

A SUMMARY OF MARINE FISHING LAWS AND REGULATIONS FOR THE GULF STATES*



**An unofficial compilation of marine fishing laws and regulations developed for the information and convenience of enforcement personnel. For definitive regulations contact the various agency enforcement personnel.*

The following is an unofficial compilation of existing laws and regulations for the Gulf States. It was compiled by endorsement personnel of the Gulf States specifically for their information and convenience. The information is current as of September 28, 1980 but changes may occur in each state at any time. For definitive endorsement regulations in each state contact the endorsement personnel listed on the separate state page.

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTACTS

Major Donald S. Waller
Fisheries Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources
Marine Fisheries Division

Colonel Tom Ellington
Florida Department of
Natural Resources

Major Tommy Cantine
Louisiana Department of
Wildlife and Fisheries

Mr. Don Angleton
Biology Department of
Wildlife, Fisheries & Game
Bureau of Marine Resources

Captain Jim Robertson
Game Wards and Wildlife
Department

Mr. Kenneth Norland
National Marine Fisheries
Service

prepared by

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

P.O. Box 700

Green Springs, Mississippi 38901

October 1980

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
SHRIMP	
Alabama	1
Florida	2
Louisiana	5
Mississippi	8
Texas	9
LIVE BAIT DEALERS	
Alabama	14
Florida	15
Louisiana	15
Mississippi	16
Texas	17
SHELLFISH - OYSTERS AND CLAMS	
Alabama	19
Florida	21
Louisiana	22
Mississippi	23
Texas	25
SHELLFISH - CRABS	
Alabama	27
Florida	27
Louisiana	28
Mississippi	29
Texas	29
SHELLFISH - LOBSTERS	
Florida	31
FINFISH	
Alabama	32
Florida	33
Louisiana	34
Mississippi	36
Texas	37
SALTWATER NETS	
Alabama	39
Florida	41
Louisiana	43
Mississippi	45
Texas	48
SEAFOOD BUSINESS LICENSES	
Alabama	49
Florida	49
Louisiana	49
Mississippi	50
Texas	50
FISHING REGULATIONS FOR GULF OF MEXICO	
FEDERAL WATERS.	51
MAPS	
Alabama	56
Florida	57
Louisiana	58
Mississippi	59
Texas	60
National Marine Fisheries Service	61

OFFICE COPY ONLY



A SUMMARY OF MARINE FISHING LAWS AND REGULATIONS FOR THE GULF STATES

SHRIMP

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
Commercial License	AL	<p>Commercial Shrimp Boats</p> <p>Under 30' - \$51.00</p> <p>30' - 45' - \$76.00</p> <p>Over 45' - \$101.00</p> <p>(Non-residents pay the same fee as that charged Alabama residents in the applicant's state of residence - except for reciprocal state, Mississippi. Non-resident licenses are sold only by Marine Resources Division offices)</p>
Recreational License		<p>\$16.00 boat license. (Non-residents pay the same fee as that charged Alabama residents in the applicant's state of residence - except for reciprocal state, Mississippi.)</p>
Commercial Season		<p>Set by regulation.</p>
Recreational Season		<p>Prohibited in areas closed to commercial shrimping and permanently closed areas. Shrimping is allowed throughout the year in Dauphin Island Bay and Terry Cove.</p>
Commercial Gear Limitations		<p>No restrictions on mesh size. In inside waters (bays, sounds, etc.) a trawl or trawls used together cannot exceed 50' as measured along the main top line. No more than two trawls may be used at the same time (not including a try trawl, which cannot exceed 10' on the main top line). No restrictions on trawl size offshore (Gulf of Mexico). Webbing or netting shall not be hung, tied or otherwise connected between the rear of the trawl board or door and the adjacent wing</p>

line or between the top leg line and bottom leg line of any trawl so as to extend the width of any trawl or trawls over the legal width (50').

No restrictions on trawl size offshore (Gulf of Mexico).

Recreational
Gear
Limitations

Trawl size not to exceed 16' as measured along the main top line. There are no restrictions on mesh size.

Commercial
Legal Size

Shrimp smaller in size than 68 count are not to be taken in Alabama waters.

Recreational
Legal Size

In areas open to commercial shrimping, shrimp must be 68 count heads-on. No restrictions in Dauphin Island Bay and Terry Cove.

Commercial
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

In areas open to commercial shrimping, 25 pounds per person per day. In Dauphin Island Bay and Terry Cove, 5 pounds per boat per day.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

Commercial
License

FL

Saltwater Products License (SPL) is required to engage in trapping stone crabs, blue crabs, the harvest of crawfish, commercial trawling for shrimp and non-resident sponge fishing. SPL are issued in the name of an individual or a valid boat registration number. An SPL is required to sell saltwater products (your harvest) and can only be sold to a licensed wholesale dealer.

Resident individual - \$50.00
Non-resident - \$200.00
Alien individual - \$300.00
Resident vessel - \$100.00
Non-resident vessel - \$400.00
Alien vessel - \$600.00

(Note: Vessel SPL covers captain and crew on board vessel).

Recreational
License

All non-resident recreational shrimp fishermen must have a current SPL. Resident using a net 16' or less requires net registration and are limited to 25 pounds aboard vessel.

Commercial
Season

Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties:
In Escambia Bay and above a line running east from Robinson Point in Blackwater Bay and east of a line running north across Alexon Point in East Bay, season is closed from January 1 through September 15. All bayous in Escambia County, from Brooks Bridge at Fort Walton Beach west to the Bob Sikes Bridge, and those parts of Five Mile Bayou, west of the bridge of State Road 85 crossing Garnier's Bayou are closed to shrimping. During open seasons, shrimping is allowed only during the hours of 6:00 am until 9:00 pm daily.

Franklin and Wakulla Counties: All areas north of the Gorrie Memorial Bridge are permanently closed. From April 1 to June 15, the area from Cape San Blas to Cape St. George, 3 miles seaward, is closed to nets exceeding 18' on the cork line. From March 1 to May, shrimping is prohibited in designated waters adjacent to Wakulla County. From July 15 to September 15, the Apalachicola Bay and St. Vincent Sound are closed during the daylight hours. Shrimping is closed in a portion of the Carrabelle River west and north of State Road 30 and in that portion of

the Ochlockonee Bay west of State Road 30 all year.

Citrus, Pasco and Hernando Counties:
Shrimping in designated areas during designated dates is prohibited.

Taylor, Dixie and Levy Counties: Shrimping prohibited within designated areas with nets exceeding 35' on cork line or boats exceeding 35' in length.

Lee County: Shrimping prohibited within a designated area.

Tortugas Shrimp Bed: Shrimping prohibited except for live bait shrimping under permit.

Florida East Coast Shrimp Bed: Night shrimping prohibited September through May.

Recreational
Season

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply. Non-commercial trawls 16 ft. or less are required to be registered with the Department. Under this net or trawl registration no more than 25 lbs of shrimp can be possessed while on the water. An SPL is required if these conditions are not met.

Commercial
Gear
Limitations

Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties:
One net up to 45' on the cork line or two 22 1/2' nets on the cork line may be used on a boat. Leg lines cannot exceed 8' on the cork and lead lines. One try net up to 10' may be used; no cutbacks allowed on the try net. Mesh size must be a minimum of 1 1/2". Mesh is measured from the inside of one knot to the inside of the other knot. One chaffing gear is allowed per net and this may not be tied off. No inside liners may be utilized.

Bay County: Estuarine shrimping is restricted to one 45' net or two 22 1/2' nets, cork line measurements. Leg line cannot exceed 8'.

Gulf County: Within Joe Bay, shrimp nets are restricted to one 60' or two 30' nets. Mesh size must be 1 5/8" or larger.

Franklin and Wakulla Counties: Net cannot exceed 50' in length in inside waters. Mesh size must be 1" bar or 2" stretch mesh in bays and sounds. In outside waters, there are no restrictions on length, mesh or size of net, except between Cape St. George and Cape San Blas from April 1 through June 15.

Recreational
Gear
Limitations

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Legal
Size

The taking or possession of shrimp size smaller than 47 count heads-on or 70 count heads-off except in Apalachicola Bay and between the Apalachicola and Choctawhatchee Rivers where the count is 55 heads-on is prohibited.

