### Snapper

**General Snapper Regulations:**
- Snapper Aggregate Bag Limit – Within state waters of the Atlantic and Gulf, all species of snapper are included in a 10 fish per harvester per day aggregate bag limit in any combination of snapper species, unless stated otherwise.
- Seasons – If no seasonal information is provided, the species is open year-round.

#### Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester

#### Minimum Size Limits:
- Atlantic and Gulf - 12" (see below)

#### Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester under 30"; included within snapper aggregate bag limit
- May additionally harvest up to 2 over 30" per harvester or vessel, whichever is less, and these 2 fish over 30" are not included within snapper aggregate bag limit

**Snapper, Cubera**
- Minimum Size Limits: Atlantic and Gulf - 12" (see below)

**Snapper, Red**
- Minimum Size Limits: Atlantic - 20"; Gulf - 16"

**Snapper, Vermilion**
- Minimum Size Limits: Atlantic and Gulf - 12"

**Snapper, Lane**
- Minimum Size Limits: Atlantic and Gulf - 8"}

### Other Snapper

**Minimum Size Limits:**
- Bag and Mahogany; Atlantic and Gulf - 12"
- No minimum size limit for other snappers

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester

**Minimum Size Limits:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 10"

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per harvester

**Minimum Size Limits:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 18"

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per harvester

**Minimum Size Limits:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 10"

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester

**Minimum Size Limits:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 12" total length

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester

### Grouper

**Atlantic Grouper General Regulations:**
- Atlantic grouper regulations apply to all state waters of the Atlantic and all state waters off Monroe County (Gulf and Atlantic sides).
- All species of Atlantic grouper plus golden tilefish and bluefin tilefish in any combination of species.
- Seasons – If no seasonal information is provided, the species is open year-round.

**Gulf Grouper General Regulations:**
- Gulf grouper regulations apply to all state waters of the Gulf except off Monroe County.
- Gulf Grouper Aggregate Bag Limit - All species of grouper in the Gulf are included in a 4 fish per harvester per day aggregate bag limit in any combination of grouper species.
- Seasons – If no seasonal information is provided, the species is open year-round.
- *Zero bag limit for captain and crew of for-hire vessels applies to gag, black, and red grouper only.

#### Grouper, Black
- Minimum Size Limits: Atlantic - 24"; Gulf - 24"

#### Grouper, Snowy
- Minimum Size Limit: Atlantic and Gulf - None

#### Grouper, Vermilion
- Minimum Size Limits: Atlantic and Gulf - 20"

#### Grouper, Warsaw & Speckled Hind
- Minimum Size Limits: Atlantic and Gulf - None

#### Grouper, Yellowfin & Yellowmouth
- Minimum Size Limits: Atlantic and Gulf - 20"

#### Other Groupers
- Other Grouper Includes: Rock Hind, Red Hind, Coney, Graysby, Misty and Yellowedge

**Season:**
- Atlantic - Rock Hind, Red Hind, Coney, Graysby; Closed Jan. 1-April 30
- Atlantic - All others open year-round
- Gulf - Open year-round

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- Atlantic - 3 per harvester
- Gulf - 4 per harvester
### Reef Fish

