### 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.

**Snapper, Cubera ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 12" (see remarks)
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per harvester under 30", included within snapper aggregate bag limit. May additionally harvest up to 2 per harvester or vessel- whichever is less - over 30", and these 2 fish over 30" are not included within snapper aggregate bag limit.

**Snapper, Gray (Mangrove) ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 10"
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per harvester

**Snapper, Mutton ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 18"
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per harvester

**Snapper, Red ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 20"
- **Season:** Atlantic - Open year-round
- **Snapper, Vermillion ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 12"
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** Atlantic and Gulf - 2 per harvester
- **Season:** Atlantic - Open year-round
- **Remarks:** Gulf - Zero daily bag and possession limit for Vessel and crew on for-hire vessels.

**Snapper, Schoolmaster ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 10"
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per harvester

**Snapper, Lane ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 8"
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** Atlantic - 10 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Gulf - 100 pounds per harvester not included within the snapper aggregate bag limit.

**Snapper, Black & Wenchman ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - None
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** Atlantic and Gulf - 10 per harvester

### Other Snapper ▲ ▲ ▲
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 12"

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

**Remarks:** Includes: Dog, Mahogany, and Yellowtail
- No minimum size on Blackfin, Silk and Queen

### 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).
- Atlantic Grouper Aggregate Bag Limit - all species of grouper plus golden tilefish in the Atlantic are included in a 3 fish per harvester per day aggregate bag limit in any combination of grouper/ golden tilefish 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 (where Atlantic rules apply).
- 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 daily recreational bag limit for captain and crew on for-hire vessels applying to gag, black and red snapper only.

**Grouper, Black ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic - 24"
- **Season:** Atlantic - Closed Jan. 1–April 30
- **Remarks:** Atlantic and Gulf - None

**Grouper, Snowy ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - None
- **Season:** Atlantic and Gulf - None

**Grouper, Red ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 20"
- **Season:** Atlantic - Closed Jan. 1–April 30
- **Remarks:** Atlantic and Gulf - None

**Grouper, Scamp ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic - 20"
- **Season:** Atlantic - Closed Jan. 1–April 30
- **Remarks:** Atlantic and Gulf - None

**Grouper, Warsaw & Speckled Hind ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - None
- **Season:** Atlantic - Closed Jan. 1–April 30
- **Remarks:** Atlantic and Gulf - None

**Grouper, Yellowfin & Yellowmouth ▲ ▲ ▲**
- **Minimum Size Limits:** Atlantic and Gulf - 20"
- **Season:** Atlantic and Gulf - None
- **Remarks:** Atlantic and Gulf - None

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Revised: September 2019
New regulations are highlighted in red
(please visit: MyFWC.com/Fishing/Saltwater/Recreational for the most current regulations)

All art: © Diane Rome Peebles, except snowy grouper (Duane Raver)
Reef Fish

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

Amberjack, Greater ▲ ● X
Minimum Size Limits:
- Atlantic - 30" fork length
- Gulf - 24" fork length
Season:
- Atlantic - Open year-round
- Gulf - Aug. 1-Oct. 31
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic and Gulf - 1 per harvester

Red Porgy ▲ ● ●
Minimum Size Limits:
- Atlantic - 14"
- Gulf - None
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic - 3 per harvester
- Gulf - 100 pounds

Great Barracuda ▲ ● X
Regulations only apply in Collier, Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin counties.
Size Limits:
- Not less than 15" or more than 36" fork length
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- 2 per person or 6 per vessel, per day
- May possess one over 36" per vessel.
Remarks
- Unregulated in all other areas, see MyFWC.com

Tilapia, Golden ▲ ●
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic - 1 per harvester
- Gulf - 4 per harvester
Remarks
- Golden tilefish included within Atlantic and Gulf Grouper aggregate bag limits.

Hogfish
Minimum Size Limits:
- Atlantic - 18" fork length
- Gulf - 14" fork length
Season:
- Atlantic - Open-May 1 - October 31
- Gulf - Open year-round
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic - 1 per harvester
- Gulf - 5 per harvester

Amberjack, Lesser & Banded Rudderfish ▲ ● X
Minimum Size Limits:
- Atlantic and Gulf - Cannot be less than 14" or greater than 22" fork length
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic and Gulf - 5 per person aggregate of the two species.