Recreational
Legal
Size

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

16' nets that are registered limited to 25 pounds.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

Commercial
License

LA

All Commercial Shrimp Fishermen must purchase the following licenses:

Commercial Fisherman

Resident - \$55.00

Non-resident - \$400.00

Vessel

Resident - \$15.00

Non-resident - \$60.00

Gear

Resident Shrimp Trawl - \$25.00 per trawl

Non-resident Shrimp Trawl - \$100.00 per trawl

Resident Butterfly - \$25.00 per net

Non-resident Butterfly - \$100.00 per net

No fee is required for use of a test trawl when used with another trawl for which the gear fee has been paid, maximum test trawl 16'.

Recreational
License

Shrimp trawls 16' or less must be licensed. 100 pounds, heads on, per boat, per day is the maximum limit.

Gear types and fees are as follows:

Shrimp Trawls (resident) - \$25.00 per trawl not exceeding 16' in length.

Shrimp Trawls (non-resident) - \$50.00 per trawl not exceeding 16' in length.

You must purchase a basic sports fishing license to obtain a recreational gear license.

Commercial
Season

In state inside waters, the Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year based upon biological and technical data. No open season shall begin on a Sunday.

In state outside waters, season will be set by Commission based upon biological and technical data.

Recreational
Season

Same as commercial season.

Commercial
Gear
Limitations

Trawls cannot have a mesh size less than 5/8" bar or 1 1/4" stretched. In state inside waters, trawls must be 50' or less along the

cork line and 66' along the lead line and limited to one trawl plus one test trawl, or pull no more than two 25' trawls with lead lines no longer than 33' and have trawl doors that do not exceed 6' in length and 34" in height and a test trawl not to exceed 16' along the cork line or 20' along the lead line, except in Breton and Chandeleur Sound where you may pull up to two trawls of 65' or less along the cork line and 82' along the lead line plus one test trawl. There are no size limits on trawls in state outside waters, but there can be no more than four trawls.

Any butterfly net located in West or East Pass of the Calcasieu River or in Oyster Bayou shall be tagged with a tag listing the fisherman's name, address and butterfly net license number.

Recreational
Gear
Limitations

Trawls cannot have a mesh size less than 5/8" bar or 1 1/4" stretched. Trawls must be 16' or less.

Commercial
Legal Size

There is a general rule that says you may not catch or possess both aboard the vessel or seafood house any saltwater white shrimp that average more than 100 per pound, unless you have legal documentation that they were taken in another state or country. There are no count restrictions on any shrimp during the spring open season. There are no count restrictions on sea bobs taken in state outside waters during any season. There are no count restrictions on bait shrimp.

Recreational
Legal Size

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

100 pounds per day per vessel.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Commercial License	MS	<p>Shrimp Boat under 30'</p> <p>Resident - \$50.00</p> <p>Non-resident* - \$100.00</p> <p>Louisiana - \$360.00 1 net; \$460.00 2 nets</p> <p>Shrimp Boat 30-45'</p> <p>Resident - \$75.00</p> <p>Non-resident* - \$150.00</p> <p>Louisiana - \$360.00 1 net; \$460.00 2 nets</p> <p>Shrimp Boat over 45'</p> <p>Resident - \$100.00</p> <p>Non-resident* - \$200.00</p> <p>Louisiana - \$360.00 1 net; \$460.00 2 nets</p> <p>*A non-resident will pay the same fee for a license that a Mississippi resident is charged as a non-resident. This applies only if the fee is more than the non-resident fees listed.</p>
Recreational License		<p>Resident - \$15.00</p> <p>Non-resident - \$30.00</p>
Commercial Season		<p>Trawling is prohibited north of the Intracoastal Waterway after sunset of December 31, except by licensed live bait dealers. Shrimp season is officially opened by public notice at such a time that the Bureau of Marine Resources, Division of Saltwater Fisheries has determined that the shrimp have reached legal size (statistically probable in the second week of June).</p> <p>Additionally, the area south of the Intracoastal Waterway will be closed after April 30 of each year and prior to the opening of the season for shrimp.</p>
Recreational Season		<p>All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.</p>
Commercial Gear Limitations		<p>Shrimp may be taken in any manner south of a line formed by the barrier islands of Cat, Ship, Horn and Petit Bois. North of</p>

this line (within Mississippi Sound) shrimp may only be taken with a single net measuring no larger than 50' on the cork line and 60' along the lead line. A test (or try) trawl no larger than 12' on the cork line and 15' along the lead line used with boards no more than 30' in length is permitted in addition.

In addition, the wings of push-nets (chopsticks) may not be attached to the rigid supports or poles for a distance greater than 24' on each side.

**Recreational
Gear
Limitations**

Holder of a recreational shrimping license are limited to the use of a single net measuring no larger than 16' on the cork line.

**Commercial
Legal Size**

Shrimp smaller than 68-count are not to be taken.

**Recreational
Legal Size**

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

**Commercial
Pounds
Allowed**

No limit.

**Recreational
Pounds
Allowed**

No limit.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES

**Commercial
License**

TX

Resident General Commercial Fisherman - \$15.00 -- Required for any resident who catches edible aquatic products except oysters from state waters for the purpose of sale, barter or exchange or any other commercial purpose.

Non-Resident General Commercial Fisherman - \$100.00 -- Required for anyone who has not been a resident of the state for at least 6 months.

Bay Shrimp Boat - \$80.00 -- Required for each boat required to be registered under federal or state laws, used in inside major bay waters for taking shrimp or other edible aquatic products for pay, barter, sale or exchange. This license is issued only in January and February of each year and expires March 1 of the following year.

Non-Resident Bay Shrimp Boat - \$320.00

Gulf Shrimp Boat - \$100.00 -- Required for each boat required to be registered under federal or state laws, used in the Gulf or outside waters for taking shrimp or other edible aquatic products for pay, barter, sale or exchange or for boats unloading within the state such products taken outside the state's waters.

Non-Resident Gulf Shrimp Boat - \$200.00

The captain and each paid member of the crew of boats having a Commercial Shrimp Boat License must have a Resident General or Non-resident General Commercial Fisherman's License which may be purchased in the name of the boat. The fee for this license is \$15.00 per crew member for residents and \$100.00 per crew member for non-residents.

Recreational
License

Resident Sportfishing License - \$8.00

Non-Resident Sportfishing License - \$15.00

Saltwater Sportfishing Stamp - \$5.00

Individual Bait Shrimp Trawl Tag - \$15.00

Commercial
Season Inside
Major Bays

Spring open season in "major bays" is from May 15 to July 15, days only, from 30 minutes before sunrise to 2:00 pm.

Fall open season in "major bays" is from August 15 to December 15, days only, from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

Winter open season in "major bays" south of the Colorado River, nights only, 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.

Commercial
Season - Gulf

The "outside waters" within 7 fathoms are closed to night shrimping (30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise) throughout the year. The "outside waters" are closed from 30 minutes after sunset on May 15 to 30 minutes after sunset on July 15. The closing and opening dates of this season may be changed by the Parks and Wildlife Commission or the Executive Director to provide for an earlier or later season. The closing date may be changed with a 72-hour public notice and the season may be reopened with a 24-hour public notice. The "outside waters" within 7 fathoms are closed from December 16-February 1, both days inclusive. Seabobs may be taken in this closed season only during daylight hours and only by commercial gulf shrimp boats. The catch taken in this period may not include more than 10 percent by weight or numbers of shrimp of other species.

Recreational
Season

Season same as commercial shrimp season.

Commercial
Gear
Limitations

All trawl mesh, including bags, must not be less than 8 3/4" in length between the two most widely separated knots in any consecutive series of five stretched meshes after the net or bag has been placed in use in the fall bay season and Gulf. During the spring bay season and winter bay season trawl mesh must not be less than 6 1/2" in length between the two most widely separated knots in any consecutive series of five stretched meshes.

Trawl size must meet the following specifications:

Gulf - No width restriction except during the winter closed season. During the winter closed season no more than one trawl not exceeding 25' in width and with a mesh size no larger than 5 stretched meshes in 6 1/2"

may be used to take seabobs within 7 fathoms. A try net not exceeding 21' in width as measured along an uninterrupted corkline from leading tip of door to leading tip of door and the doors or boards may not exceed 450 square inches, or a beam trawl not exceeding 10' in width may also be used.