#### Other Reef Fish (If no season information is provided, the species is open year-round)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum Size Limits</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Daily Recreational Bag Limit</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amberjack, Greater</td>
<td>• Atlantic - 28&quot; fork length • Gulf - 34&quot; fork length</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open year-round • Gulf - Open May 1-Nov. 30, Aug. 1-Oct. 31</td>
<td>• Atlantic and Gulf - 1 per harvester</td>
<td>Bluefin tilefish included within Atlantic grouper aggregate bag limits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tilefish, Blueine</td>
<td>• Atlantic - 3 per harvester per day • Gulf - 100 pounds or 2 per harvester, whichever is greater</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open May 1-Aug. 31 • Gulf - Open year-round</td>
<td>• Atlantic and Gulf - 1 per harvester</td>
<td>Bluefin tilefish included within Atlantic grouper aggregate bag limits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Barracuda</td>
<td>• Atlantic - 16&quot; fork length • Gulf - 14&quot; fork length</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open May 1-Oct. 31 • Gulf - Open year-round</td>
<td>• Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per person aggregate of the two species</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hogfish</td>
<td>• Atlantic - 12&quot; fork length • Gulf - 15&quot; fork length</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open year-round • Gulf - Open March 1-May 31, Aug. 1-Dec. 31</td>
<td>• Atlantic - 1 per harvester • Gulf - 5 per harvester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Sea Bass</td>
<td>• Atlantic - 14&quot; • Gulf - None</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open year-round • Gulf - Open March 1-May 31, Aug. 1-Dec. 31</td>
<td>• Atlantic - 7 per harvester • Gulf - 100 pounds per harvester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Pelagics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Minimum Size Limits</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Daily Recreational Bag Limit</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Billfish</td>
<td>• Sailfish 63&quot; • Blue Marlin 99&quot; • White Marlin 66&quot; • Roundscale Spearfish 66&quot;</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open year-round • Gulf - Open March 1-May 31, Aug. 1-Dec. 31</td>
<td>• 1 per harvester aggregate bag limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackfin Tuna</td>
<td>• No minimum size limit</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open year-round • Gulf - Open March 1-May 31, Aug. 1-Dec. 31</td>
<td>• 1 per harvester aggregate bag limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackerel, King</td>
<td>• 24&quot; fork length</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open year-round • Gulf - Open March 1-May 31, Aug. 1-Dec. 31</td>
<td>• 2 per person or 6 per vessel per day, whichever is greater</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackerel, Spanish</td>
<td>• 12&quot; fork length</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open year-round • Gulf - Open March 1-May 31, Aug. 1-Dec. 31</td>
<td>• 15 per harvester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swordfish</td>
<td>• 47&quot; lower jaw fork length with head attached or 25&quot; cleithrum to keel length if head removed</td>
<td>• Atlantic - Open year-round • Gulf - Open March 1-May 31, Aug. 1-Dec. 31</td>
<td>• 1 per harvester per day, not to exceed a maximum of 4 per recreational (not for-hire) vessel or 15 per for-hire vessel</td>
<td>All landed fish must be reported to NOAA within 24 hours 800-894-5528. HMS permit required in federal waters. Zero daily bag and possession limit for captain and crew of for-hire vessels.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Remarks
- Regulations apply only in Collier, Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin counties.
- Measured tip of lower jaw to fork. All landed fish must be reported to NOAA within 24 hours 800-894-5528 or landed fish must be reported to NOAA within 24 hours 800-894-5528. HMS permit required in federal waters.
- No minimum size limit
- 2 per harvester
- 15 per harvester
- 12 per vessel
- 10 per vessel
- Hook and line only. No snatch hooks.
### Coastal Species

**Bluefish**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 12” fork length
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
  - Atlantic - 3 per harvester
  - Gulf - 10 per harvester (includes Monroe county)

**Permit**
- **Size Limits:** 22” fork Special Permit Zone (SPZ); Not less than 11” or more than 22” fork length all other areas
- **Closed Season:** April 1-July 31 SPZ Only
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 1 per harvester, not to exceed 2 per vessel SPZ; 2 per harvester all other state waters
- **Remarks:** May possess 1 over 22” fork length outside the SPZ, not to exceed 2 over 22” fork per vessel per day. For map of SPZ, please see: MyFWC.com
- **Zero daily bag and possession limit for captain and crew on for-hire vessels**

**Black Drum**
- **Size Limits:** Not less than 14” or more than 24”
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 5 per harvester
- **Remarks:** May possess one over 24”. Snatching prohibited.

**Flounder**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 12”
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 10 per harvester

**Remarks**
- May be harvested by spearing, Snatching prohibited.
- Changes pending, see MyFWC.com

**Spotted Seatrout**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Not less than 15” or more than 19”
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 5 per harvester per day W.F. Zone
- **Remarks:**
  - See management zone map on pg. 9
  - Zero bag limit for captain and crew of for-hire vessels
  - For current regulations see MyFWC.com
  - Remains Catch-and-release only in Pasco-Gordon Pass/Collier counties.