Black Sea Bass ▲ ● ●
Minimum Size Limits:
- Atlantic - 13"
- Gulf - 10"
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic - 7 per harvester
- Gulf - 100 pounds per harvester

Pelagics

Billfish
Minimum Size Limits:
- Swordfish 63";
- Blue Marlin 90";
- White Marlin 60";
- Roaedscale Spearfish 60"
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- 1 per harvester aggregate bag limit
Remarks
- Measured tip of lower jaw to fork. All landed fish must be reported to NOAA within 24 hours 800-894-5528 or beway.missing.noaa.gov.
- HMS permit required in federal waters.

Cobia (Ling)
Minimum Size Limits:
- 33" fork length
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic-1 per harvester, not to exceed 6 per vessel.
- Gulf-1 per harvester, not to exceed 2 per vessel.

Mackerel, King
Minimum Size Limits:
- 24" fork length
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- Atlantic (excluding Monroe) - 2 per harvester
- Gulf (including Monroe) - 3 per harvester
Remarks
- Bag limit reduced to 1 in some state waters if federal waters are closed to recreational harvest.

Mackerel, Spanish
Minimum Size Limits:
- 12" fork length
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- 15 per harvester

Tripletail ▲ ● ● ● T
Minimum Size Limits:
- 18"
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- 2 per harvester
Remarks
- Hook and line only. No snatch hooks.

Dolphinfish
Minimum Size Limits:
- Atlantic - 20" fork length
- Gulf - None
Daily Recreational Bag Limit:
- 10 per harvester per day, not to exceed 60 per vessel per day. Vessel limit does not apply to for-hire vessels.

Scan this code with your mobile device to view the regulations online.
Buy your license online at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com or toll free at: 1-888-347-4356
Report fish and wildlife law violations toll free at: 1-888-404-3922

All art: © Diane Rome Peebles, except golden tilefish (Duane Raver); lionfish (FWC)
## Coastal Species

### Bluefish
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 12“ fork length
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 10 per harvester

### 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 30 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 one 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.

### 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.

### 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 4 per harvester per day in the S.E. Zone
- **Remarks:** Snagging prohibited. Harvest in Federal waters prohibited.

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

### 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.

### Other Species

#### Jack Crevalle
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 24“ fork length
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 2 per harvester, not to exceed 2 per vessel
- **Remarks:** Catch and release only in SW region, see MyFWC.com for more information.

#### Snook (All species)
- **Size Limits:** Not less than 28“ or more than 32“ Atlantic excluding Monroe. Not less than 28“ or more than 33“ Gulf and Monroe County.
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 1 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Snook permit required for harvest when saltwater license required. See MyFWC.com for more information. Hook and line, cast net and beach or haul Required. Catch and release only in SW region, see MyFWC.com for more information.

#### Pompano, Florida
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 11“ fork length
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 6 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Catch and release only in SW region, see MyFWC.com for more information.

#### Gulf Kingfish
- **Remarks:** Catch and release only in SW region, see MyFWC.com for more information.

#### Pompano, African
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 24“ fork length
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 2 per harvester, not to exceed 2 per vessel
- **Remarks:** Catch and release only in SW region, see MyFWC.com for more information.

#### Spotted Seatrout
- **Size Limits:** Not less than 15“ or more than 20“ (See remarks)
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 5 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Changes pending, see MyFWC.com for updates

#### Blue Runner
- **Minimum Size Limits:** No minimum
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 100 fish per harvester

#### Tarpon
- **Minimum Size Limits:** 24“ fork length
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 2 per harvester, not to exceed 2 per vessel
- **Remarks:** Catch and release only in SW region, see MyFWC.com for more information.

#### Bonefish
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 5 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Catch and release only; Hook and line only

#### Permit
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 1 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Catch and release only in SW region, see MyFWC.com for more information.