Fall Bay Season - Net may not exceed 95' in width measured from leading tip of door to leading tip of door along the uninterrupted corkline.

Spring Bay and Winter Bay Season - Trawl measured from leading tip of door to leading tip of door.

<u>Doors</u>	<u>Trawl</u>	<u>Doors</u>	<u>Trawl</u>
3'-4'	40'	4'-5'	42'
5'-6'	44'	6'-7'	46'
7'-8'	48'	8'-9'	50'
9'-10'	52'	10' or more	54'

A beam trawl used as a main trawl may not exceed 25' in total width.

Recreational Gear Limitations

Trawl may not exceed 20' in width measured from back of door to back of door, mesh must be at least 8 3/4" in length between the two most widely separated knots in any consecutive series of 5 stretched meshes.

Commercial Legal Size

There are no size restrictions except in Major Bay waters from August 15 to October 31 when the legal count is 50 heads-on per pound during the fall open season.

Recreational Legal Size

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial Pounds Allowed

In Gulf (outside waters), no limit on pounds taken. In inside waters, no limit during fall open season and winter open season; no more than 600 pounds of any size heads-on

shrimp per boat per day may be taken during
the spring open season.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

Gulf (outside waters) - 100 pounds per day.
Inside waters - 15 pounds during fall and
spring open seasons.

LIVE BAIT

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License	AL	Sell live shrimp for bait and operate one boat or one truck - \$51.00 Sell live shrimp for bait and operate two boats or two trucks - \$101.00 (Limit two boats or trucks per dealer.)
Season		No closed season. Prohibited in permanently closed areas.
Gear		One trawl per boat. Trawl shall not exceed 16' as measured across main top line. No mesh restrictions. Boats shall display the words "LIVE BAIT" in letters no smaller than 6" high on each side of the boat; shall have a tank with a spray system operated by a pump or commercial fish aerator, or a live well with forced water exchange.
Legal Size		No restrictions.
Pounds Allowed		No restrictions on live shrimp. Dead shrimp not to exceed 15 pounds with head on per boat at any time.
Restrictions		Drags shall not exceed 20 consecutive minutes before retrieving trawl and sorting bait shrimp into the live tank. Shrimp can be sold only when alive or with heads attached.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License	FL	SPL required. In St. Johns River (Duval County) a live bait production license (\$50.00) is required.
Season		All year.

Gear	All live bait shrimp boats must be equipped with live bait shrimp tanks. <u>St. Johns River - Duval County.</u> Net cannot exceed 60' perimeter measurement. Live bait tank required.
Legal Size	No restrictions.
Pounds Allowed	No more than 50 pounds of dead shrimp under the count size classification will be allowed on board in Taylor, Dixie, Levy, Citrus, Hernando and Pasco Counties. In all other counties no more than 5 pounds of dead shrimp are allowed on board.
Restrictions	Information not available.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License	LA	<p>Live bait dealers controlled by commission action. Persons allowed to take live shrimp for sale as bait must have a proper trawling license and post \$1,000 bond with LDWF.</p> <p>Persons desiring to catch own bait may catch shrimp with cast nets, bait traps, dip nets (up to 3' diameter and hand operated), seines (less than 100' and foot operated). A basic sports fishing license is required to take bait with a cast net.</p>
Season		During the closed seasons, bait shrimp may be taken in state inside waters, but only with cast nets, bait traps, dip nets (diameter of no more than 3' and hand operated) or seines less than 100 feet in length with no mechanical devices.
Gear		Trawls cannot have a mesh size less than 5/8" bar or 1 1/4" stretched. However, during closed seasons when seine nets are used, the

bait seine must be 1/4" mesh or less.
Permitted trawls cannot exceed 25' in length.

Legal Size

No restrictions.

**Pounds
Allowed**

No dead shrimp allowed in possession while trawling and operating under permit; dead shrimp may be sold at place of business in lots not exceeding 48 ounces for bait only.

Restrictions

During the closed season, no bait shrimp may be taken in state waters with a butterfly net or trawl. A qualified bait dealer may get a special permit to take bait shrimp with a trawl not larger than 25' during the closed season between the spring and fall seasons.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

License

MS

Live Bait Dealer - \$50.00
Live Bait Boat - \$50.00

Season

Live bait trawling is permitted only during the hours between 30 minutes prior to official sunrise and sunset; areas are not opened to live bait shrimp until shrimp average at least 100 count.

Gear

Trawls cannot be larger than 16' on the cork line.

Legal size

No restrictions.

**Pounds
Allowed**

No more than 30 pounds of dead shrimp allowed on board at any time.

Restrictions

Live bait dealers must mark their boats with the words "LIVE BAIT" in letters no smaller than 6" high on the port and starboard sides of the boat. The name of the bait camp must be similarly displayed. Fish caught coincidental to a live bait operation may be retained and sold for chum; however, if crabs

are to be kept, the dealer is also required to hold a valid Mississippi Crab License. Live bait camps must meet the following special requirements: each camp must have adequate holding and aerating systems which must be cleaned of dead shrimp at least every 12 hours; no bulk sales of dead shrimp are permitted; dead shrimp may be sold only with heads on and in containers of 16 oz. or smaller. Someone must be readily available to serve customers during appropriate hours and each live bait-dealer application must include these hours, at least eight per 24 hour period.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
License	TX	<p>Bait Shrimp Dealer - \$60.00 -- Required for any person engaging in the business of selling shrimp for bait in a coastal county.</p> <p>Bait Shrimp Boat - \$80.00 -- Required for any boat used in the inside or bay waters of the state for taking bait shrimp for sale.</p> <p>Non-Resident Bait Shrimp Boat - \$320.00</p>
Season		<p>Open year round:</p> <p>Legal shrimping hours - 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset from July 16 through May 14; and 30 minutes before sunrise to 2:00 pm from May 15 through July 15.</p> <p>There is a special commercial bait season and legal hours in the Laguna Madre in Nueces County. Check with the Parks and Wildlife Department for information.</p>
Gear		<p>Mesh: not less than 6 1/2" over 5 stretched meshes. Trawl width (measured from leading tip of door to leading tip of door):</p>

<u>Doors</u>	<u>Width</u>	<u>Doors</u>	<u>Width</u>
3'-4'	40'	4'-5'	42'
5'-6'	44'	6'-7'	46'
7'-8'	48'	8'-9'	50'
9'-10'	52'	10' & over	54'

A beam trawl used as a main trawl may not exceed 25' in total width.

Legal Size

No restrictions.

**Pounds
Allowed**

No more than 200 pounds heads-on shrimp per day may be taken from inside waters by commercial bait boats.

Restrictions

50% of commercial bait shrimp on board the boat must be kept in a live condition except from August 16 through November 15.

SHELLFISH - OYSTERS AND CLAMS

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs</u>
License Requirements	AL	<p>All licenses expire September 30th of each year.</p> <p>Persons are allowed to take up to 100 oysters for personal consumption without a Catcher's License.</p> <p>Commercial Oyster Catcher - \$26.00 -- Required by all persons (must be in possession) taking oysters for commercial purposes.</p> <p>Resident Seafood Dealer - \$126.00 -- Required by any person, firm or corporation opening oysters for resale. Oysters may be opened for resale only on premises certified by the AL Department of Public Health.</p> <p>-- Required by any person, firm or corporation wholesaling or retailing oysters, whether shucked or in the shell (except grocery stores or restaurants who purchase oysters for resale from licensed Alabama seafood dealer.</p> <p>-- Required by any person, firm, corporation or association before engaging in the retail sale of oysters in or out of the shell (except canned processed oysters) from any vehicle.</p> <p>Nonresidents pay the same fee as that charged Alabama residents to conduct the same activity in the applicant's state of residence; provided, that nonresidents shall not pay less than twice the cost for said license as that charged Alabama residents.</p> <p>Oyster Dredge - \$26.00 -- Required before an oyster dredge can be used along with evidence that a \$1,000 bond has been secured.</p>

Seasons

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Department of Public Health are authorized to open and close areas during all or parts of the year. Taking oysters from a closed area for any reason is a misdemeanor. Taking oysters from open areas before sunrise or after 4:00 pm is prohibited. Transporting oysters at night through closed areas is prohibited.