**Pompano, Florida**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 11” fork length
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 6 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Hook and line, cast net and beach or haul seine only.

**Bonefish**
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 0 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Catch and release only
- **Hook and line only**

**Weakfish**
- **Minimum Size Limits:**
  - Weakfish Management Area (WMA) in Nassau County - 12”
  - All other areas - no minimum
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** WMA - 1 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Regulations apply in parts of Nassau County only.
- **See map at: MyFWC.com/Fishing/Saltwater/Recreational/Weakfish**

**Red Drum (Redfish)**
- **Size Limits:** Not less than 18” or more than 27”
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 2 per harvester per day in the NE zone, and 5 per harvester in the NW and S zone. See map on p. 6
- **Remarks:** Gigging, spearing, snatching prohibited. Harvest in Federal waters prohibited. Remains Catch-and-release only in Pasco-Gordon Pass/Collier counties

**Snook**
- **Size Limits:** Not less than 28” or more than 32”
- **Atlantic including Monroe**
- **Gulf and Monroe County**
- **Closed Season:**
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 1 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Snook permit required for harvest when saltwater license required. See MyFWC.com for snook permit details. Snatch hooks and spearing prohibited. Zero daily bag and possession limit for captain and crew on for-hire vessels. Remains Catch-and-release only in Pasco-Gordon Pass/Collier counties

**Tarpon**
- **Recreational Bag Limit:** 1 per harvester per year. $50 harvest tag required. Vessel limit of one fish. Harvest tag can only be used when fish is retained for potential IGFA record.
- **Remarks:**
  - Tarpon over 40 inches must remain in the water during release. Snapping and snatch hooking prohibited. Bottom weighted lines prohibited in Boca Grande Pass. See MyFWC.com/Fishing/Saltwater/Recreational/Tarpon for additional information.

**Sheepshead**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 12”
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 8 per harvester
- **Remarks:**
  - Snatching prohibited
  - Vessel limit of 50 fish during March and April

**Can’t find your fish in the regulations?**

Florida’s coastal waters are home to thousands of marine species, and the majority of these species have no specific regulations with regard to bag limits, size limits, gear restrictions or closed seasons. These species are often referred to as “unregulated species,” although the name can be a bit misleading. State law provides that for any marine species that does not have specific regulations, harvesting more than 100 pounds or two fish (whichever is the greater amount) constitutes a commercial quantity and requires a commercial license. This means the recreational harvest limit for any unregulated species is 100 pounds or two organisms if the combined weight of the two organisms exceeds 100 pounds.

- **Spearing Prohibited**
  - Must remain in whole condition (removal of gills and guts allowed).
  - Measured as total length. Total length is the straight line distance from the most forward part of the head with the mouth closed to the farthest tip of the tail with the tail compressed or squeezed together while the fish is lying on its side.
  - State regulations apply in federal waters.

- **Additional gear rules apply, please see MyFWC.com**

- **T** Harvest prohibited by or with the use of any multiple hook (any hook with two or more points and a common shaft) in conjunction with live or dead natural bait.

- **X** State Reef Fish Angler designation required when fishing for select reef fish species from a private vessel in the Gulf of Mexico or Atlantic Ocean.

Examples of “unregulated species” include:
- Ladyfish, bonitos, menhaden, white grunt, southern stingray, gulf kingfish (white), pinfish, Atlantic croaker, jack crevalle, cero mackerel, hardhead catfish, gafftopsail catfish, lionfish.
Crustaceans and Mollusks

Bay Scallops

- **Season:**
  - Gulf County: Aug. 16–Sept. 24
  - Franklin-NW Taylor County: July 1–Sept. 24
  - Dixie and remaining Taylor County: June 15–Labor Day
  - Levy, Citrus and Hernando counties: July 1–Sept. 24
  - Pasco County: 10 days starting on 3rd Friday in July

- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
  - 2 gallons whole or 1 pint meat per harvester; no more than 10 gallons whole, or ½ gallon meat per vessel
  - Dixie and remaining Taylor County: From June 15–30, one gallon whole/or one cup meat per person or five gallons whole/two pints meat per vessel, whichever is less

- **Remarks**
  - Harvest allowed only in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico from the Pinellas – Pasco county line, to the west bank of the Mexico Beach Canal in Bay County. Direct transit through closed areas permitted.

