

# Species that **DO** Require State Reef Fish Angler Designation

## Do you fish for any of these species?

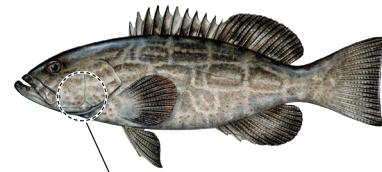
As a reef fish angler or spear fisher, you may be asked periodically to participate in voluntary mail and dockside surveys. These surveys provide important information needed to monitor the fishery and provide optimum recreational fishing opportunities in Florida.

Beginning July 1, 2020, anglers 16 years of age and older are required to sign up as a State Reef Fish Angler if they fish from a private recreational boat for any of the 13 species described in this brochure. Signing up helps FWC reach out directly to people who fish for reef fish species and collect better data.

With your help, we can improve scientific data and management of these important recreational fisheries. To learn more about how to sign up as a State Reef Fish Angler, visit [MyFWC.com/SRFS](http://MyFWC.com/SRFS).

**Black Grouper**  
*Mycteroperca bonaci*

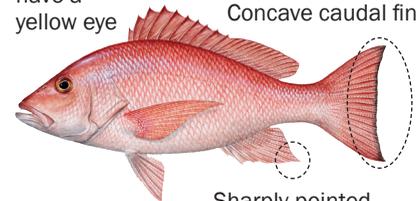
Box-like patches on body



Copper spots on face and body

**Red Snapper**  
*Lutjanus campechanus*

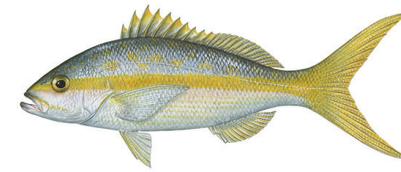
Does NOT have a yellow eye



Sharply pointed anal fin

**Yellowtail Snapper**  
*Ocyurus chrysurus*

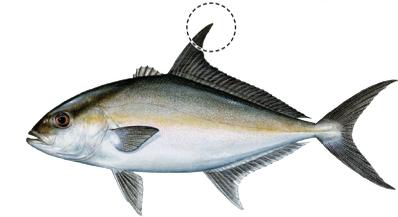
Prominent yellow stripe runs from eye to tail



Deeply forked tail

**Almaco Jack**  
*Seriola rivoliana*

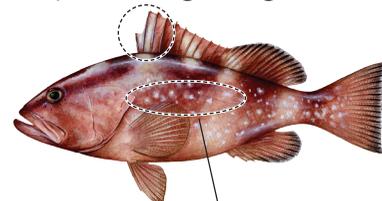
Front dorsal and anal fins elongated



A deep and flat-bodied amberjack

**Red Grouper**  
*Epinephelus morio*

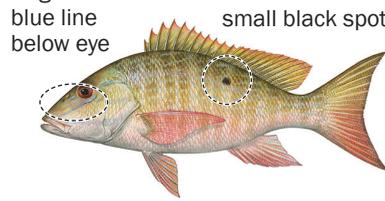
Webbing is even with the tip of the spine, creating a straight line



Irregular light blotches on body

**Mutton Snapper**  
*Lutjanus analis*

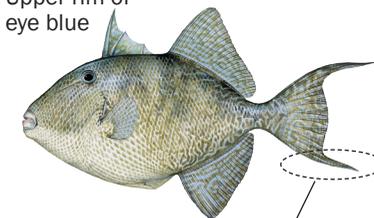
Bright blue line below eye



Offshore adults can be reddish in color (not as red as true Red Snapper)

**Gray Triggerfish**  
*Balistes capriscus*

Upper rim of eye blue

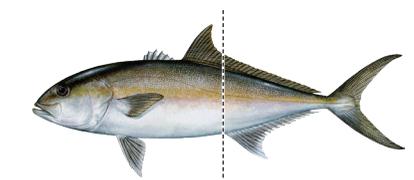


Caudal fin lobes elongated in adults

**Amberjacks (Greater, Lesser)**

Lesser Amberjack not pictured here. Lesser Amberjack grow up to 12 inches in length.