Gear

Oysters may be taken from public reefs and waterbottoms by hand or oyster tongs. Oyster dredges may be used only by owners or lessees of private oyster reefs only after purchasing an Oyster Dredge License, posting a \$1000 bond and receiving written authorization from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Size Limits

Oysters taken for either commercial or personal consumption must be at least 3" in length (5% undersize tolerance).

Limits

Oysters must be culled on the reef where they are taken. Unlawful to take or have in possession more than 8 sacks of oysters per boat per day. Unlawful to land any oysters for commercial purposes which have not been sacked in this manner.

Leases

Persons, firms or corporations desiring to lease oyster bottoms shall make application in writing to the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed. It is the duty of each lessee to have established an accurate survey by a registered surveyor of the bottoms, beds or reefs under his control, and each corner shall be clearly marked and defined with the lessee's name clearly attached. Intermediate markers shall be placed and plat of the area filed with the division of marine resources

together with a list of any persons using said lease area (list must be updated every 30 days).

Restrictions

It is unlawful to drag any seines over the public reefs or private oyster grounds. Oysters taken commercially must be sacked and each sack tagged before landing. Tags may be purchased for \$0.25/each at Marine Resources Division offices.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License Requirements	FL	<p>Oysters and clams can only be harvested from approved shellfish harvesting areas.</p> <p>Oyster Harvesting License -- Required for Apalachicola Bay only. Resident - \$100.00 Non-resident and Alien - \$500.00</p> <p>Oyster Relaying Permit - No Charge.</p> <p>Oyster Leases - \$5.00/acre</p>
Seasons		Season is closed between June 1 and September 1 of each year except in Apalachicola Bay.
Gear		Dredges may be used for harvesting oysters or clams on private leases after posting a \$3000 bond and securing a Special Activity License.
Size Limits		Minimum size for oysters is 3". Minimum size for clams is 1" thick.
Limits		Bag limits are established in certain areas of the state for oysters.
Leases		Information available from FDNR.
Restrictions		Oysters and clams can only be harvested from an approved shellfish harvesting area.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs</u>
License Requirements	LA	<p>All commercial oyster fishermen must purchase the following licenses:</p> <p>Commercial Fisherman Resident - \$55.00 Non-resident - \$400.00</p> <p>Vessel Resident - 15.00 Non-resident - \$60.00</p> <p>Oyster Harvester License Resident - \$100.00 Non-resident - \$400.00</p> <p>Required of each person on board oyster harvesting vessel except Louisiana residents 16 years of age or under, and except the spouse of a vessel's owner while on that vessel.</p> <p>Gear Resident Oyster Tongs - \$30.00/tong Non-resident Oyster Tongs - \$240.00/tong Resident Oyster Dredge - \$25.00/dredge Non-resident Oyster Dredge - \$200.00/dredge</p>
Seasons		<p>Designated when open by commission action, natural reefs may be fished from the first Wednesday after Labor Day through April 1 of each year.</p>
Gear		<p>Oysters may be taken from public oyster beds by dredges, scrapers and tongs -- except in Calcasieu and Sabine Lakes where tongs only are allowed. Dredges and scrapers used shall be no longer than 6' in width measured along the tooth bar. The dredge teeth shall be no longer than 5" in length and there shall be no more than seven dredges in use on one vessel.</p>

Size Limits

All oysters taken from natural reefs must be over 3" in length from hinge to mouth. A lessee of private oyster grounds may take any size oysters from his grounds for commercial purposes.

Limits

No more than 10 1/2 bushel sacks per boat per day may be taken from Calcasieu and Sabine Lakes only; unlimited elsewhere for commercial. Recreational - two sacks per boat per day may be taken without a license if oysters are taken for personal consumption and taken by hand. You may purchase a recreational tong license for \$5.00 but are limited to two sacks per boat, per day, for your own consumption.

Leases

Any person who qualifies and who desires to lease a part of the bottom or bed of any of the waters shall present to the Secretary (of LDWF) a written application and cash deposit of such amount as is determined by the Department. Lessees, under supervision of the LDWF, shall stake off and mark the leased water bottoms in order to locate accurately and fix the limits of the water bottoms embraced in each lease. Areas shall also be prominently marked with signs which state the lease number and name or initials of the lessee.

Restrictions

No person shall trawl or seine over any privately leased bedding ground or oyster propagating place which is staked off, marked, or posted as required by law or regulation.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs

License
Requirements

MS

Tonging
Resident - \$50.00
Non-resident - \$100.00
Louisiana - \$1100.00

Dredging

Resident - \$100.00

Non-resident - \$200.00

Louisiana - \$1060.00

Recreational

Resident - \$10.00

Non-resident - \$10.00

Seasons

Season is regulated by Legal Notice of the Commission on Wildlife Conservation, and notice thereof will be duly published in local newspapers and released to both the radio and television media. During open season, oysters may be taken only during daylight hours.

Gear

Oysters may be taken by any of the traditional methods of oystering in the State of Mississippi, that is, by hand (cooning), with tongs, or by using a hand dredge. Dredges for oystering may not exceed 115 pounds in weight nor may they have in excess of 16 teeth. Restrictions on the maximum number of dredges carried will be established seasonally by the Commission on Wildlife Conservation. Oysters for personal consumption may be taken by hand (cooning) or with tongs.

Size Limits

Oysters taken in state waters must be at least 3" long (at the greatest length of the shell). At times, however, the Bureau may decrease this limit upon Public Notice to that effect.

Limits

Commercial dredging limits are to be set and tonging limits are set seasonally. Recreational catch limit is three sacks/week.

Leases

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife Conservation, Bureau of Marine Resources conducts a program of oyster leasing. Any resident of the state may lease state

waterbottoms for the purpose of oyster culture. Oysters taken from private lease areas must be so designated by tags indicating the official leased number issued by the BMR.

Restrictions

Oysters may be taken only from those waters approved for shellfish harvest by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. The harvesting, shucking, processing and sale of oysters must also conform to all regulations specified by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. Following heavy rains, natural reefs and leased areas may be temporarily closed. Such closures are published in local newspapers and released to local television and radio media. Oysters taken from state waters must be tagged. Oysters taken from other than state waters must be accompanied by a Bill of Lading indicating the point of origin. Oysters taken for personal consumption must also be inspected; and a tag will be issued for each sack. Such tags will identify that the contents are not to be sold.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs

License
Requirements

TX

Resident Commercial Oyster Boat License - \$350.00.
Non-resident Commercial Oyster Boat License - \$1400.00.
Required for each boat used to transport or for taking oysters for pay or for the purpose of sale, barter or exchange or any other commercial purpose from the public waters of this state by utilizing a dredge, tongs or other mechanical means. May be purchased only during the month of August.

Seasons

Season is open from November 1 through April 30 except in that part of the Laguna Madre

south of the Port Mansfield Channel and all private leases with permits from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department where there is no closed season. During open season oysters may be taken only from sunrise to sunset.

Gear

Oyster dredges not more than 48" in width across the mouth and of not more than two-barrel capacity may be used or possessed on board any boat in public waters. Commercial vessels may not have more than two dredges on board. Only one dredge may be used at any one time.

Size Limits

Minimum size for oysters is 3". Oysters 3/4" to 3" are to be culled and returned to reef from which taken. Provided, however, that each cargo may contain not more than 15% of oysters of this size.

Limits

Commercial boats are limited to not more than 50 barrels of legal size oysters. Not more than two barrels of uncultured oysters are permitted on board while fishing on a reef.

Leases

Leases are granted to individuals upon approval of Coastal Fisheries Division.

Restrictions

Oysters may be taken only from waters approved by the State Commissioner of Health.

