less than 50 active participants on any given day of a multiple-day tournament, please explain: _____

III. Entry fee. Does the tournament require an entry fee? *Check one:* YES NO

IV. Prizes. Does the tournament award prizes? *Check one:* YES NO

V. When will the tournament occur? List the dates and start and finish times when tournament-related fishing activities will occur: _____

VI. Tournament location. Where will the landing and weigh-in take place? Provide location name(s) and physical address(es) if applicable.

VII. Counties where fishing will occur. List all counties in Florida where fishing will occur:

E. RECOVERY AND HOLDING TANKS. *Redfish must be maintained in an aerated recovery holding tank prior to release. Recovery holding tank requirements may be specified in the tournament exemption permit at the FWC's discretion.*

I. How many recovery/holding tanks will the tournament use? _____

II. List the shape and dimensions (in inches) and capacity (in gallons) for each recovery/holding tank. _____

III. Target recovery holding tank temperature (°F): _____

IV. Target recovery holding tank salinity (in ppt): _____

V. Describe the aeration system to be used in recovery holding tank(s): _____

F. RELEASE INFORMATION.

I. Where will fish be released? List release location(s), and be as specific as possible. _____

II. How will fish be released? Please describe release methods. _____

III. How far is(are) the release location(s) from the weigh-in location/recovery holding tank(s)?

G. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. *Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permits will not be issued or renewed unless all conditions of prior Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permits held by the applicant were met, and the reporting requirements were properly and timely submitted.*

A permittee for a Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permit must submit the following information must be submitted to the Commission within 30 days after the tournament to fulfill reporting requirements:

- 1) Tournament results.
- 2) The exact number of anglers and boats that fished in the tournament, and number of anglers that did not qualify to operate pursuant to a Redfish Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permit (based on qualifying live well size).
- 3) Numbers of redfish weighed-in each day of the tournament, and their individual weights.
- 4) Total number of redfish which were dead each day prior to weigh-in.
- 5) Total number of redfish that died between weigh-in and release each day.

H. PERMIT COPIES.

All anglers participating in a redfish tournament for which a tournament exemption permit has been issued must have a copy of the Catch, Hold and Release Tournament Exemption Permit signed by both FWC and the license holder (applicant) in his/her possession while conducting tournament-related activities.

I. APPLICATION SUBMISSION.

Applications may be submitted electronically to the Special Activity License Program Coordinator (email to SAL@MyFWC.com), may be faxed to (850) 487-4847, or may be mailed to the following address:

FWC – Special Activity License Program
620 S. Meridian St., Mailbox 4B3
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600

Documents submitted separately from an application form must be marked (or files named) with the applicant's name and organization.