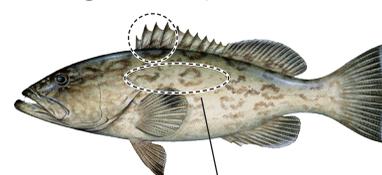
Dark band extends from nose to dorsal fin



Soft dorsal base and anal fin are closer in length than in banded rudderfish

**Gag Grouper**  
*Mycteroperca microlepis*

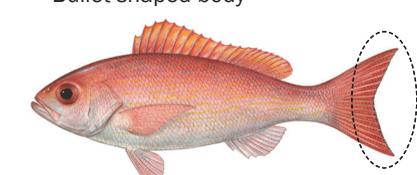
Webbing between spines is notched



Brownish gray in color with dark, worm-like markings

**Vermilion Snapper**  
*Rhomboplites aurorubens*

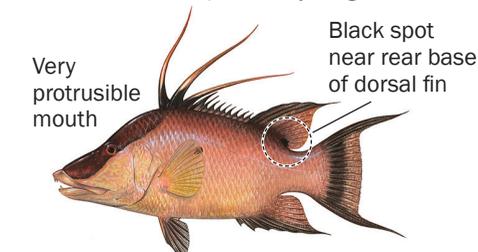
Bullet shaped body



Forked caudal fin

**Hogfish**  
*Lachnolaimus maximus*

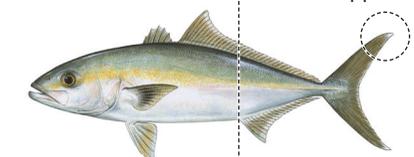
First 3 dorsal spines very long



Color varies by sex and age

**Banded Rudderfish**  
*Seriola zonata*

Tail-lobe often white tipped

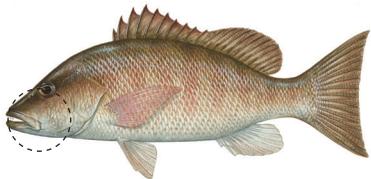


Anglers must also abide by all state and federal recreational seasons, size limits and bag limits.

# Species that **DO NOT** Require State Reef Fish Angler Designation

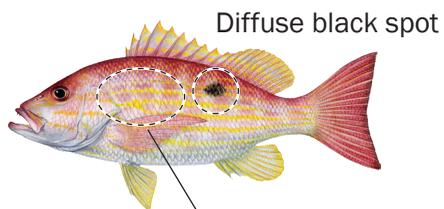
**Gray Snapper** *Lutjanus griseus*  
(Also called Mangrove Snapper or "Mangos")

Two conspicuous canine teeth



Offshore adults can be reddish in color  
(not as red as true Red Snapper)

**Lane Snapper**  
*Lutjanus synagris*

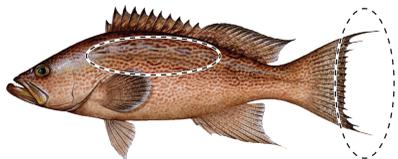


Diffuse black spot

Irregular pink and yellow lines

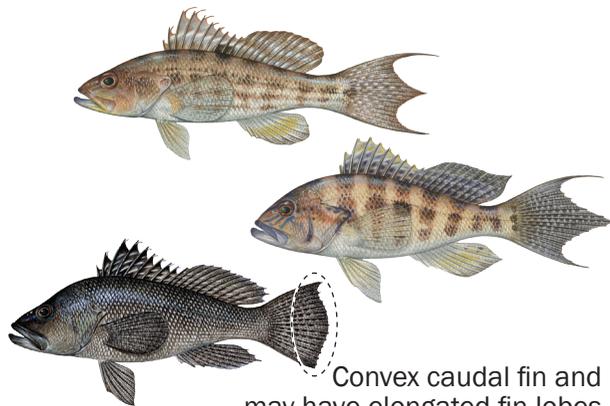
**Scamp**  
*Mycteroperca phenax*

Reddish brown spots



Elongated caudal fin rays

**Sea Bass (e.g., Rock, Bank and Black)**



Convex caudal fin and  
may have elongated fin lobes

**Grunts (e.g., White Grunt)**



**Porgies  
(e.g., Knobbed, Jolthead and Red)**



The State Reef Fish Angler designation may be obtained anywhere FWC saltwater fishing licenses are sold, including on GoOutdoorsFlorida.com, on the Fish | Hunt Florida mobile app, over the phone at 1-888-FISHFLORIDA (347-4356), or at tackle shops, sporting goods stores, and tax collectors' offices. To learn more about regulations or the State Reef Fish Survey, visit [MyFWC.com/SRFS](http://MyFWC.com/SRFS).



FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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# FLORIDA REEF FISH



Angler's Guide to the  
State Reef Fish Survey

May be mistaken for Red Snapper