SHELLFISH - CRABS

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs</u>
Licenses	AL	Commercial - \$51.00 (over 5 traps). Recreational - No license (5 traps maximum) Traps/boats must display identifying markings. (Non-residents pay the same fee as that charged Alabama residents to conduct the same activity in the applicant's state of residence, or not less than twice the amount of resident license.)
Restrictions		It shall be unlawful to set or place any trap used for the taking of crabs within 100 yards of any marked navigational channel or public boat launching ramp. Traps shall not exceed 27 cubic feet in volume. It is unlawful to take crabs from traps belonging to another without written authorization. Each commercial crab trap shall be marked with at least one buoy no smaller than 6" in diameter. At least 1/2 of the buoy shall be white. It is unlawful to remove commercial crab traps from the water or remove crabs from commercial crab traps during the hours from sunset to 1 hour before sunrise the following day.
Legal Size		It shall be unlawful to sell for commercial purposes blue crabs that measure less than 5" in width as measured across the widest points of the upper shell. Provided, however, this limitation does not apply to soft-shelled crabs or crabs sold for use as bait.

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs</u>
Licenses	FL	An SPL is required to engage in the trapping of stone crabs and to fish with more than five blue crab traps. Saltwater Products License -- Required by the fisherman to sell any saltwater product and

allows sale only to a licensed wholesale dealer.

Restrictions

Stone crab claws season is closed between May 15 and October 15.

Legal Size

Hardshell blue crabs must be 5" in width if sold. Stone crab claws must have 2 3/4" forearm length.

CATEGORIES

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES

Licenses

LA

Resident Recreational Crab Trap - \$10.00
Non-resident Recreational Crab Trap - \$20.00
-- Required for use of no more than 10 traps.
Resident Recreational Crab Trap - Attached to a trotline (up to 10 traps) - \$1.00/trap
Non-resident Recreational Crab Trap - Attached to a trotline (up to 10 traps) - \$2.00/trap
Resident Commercial Crab Trap - Attached to a trotline (up to 25 traps) - \$1.00/trap
Non-resident Commercial Crab Trap - Attached to a trotline (up to 25 traps) - \$4.00/trap
Resident Commercial Crab Trap Gear License - \$25.00
Non-resident Commercial Crab Trap Gear License - \$100.00.
Resident Commercial Fisherman License - \$55.00
Non-Resident Commercial Fisherman License - \$400.00
Resident Vessel License - \$15.00
Non-Resident Vessel License - \$60.00

Restrictions

Taking adult female crabs in the so-called berry stage (or with eggs attached) is strictly prohibited, and if caught must be returned to the waters alive.

Legal Size

Hardshell blue crabs must be 5" in width, crabs less than 5 inches in width may be

taken for the purpose of producing soft crabs only. Soft shell blue crabs must be 4 1/2" in width.

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Licenses	MS	Commercial Crabbing Resident - \$75.00 Non-resident - \$200.00
Restrictions		Crabs may also be taken by trawl; however, the trawl must not exceed the maximum allowable dimensions specified for shrimp. All crabs incidentally caught in trawls must be immediately returned to the water unless the boat operator holds a valid state crab fishing license. Crab pots or traps must be visibly marked with the license number of the owner. All egg-bearing crabs caught south of the Intracoastal Waterway between the Gulfport Ship Channel and the MS/AL state line must be immediately returned to the water. No egg bearing crabs may be taken March 15 to May 1. It is illegal to remove crabs from traps for which one is not licensed. A valid crabbing license must be obtained when using in excess of six crab traps or whenever crabs caught are to be offered for sale.
Legal Size		5" point to point.

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Licenses	TX	General Commercial Fisherman -- Required for person who catches edible aquatic products except oysters from the waters of the state for pay or for the purpose of sale, barter or exchange. Resident - \$15.00 Non-resident - \$100.00

Saltwater Commercial Fishing Boat -- Required for boat (registered under federal or state laws) used in taking aquatic life except oysters and shrimp from the tidal waters of the state for pay, barter, sale or exchange.

Resident - \$10.50

Non-resident - \$60.00

Restrictions

It is unlawful to possess egg-bearing crabs or stone crabs. No person may buy or sell a female crab that has its abdominal apron detached and was taken from coastal waters. No more than 300 crab traps may be used by any person. Crab trap buoys must be marked with the owner's name, address, and date set out. Crab traps must be marked with an orange floating buoy not less than 6" in width. Crab traps may not exceed 18 cubic feet. Crab traps may be fished only in coastal waters.

Legal Size

Hardshell blue crabs must be 5" in carapace width. One claw may be removed from a stone crab and it must measure 2 1/2".

SHELLFISH - LOBSTERS

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Season	FL	August 6-March 31 for spiny lobster. Trap may be placed in the water five days prior to season. Traps must be removed from the water by April 5. There is a special two-day non-trap recreational spiny lobster season the last full weekend prior to August 1.
Gear		Wood slat traps and until April 1, 1993 plastic traps with a wood slat top panel. Trap can be no larger than 3' x 2' x 2' or equivalent.
Vessel and Gear Identification		Each trap must have a buoy or be attached to a trap trotline; all traps and buoys must have the trap number permanently affixed. Buoy numbers shall be at least 2" high. The buoy color and trap number must be displayed on boats working traps so as to be readily identifiable from both the air and water.
Size Restrictions		Spiny lobsters minimum size is more than 3" carapace or 5 1/2" tail measurement if separated from head. Separating the head from tail of lobster is prohibited in state waters.
Harvest Limitations		<p>Egg bearing lobsters must be returned to the water unharmed. The stripping of eggs or removal of the pleopods from the lobster is prohibited. The bag limit during the two-day recreational season is 6 spiny lobster per person per day.</p> <p>Recreational bag limit during regular season is 6 lobsters per person or 24 per boat whichever is greater.</p> <p>Traps worked during daylight hours only. The working of another's traps without written permission is prohibited.</p>

FINFISH

Size and Possession Limits for Alabama are as follows:

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Posses- sion</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
	<u>Recreational</u>				
AL	Speckled trout		10		Size limits same as commercial shown below
	Redfish		3		
	Red snapper		7		
	Snapper --				
	Gray				
	Mutton		10 ¹		
	Yellowtail				
	Spanish mackerel		10		
	King mackerel ²				
	Amberjack		3		
	Striped bass ³		6 ⁴		
	Black (gag) grouper		5 ⁴		

¹10 = ten fish in aggregate

²From June 6, 1990 through June 30, 1990, 1 fish per person per day, after which period the following shall apply: 2 for persons fishing on piers and private boats, and for persons fishing from charter boats, 3 excluding captain and crew.

³When caught in areas designated as salt water.

⁴5 = five fish in aggregate (groupers).

Commercial

Speckled trout	14 TL	
Red snapper	13 TL	
Redfish	16 TL	26 TL
Ling (Cobia)	37 TL	
Black (gag) grouper	20 TL	
Striped bass ¹	16 TL	
Florida pompano	12 TL	
Vermilion snapper	8 TL	
Lane snapper	8 TL	
Gray snapper	12 TL	
Mutton snapper	12 TL	
Yellowtail snapper	12 TL	

¹When caught in areas designated as salt water.

It is unlawful to sell speckled trout and red drum caught in state waters. No allowance for undersized fish, except: speckled trout - 2; redfish - 1 undersized fish allowed, 2 may exceed the maximum size IF bearing tags registered with the Marine Resources Division.

Size and Possession Limits for Florida are as follows:

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
FL	Amberjack	3		28	
	Blue fish			10	
	Black mullet			*	
	Bonefish	1	1	18	
	Clams			1" thick	
	Cobia			33 FL	
	Flounder			11	
	Grouper	5	5	20	
	Mackerel				
	King	2		12	
	Spanish	4		12	
	Pompano			9 1/2	
	Red drum	1	1	18	27
	Sea bass			8	
	**Snapper	10	10	12	
	***Snook	2	2	24	≤ 1 over 34
	Striped bass	6	6	15	
	Trout	10		14	24
	Billfish	1			
	Black drum	5		14	24
	****Tarpon	2			

*Black mullet minimum length - 11" commercial size limit.

**Red snapper 13", Schoolmaster 10", Gray 10" recreational and 12" commercial, Lane and Vermillion 8", all other Snapper 12".