- **Prohibitions**
  - Harvest prohibited in any harvest area that is in the Closed status as determined by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
  - Bay County: Harvest and possession prohibited in West Bay Estuarine Habitat Restoration Project Zone

- **Trapping restrictions**
  - Apalachicola Bay has summer & winter seasons/areas.

Spiny Lobster

- **Minimum Size Limit:**
  - Carapace must be greater than 3” measured in the water

- **Seasons:**
  - Sport Season open July 29–30, 2020
  - Regular Season opens Aug. 6 through March 31

- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
  - Sport Season: 6 per harvester per day in Monroe County and Biscayne National Park, 12 in all other harvest areas.
  - Regular Season: 6 per harvester in all areas

- **Remarks**
  - Recreational trapping prohibited. Spiny lobster permit required when license required. Harvest of egg-bearing females prohibited.

Clams (Hard)

- **Minimum Size Limits:**
  - 1” thick across hinge

- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
  - One 5 gal. bucket per harvester or 2 per vessel (whole in shell)

- **Remarks**
  - Illegal to harvest from closed areas.
  - Go to www.FloridaAquaculture.com for allowable harvesting areas.
  - May not harvest half hour after official sunset until half hour before official sunrise.

Crab, Stone

- **Minimum Size Limits:**
  - 2 7/8” claw

- **Closed Season:**
  - May 2–Oct. 14

- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
  - 1 gal. claws per harvester or 2 gal. per vessel, whichever is less

- **Remarks**
  - 5 traps maximum. Visit MyFWC.com for statewide trap construction requirements and specific requirements that apply in Miami-Dade, Monroe and Collier. Illegal to possess whole crab. Harvest of egg-bearing crabs prohibited. See how to properly de-claw on our website. New trap registration requirements, visit GoOutdoorsFlorida.com to register.

Crab, Blue

- **Closed Season:**
  - Regional trap closures apply. Visit MyFWC.com for 2021 trap closure dates and locations.

- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
  - 10 gallons whole per harvester

- **Remarks**
  - 5 traps maximum. Trap requirements apply. Harvest of egg-bearing crabs prohibited. New trap registration requirements, visit GoOutdoorsFlorida.com to register.

Oysters

- **Minimum Size Limit:**
  - 3”

- **Closed Season:**
  - June, July, Aug. in Dixie, Wakulla, Levy counties.
  - July, Aug. Sept. in all other areas except Apalachicola Bay.

Shrimp

- **Closed Season:**
  - April & May closed in Nassau, Duval, St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler & Clay counties

- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
  - 5 gallons heads on per harvester or vessel, whichever is less

- **Remarks**
  - Visit MyFWC.com/Fishing and select “Saltwater”, “Regulations” and “Shrimp” for additional regulations specific to Dade, Nassau and Duval

Sharks

Retainable Sharks with a 54” fork length minimum ★★★

- **Blue, oceanic whitetip, porbeagle (not illustrated).**

  - Bull
  - Common Thresher
  - Nurse
  - Spinner

Retainable Sharks with no minimum size limit ★★★

- **Finetooth, Smooth Dogfish, Florida Smoothhounds (not illustrated).**

  - Atlantic Sharpnose
  - Blacknose
  - Bonnethead
  - Blacktip

Retainable Sharks with a 83” fork length minimum ★★★

- **Shortfin Mako**

  - Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
    - 1 per harvester or 2 per vessel per day, whichever is less.

  - Remarks
    - The retainable sharks are managed as a group for bag limit purposes. In other words, you can only harvest one shark per day and the shark that you harvest must be one of the retainable species.
    - Hook-and-line gear only.
    - Shore-based Shark Fishing educational course and permit required.
    - See list of prohibited species below.

Prohibited Species

- **It is unlawful to harvest, possess, land, purchase, sell or exchange the following species:**