#### Weakfish
- **Size Limits:** 22“ fork Management Area (WMA) in Nassau County - 12“
- **Daily Recreational Bag Limit:** 1 per harvester
- **Remarks:** Regulations apply in parts of Nassau County only. See map at MyFWC.com/Fishing/Saltwater/Recreational/Weakfish

#### Catch and release only in SW region, see MyFWC.com for more information.

### 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.

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**Star**
- Spear Prohibited
- Must remain in whole condition (removal of gills and guts allowed).

**Symbol**
- 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.

**Remark**
- State regulations apply in federal waters.
- Additional gear rules apply, please see: MyFWC.com
- 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**
- Gulf reef fish survey required when fishing for selected reef species from a private vessel in the Gulf of Mexico.

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**Examples of “unregulated species” include:**
Ladyfish, bonito, menhaden, white grunt, southern stingray, gulf kingfish (whiting), pinfish, Atlantic croaker, lionfish, jack crevalle, cero mackerel, hardhead catfish, gafftopsail catfish and blackfin tuna.

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**September, 2019**
Crustaceans and Mollusks

Bay Scallops

**Season:**
- Gulf County: Aug. 16-Sept. 15, 2019
- Franklin-Hill Taylor & Levy-Hernando: July 1-Sept. 24, 2019
- SW Taylor-Dixie: June 15 - Sept. 10, 2019
- Pasco County: July 19-28, 2019

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- 2 gallons heads on or 1 pint meat per harvester per day; no more than 10 gallons whole, or ½ gallon meat per vessel anytime.

**Remarks**
- Harvest allowed only in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico from the Florida Keys - Passco county line, to the west bank of the Mexico Beach Canal in Bay County. It is illegal to harvest, possess and land bay scallops on waters outside open harvest area.
- See regional map at MyFWC.com

Shrimp

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

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

**Remarks**
- Visit: MyFWC.com/Marine and select "Regulations", and "Shrimp" for additional regulations specific to Duval, Nassau and Dausal.

Clams (Hard)

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

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- One 5 gal. bucket per harvester per 2 person (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.

**Spiny Lobster**

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

**Seasons:**
- Sport Season open July 24-25, 2019
- Regular Season opens Aug. 14 through March 31

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- Sport Season: 6 per harvester in Monroe County and Biscayne National Park, 12 per harvester 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.

**Crab, Stone**

**Minimum Size Limits:**
- 2 ¾" claw

**Closed Season:**
- May 16-Oct. 14

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- 1 gal. claws per harvester or 2 gal. per person, 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. New trap registration requirements. See MyFWC.com to register.

**Crab, Blue**

**Closed Season:**
- Regional trap closures apply. Visit MyFWC.com for 2019 trap closure dates and locations.

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

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

**Oysters**

**Minimum Size Limit:**
- 3" closed

**Closed Season:**
- June, July, Aug. in Dade, Miami, Levy counties.
- July, Aug., Sept. in all other areas except Apalachicola Bay which has open areas year-round.

**Daily Recreational Bag Limit:**
- 2 bags per harvester or vessel except Apalachicola Bay

**Remarks**
- Apalachicola Bay: special bag limits and other harvest restrictions apply. See MyFWC.com for detailed information.
- Apalachicola Bay has summer & winter seasons/areas.
- Harvest from approved shellfish areas during daylight hours only.
- Go to FloridaAquaculture.com to determine the Open or Closed status of shellfish harvesting areas.
- May not harvest half hour after official sunset until half hour before official sunrise.
- 1 Bag = 50 lbs. or one 5 gal. bucket (whole in shell)
- Harvest prohibited in any harvest area that is in the Closed status as determined by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

**Retainable Sharks with no minimum size limit**

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

FWC – Division of Marine Fisheries Management, 2590 Executive Center Circle East, Tallahassee, FL 32301  Phone: 850-487-0554

This publication is provided as a guide to Florida fishing laws and regulations. The Florida Administrative Code is the final authority on fishing laws. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) strives to ensure information in this booklet is accurate, but assumes no liability for any errors that occur in this publication.