***Snook closed season January, February, June, July and August.

****Tarpon - a \$50.00 tarpon tag required to harvest or kill a Tarpon.

Size and Possession Limits for Louisiana are as follows:

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
LA	<u>Recreational</u>				
	Speckled trout	25	25	12	
	Red drum	5	5	16	1 over 27
	Cobia				37 (33 FL)
	Black drum	5	5	16	1 over 27
	Red snapper	7	7	13	
	King mackerel	2*			
	Spanish mackerel	10			14 (12 FL)
		<u>Recreational daily bag and possession**</u>			
	Queen, mutton ¹ , schoolmaster, blackfin, cubera, gray ¹ , dog, mahogany gray, silk, yellow-tail snappers ¹ and wenchman	10 (in aggregate)		¹ 12	
	All grouper	5 (in aggregate)			
	Red, gag, black, yellowfin and nassau grouper			20	
	Lane and vermilion snapper			8	
	Jewfish			50	
	Greater amberjack	3		28 FL	
	Black seabass			8	

*On vessels permitted by the NMFS as a charter vessel under the Federal Fisheries Management Plan for the Coastal Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic, the limit is either 3 fish per person per trip excluding captain and crew, or 2 fish per person including captain and crew, whichever is greater.

**Charter vessels and headboats are allowed two daily bag limits on multi-day trips under two conditions: 1) the vessel has two licensed operators as required by the U.S. Coast Guard for trips of

over 12 hours; and 2) each passenger has in possession a receipt issued on behalf of the vessel that verifies the length of the trip.

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Posses- sion</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
LA	<u>Commercial</u>				
	Speckled trout			14	
	Sheepshead			10	
	Black drum			16	
	Spanish mackerel			14	
	Cobia			37	
	Greater amberjack			36 FL	

All Resident recreational fishermen shall purchase an annual Basic Fishing License for \$5.50. Licenses are available on May 1 and expire on June 30 of the following year.

All Non-residents must purchase a Basic Fishing License for \$15.50 for the period from July 1 through June 30 or a basic 7-day license for \$10.50.

Resident Hook and Line License - \$2.50

Resident Saltwater License - \$5.50

Non-resident Saltwater License - \$25.50

Non-resident Saltwater - 7 Day - \$15.50

Non-resident Combo - 2 Day - \$8.50 (No need for Basic Fishing License)

Sailfish, blue marlin, black marlin, striped marlin, hatchet marlin, and white marlin are game fish in Louisiana and may not be offered for sale.

All saltwater finfish except tuna, garfish, swordfish and sharks must be landed intact. All tuna, garfish, swordfish, and sharks possessed by a recreational fisherman shall not be skinned or scaled until set or put on shore from a vessel.

Size and Possession Limits for Mississippi are as follows:

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Posses- sion</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
	<u>Commercial</u>				
MS	Red drum			22 TL	1 over 30 TL
	Spotted seatrout			14 TL	
	Mullet			10 FL	
	Cobia	2	2	33 FL	
	Spanish mackerel			14 FL	
	Red snapper			13 TL	

All fish must be landed with heads and tails intact until delivered to the final destination.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell, offer for sale, barter, trade or purchase any red drum smaller than the minimum legal length established in Mississippi for red drum or red drum taken from the waters of the state of Mississippi during a closed commercial season for red drum. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell, offer for sale, barter, trade or purchase any red drum landed legally elsewhere and/or transported into or within the state of Mississippi without being accompanied by an affidavit from the regulating agency of the point of origin enumerating the number and total weight of red drum and stating that the red drum were legally landed; red drum raised on permitted aquaculture facilities must be accompanied by a Bill of Lading with the permit number and the name of the aquaculture facility indicated thereon.

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Posses- sion</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
	<u>Recreational</u>				
	Red drum*	3	3	22 TL	1 over 30 TL
	Spotted seatrout	25	75	≤ 5 under 14 TL	
	Cobia	2	3	33 FL	
	King Mackerel	2	2**		

All fish must be landed with the heads and tails intact until delivered to the final destination.

*The sale, offering for sale, purchase, barter or trade of red drum caught by saltwater sports fishermen is prohibited.

**Recreational fishermen fishing in charter boats can possess no more than 2 king mackerel per person on board, or no more than 3 fish per angler, exclusive of captain and crew, whichever is greater, for a single days catch.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Commercial License	TX	Resident General Commercial Fisherman - \$15.00 Non-resident General Commercial Fisherman - \$100.00 Resident Commercial Finfish - \$65.00 Non-resident Commerical Finfish - \$125.00 Commercial Boat License if Boat Used.
Recreational License		Resident Sportfishing License - \$8.00 Saltwater Sportfishing Stamp - \$5.00 Non-resident Sportfishing License - \$15.00

Size and Possession Limits for Texas saltwater species are as follows (All sizes are total length measurements):

<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
<u>Commercial</u>				
Black drum			14	30
Cobia			37	
Flounder			12	
Gafftopsail			14	
King mackerel	2	2	14	
Pompano			9	
Red snapper			13	
Sharks	5	5		
Sheepshead			12	
Spanish mackerel	3	3	14	

Recreational

Black drum	5	10	14	30
Cobia			37	
Flounder	20	40	12	
Gafftopsail catfish			14	
King mackerel*	2	2	14	
Marlin, blue			114	
Marlin, white			81	
Pompano, Florida			9	
Red drum	3	6	20	28
Red snapper			13	
Sailfish			76	
Sharks	5	5		
Sheepshead	5	10	12	
Snook	3	6	20	28
Spanish mackerel	3	3	14	
Spotted seatrout	10	20	15	
Striped bass	5	15	18	
Tarpon	1	1	48	

*No person may possess more than two king mackerel except the possession limit for persons on a licensed charter vessel is two king mackerel per person per trip for all persons on board, or three king mackerel per angler per trip exclusive of captain and crew, whichever is greater.

No person while actually fishing on the public waters of the state may have in his immediate possession any fish in excess of the daily bag limit.

Black bass, crappie, flathead catfish, hybrid striped bass, muskellunge, northern pike, red drum, sauger, snook, spotted seatrout, striped bass, tarpon, trout of the family Salmonidae, walleye, or white bass taken from Texas state waters may not be transported or possessed for the purpose of sale, offered for sale or purchased under any circumstances.

Billfish, except swordfish, may not be landed or possessed by the captain or crew of a commercial fishing vessel.

SALTWATER NETS

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

License

AL

Licenses expire September 30 of each year.

Recreational - Up to 300' - \$51.00

Resident Commercial - Up to 1200' - \$101.00

1201'-2400' - \$151.00

Non-resident - Up to 1200' - \$501.00

1201'-2400' - \$751.00

Non-resident - Up to 300' - pays the same fee as that charged Alabama resident to conduct same activity in applicant's state of residence; provided, non-residents pay no less than twice the cost for license that Alabama residents pay.

All nets and seines must be licensed except seines used for taking bait. Such seines shall not exceed 25' in length or 4' in depth. Two or more nets may be tied together and considered as one net. The total length of nets tied together must not exceed 2400' and are licensed based on total length when tied together. A license made out to an individual is not transferable, licensee must be present when net is in use. A seafood dealers license is also required if fish are sold to other than an Alabama seafood dealer. A license is not required for cast nets when used by Alabama residents.

Restrictions

Mesh size of seines over 25' in length must be at least 3/4" bar or 1 1/2" stretch mesh or larger. Mesh size of trammel and gill nets must be 1 3/8" bar or 2 3/4" stretch mesh or larger in all coastal waters except:

- 1) (a) Gill and trammel nets used in the Gulf from March 1 through October 31 must be 3 1/2" stretched mesh or larger. 2) In all areas designated as fresh waters

(generally all streams, creeks, rivers, etc. emptying into coastal saltwater bays and all bays north of the I-10 bridge) nets must be 3" bar (6" stretch) or larger, except in Delvan Bay, Grand Bay, and Polecat Bay, nets must be 1 3/8" bar (2 3/4" stretch) or larger.

NOTE: The use of nets in freshwater areas requires a separate \$10 license issued through the Game and Fish Division (626-5153) and all fish designated as "game fish" must be returned to the water alive regardless of where taken. 3) From June 15 through Labor Day of each year, gill and trammel nets are prohibited in the Gulf of Mexico within 150 yards of the Gulf beaches and Sand Island. 4) All nets except purse seines and seines 25' or less must have a tag attached bearing license number and name of licensee. 5) Gill and trammel nets are prohibited in Bon Secour Bay south of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway between November 1 and December 31 of each year. 6) Processing roe is prohibited aboard any boat or vessel. 7) No net of any type may be set within 100 yards above or below the mouth of any stream, bayou or river emptying into any salt waters of the state. 8) No net or seine may be used within 300' of any public boat ramp, man-made canal, public pier, marked navigational channel, or Little Lagoon Pass. Nets shall not extend more than one-half way across any river, stream, bayou or creek. Nets may not be used in any manner so as to prevent ingress or egress to or from any pier, dock or marina. 9) All nets used in salt and brackish water must be CONSTANTLY ATTENDED by the licensed operator. 10) Catch limits for king mackerel and Spanish mackerel do not apply to licensed commercial net fishermen; however, speckled trout and redfish have been designated as "game fish" and must be returned to the water if caught by any net or seine.

CATEGORYAGENCYREGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs

License

FL

Sarasota County Gill Net - \$300.00

Manatee County Gill Net - \$300.00

Pinellas County Gill Net - \$300.00

Pasco County Gill Net - \$300.00

Nassau County Gill Net - \$250.00

St. Johns County Beach Seine - \$250.00

All nets are required to be licensed with an SPL. SPL numbers must be attached to net.

Restrictions

Illegal Possession of Seines and Nets -- prohibits possession of any fishing seine or net in any county that the use is prohibited by law. Use of Purse Seines, Gill Nets and Pound Nets, etc. -- it is illegal to take food fish from within or without the waters of the state, with a purse seine, purse gill nets, or other net using rings or other devices on the lead line thereof, through which a purse line is drawn, or pound nets, or to take any food fish so taken for sale or shipment. Seines and Pocket Bunts -- in any county where seines are not prohibited on the open Gulf or Atlantic Ocean, such seines may have a pocket bunt on the middle of the seine of a mesh size less than that provided by law. Gill Nets -- where gill nets are not prohibited, such nets may be gathered, taken in or taken up by hand. No net may be pulled up on shore where seining is prohibited. Such nets may be gathered, taken in or taken up by power in the Gulf and Atlantic Ocean, except in Dade and Palm Beach Counties. A special activity license must be obtained for the use of gear and equipment for exploration of offshore fishery resources. Use of Gill Nets, Wing Nets and Similar Devices -- it is illegal to leave any gill net, wing net, or similar device unattended in Walton, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Franklin, Escambia, Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, Pinellas or Duval

Counties. All nets must have a light or lights so that any device can be seen by an approaching vessel.

Gill Nets, Wing Nets or similar devices must be marked with an SPL number. Any unattended gill nets, wing nets or similar devices in violation of this act may be summarily seized and destroyed. It is unlawful during the months of December, January, February and March to use any gill net or similar device in Volusia County in an area 500 yards wide, from a point 500 yards north of Turtle Mound, south to Feller's Dock. Use of Seine Nets in St. Johns County -- Only cast nets or recreational nets can be used in the saltwaters of St. Johns County and within 1/4 mile seaward of the beaches and coast, between May 1 and September 15 of each year and only cast nets and recreational nets can be used on Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays during the remainder of the year.

Only cast nets can be used in the following areas of St. Johns County and adjacent salt waters: 1) 1 mile radius of the center of Mantanzas Inlet Bridge. 2) In the waters of Salt Run, St. Augustine Inlet, Mantanzas River, North River or the ICW, or water adjacent to any of the aforementioned waters, lying north of Mickler-O'Connell Bridge, South of Vilano Beach Bridge across the ICW and inland of a line drawn from headland to headland across the mouth of St. Augustine Inlet. 3) On the Atlantic Ocean beaches and beach areas, within 1 mile north and south of the center of St. Augustine Inlet, and within 1 mile seaward of such beaches, and a line drawn from headland to headland across the mouth of the St. Augustine Inlet. 4) On the Atlantic Ocean beaches and beach areas, within 2 miles north and 2 miles south of the center of St. Augustine Beach Pier, and

within 1 mile seaward of such beaches and beach areas.

The use of seines is prohibited in the salt waters of St. Johns County, within 1 mile seaward of the beaches and coast, exceeding 1300' in length or having mesh less than 2 1/2". Only recreational nets can be used in the salt waters of St. Johns County or within 1 mile seaward of the Atlantic Ocean beaches and coast without a \$250.00 permit. Such permit entitles the holder to use no more than one seine or net at any time. Said permit required to be in the holder's possession when the net is in use.

Recreational Nets - In St. Johns County a seine or similar net not exceeding 100' in length, with mesh not smaller than 2 1/2" set and hauled solely by hand and without use of any motor-driven boat or vehicle. No recreational net may be set or hauled within 100' of any other recreational or commercial net. Prohibits the use of a recreational net after sunset or before sunrise between May 1 and September 15. Only one container of fish per net in use can be retained by the holder of a permit. All fish in excess and all unwanted species shall be returned alive to the water when caught.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs</u>		
License	LA	Vessel, commercial fisherman and applicable gear licenses are required for fishing in saltwater.		
			<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-resident</u>
		Commercial Fisherman	\$ 55.00	\$ 400.00
		Hoop Net	25.00	100.00
		Gill Net	25.00	100.00
		Trammel Net	25.00	100.00

Fish Seine	25.00	100.00
Slat Trap	25.00	100.00
Purse/Menhaden	505.00	2020.00
Crab Trap	25.00	100.00
Vessel	15.00	60.00
Miscellaneous Gear	25.00	100.00
Set Line (Trot, Bush, Long, etc.)	25.00	100.00
Dip/Cast Net	25.00	100.00
Flounder Gig	25.00	100.00
Eel Pots	25.00	100.00

Restrictions

Each gill net or trammel net used by commercial fishermen in saltwater areas of the state shall be marked with a waterproof tag attached to the cork line at each end of the net no more than 3' from the edge of the webbing. Each tag (supplied by the fisherman) shall have the fisherman's full name (no initials) and commercial fisherman's license number (not the net license number) printed thereon. Each gill net or trammel net shall be marked with buoys visible above the surface of the water. Buoys shall be supplied by the fisherman, have a minimum diameter of 6" and be international orange in color. The buoys shall be attached to each end of the net. No commercial gear license for gill nets and purse seines shall be issued to any non-resident whose domiciliary state prohibits the use of those nets in commercial fishing. It is illegal to use or employ any aircraft including fixed wing aircraft, dirigibles, balloons, helicopters, or any other form of aerial surveillance in the airspace of this state to assist in the taking of finfish except in the fisheries of menhaden and herring-like fish.

Mesh size of hoop nets must be at least 1" square or 2" stretched after treating with tar or copper. Mesh size of seines must be at least 1 3/4" square or 3 1/2" stretched

whether treated or not. Mesh size of trammel nets shall be at least 1 3/4" square or 3 1/2" stretched for inner layer or layers, outer layer of netting material with a minimum mesh of 3" square or 6" stretched and a maximum mesh for outer layers not exceeding 12" square or 24" stretched whether or not treated with tar or copper or any other material. Trammel nets shall not exceed 1200' in length nor shall two nets connected together exceed 1200' in length. Mesh size of gill nets shall be at least 1 3/4" square or 3 1/2" stretched. Gill nets cannot exceed 1200' in length nor can two or more nets joined together exceed 1200' in length. The use of monofilament for any type net is prohibited in saltwater areas of the state. The use of purse seines is prohibited in inside waters. The use of purse seines is prohibited except for taking of menhaden and herring-like species. It is illegal to enter state waters with purse seine and speckled trout or red drum on same vessel.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
License	MS	Resident Gill & Trammel Net - \$100.00 Non-resident Gill & Trammel Net - \$300.00 Alabama Gill & Trammel Net - \$500.00 Resident Charter, Party or Commercial Hook and Line - \$100.00 Non-resident Charter, Party or Commercial Hook and Line - \$100.00 Resident Menhaden Boat/Net - \$150.00
Restrictions		Saltwater finfish may be taken from Mississippi waters by any of the following methods: hook and line, trotline, throwline, spear, gig, bow and arrow, cast net, small-mesh beach seine (under 100' in length and with a maximum 1/4" bar), brill net, shrimp trawl, trammel net, gill net, wing

net, beach and purse seines (all must be under 1200' in total length and with a minimum 3" stretched mesh size), fish traps (with a minimum 1 1/2" square mesh size).

Nets, seines, or traps used for catching fish other than mullet are not permitted within 1200' of any pier or harbor. Mullet fishing is defined as any net fishing activity in which 90% or more of the total catch by weight consists of mullet. King mackerel fishing is defined as fishing activity in which the sole purpose is to catch king mackerel; and the catching in excess of 10% by weight of species other than king mackerel while net fishing for king mackerel is prohibited. All nets except purse seines and trawls used for mullet fishing must be of mesh sizes 1 1/2" square (3" stretched) or larger.

Nets must not exceed 1200' in length. However, when mullet fishing two such nets may be tied together and fished by two boats, provided that each vessel is properly licensed. Purse seines may not exceed 1500' in length, except those used expressly to catch menhaden and must have a mesh size no smaller than 1/2" square (1" stretched). Mullet fishing using fish traps, seines or nets other than cast or brill nets is not permitted within 1200' of any public or hotel/motel pier nor within 300' of any private pier, provided that such piers are in usable condition and extend 75' or more from the shoreline. Nets or seines are not permitted to be left unattended in the water. All nets, regardless of type, must be clearly marked with the owner's name or license number on floats or buoys placed at intervals of 100' or less.

Nets, seines or fish traps are not permitted in any of the following areas: 1) within any river, bayou, creek, canal, stream, tributary, lake, bay, inlet or other water source entering into salt waters except: Pt. aux Chenes Bay, Middle Bay, Jose Bay, L'Isle Chaude Bay, Heron Bay, South Rigolets, Biloxi Bay, south of a line between Marsh Point and Grand Bayou, parts of Pascagoula Bay; 2) within 1200' of the shoreline of Deer Island; 3) within 1 mile of the shorelines of Cat, Ship, Horn, Petit Bois or Round Islands or from the shoals of Telegraph Keys or Telegraph Reef during the period from May 15 through September 15 of each year; 4) within 1/2 mile of the seawall in the area between Union and Ballantine Streets in the city of Bay St. Louis.

Commercial fishing of any kind is prohibited by city ordinance within 1500' of the shoreline in the cities of Long Beach, Gulfport and Biloxi. A similar ordinance in the city of Pass Christian prohibits the use of gill or trammel nets within 1500' of the shoreline. In the city of Bay St. Louis, net fishing is prohibited within 1500' of the shoreline during the period from May 15 to September 15 of each year. Nets, seines or fish traps are further not permitted within 25' of the mouth of any bay, bayou or tributary. Boats are permitted to use only one approved net as specified.

When landing reports, as required by law, indicate that the 200,000 pound catch limit for red drum has been reached, the BMR will, with adequate notice, issue a news release and public notice closing state waters to the commercial net fishing for red drum for the remainder of that year. Purse seines may not be used to catch in excess of 5% by weight in any set of the net any of the following:

spotted seatrout, bluefish, Spanish mackerel, king mackerel, dolphin, pompano, cobia or jack crevalle. It is illegal for any vessel carrying a purse seine to have on board in excess of 10% by weight of the total catch, any of the aforementioned species. It is illegal for any vessel carrying a purse seine to have on board any quantity of red drum.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEs</u>
License	TX	Seine or Net (except commercial shrimp trawl) - \$2.00 One metal tag is required for, and must be firmly attached to, each 100' of length, or fraction thereof, of each net or seine used in taking any edible aquatic products from the waters of the state for pay, barter, sale or exchange. No tags will be issued for seines or nets longer than 1800' or with less than 3" square mesh.
Restrictions		All coastal waters in Texas are <u>closed</u> to the use of drag seines, strike nets, gill nets and trammel nets.

SEAFOOD BUSINESS LICENSES

AL Seafood Dealer - \$126.00
Nonresidents will pay the same fee that is charged an Alabama resident in their state but not less than twice the cost Alabama residents pay.

FL Resident Retail Seafood Dealer
Primary Location - \$25.00
Secondary Location - \$10.00
Non-resident Retail Seafood Dealer
Primary Location - \$200.00
Secondary Location - \$25.00
Alien Retail Seafood Dealer
Primary Location - \$250.00
Secondary Location - \$50.00
Resident County Wholesale Seafood Dealer - \$300.00
Non-resident County Wholesale Seafood Dealer - \$500.00
Alien County Wholesale Seafood Dealer - \$1000.00
Resident State Wholesale Dealer - \$450.00
Non-resident State Wholesale Dealer - \$1000.00
Alien State Wholesale Dealer - \$1500.00

Note: Since local regulations governing the taking of saltwater products may exist, you should contact the Marine Patrol District Office nearest the location where you will be engaging in these activities for additional information.

LA Resident Wholesale/Retail Dealer Vehicle or Business- \$105.00
Non-resident Wholesale/Retail Dealer Vehicle or Business - \$405.00
Resident Wholesale/Retail Dealer - Restaurants and Retail Grocers Only - \$30.00
Resident Transport License - \$30.00

Note: Transport licenses can only be purchased by and in the name of a person holding a valid Louisiana Commercial Fisherman's License or Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License. Persons operating under a transport license are prohibited from buying and selling, by any means whatsoever, any species of fish, except when a person transporting fish under the privilege of a Louisiana transport license purchased in connection with a Louisiana wholesale/retail dealer's license buys fish for or on behalf of the wholesale/retail dealer to whom such transport license was issued and only transports such fish to that wholesale/retail dealer. Transport licenses are freely transferable between vehicles.

MS

Resident Seafood Dealer - \$100.00
Non-resident Seafood Dealer - \$251.00*
Alabama Seafood Dealer - \$250.00
Louisiana Seafood Dealer - \$405.00
Resident Seafood Processor - \$200.00
Non-resident Seafood Processor - \$200.00

*A non-resident will pay the same fee for a license that a Mississippi resident is charged as a non-resident if the fee is more than that listed.

TX

Finfish Import License - \$50.00
Wholesale Fish Dealer - \$400.00
Wholesale Fish Dealer Truck - \$250.00
Retail Fish Dealer - \$30.00
Retail Fish Dealer Truck - \$50.00
Shrimp House Operator - \$300.00

Fishing Regulations for Gulf of Mexico Federal Waters

RECREATIONAL REGULATIONS

Species	Size Limit	Closed Season	Recreational Belly Bag Limit	Remarks	
Cobia (ling)	Minimum 33" FL ^a or 37" TL ^a		2/person ^a	Must be landed with head and fins intact.	
Stone Crab	Minimum 2 3/4" claw	5/16 - 10/16		Claws may not be removed from egg-bearing females. Illegal to land whole crab. Measures apply off Florida's west coast and the Keys.	
Spiny Lobster	More than 3" carapace and 5 1/2" tail	4/1 - 8/5 Special non-trap rec. season, 1st Sat. and Sun. preceding 8/1.	6/person, and no transfer at sea between boats.	See commercial regulations for trap use. No spears, hooks, or piercing devices. No taking of berried spiny or slipper lobster.	
King Mackerel	Minimum 12" FL or 14" TL ^a	Season opens 7/1, except off Monroe County, Fla., opens 4/1. Season closes when quota is filled.	Charter vessels: 3/person excluding captain and crew, or 2/person for all. Other vessels: 2/person. EXCEPT 4/1 - 10/31, off Monroe County, Fla., 2/person.	No retention of catch during closed season. Must be landed with head and fins intact.	
Spanish Mackerel	Minimum 12" FL or 14" TL	Season opens 4/1 and closes when quota is filled.	10/person, except 4/person off Florida and 3/person off Texas.	Must be landed with head and fins intact. No retention of catch during closed season.	
Red Drum		Season closed.	Zero	No retention of red drum.	
Large Bluefin			One per year as incidental catch.	Permit required. Must be reported within 24 hours and made available for inspection. May not be sold.	
Striped Yellowfin	7 pounds 7 pounds				
Bilfish	Min. size lower jaw to tail fork			No retention unless taken by rod and reel. Sale prohibited.	
Blue Marlin White Marlin Sailfish	86" 62" 57"				
DEEP FISH Groupers Red Snapper Vermilion Lane	13" TL 8" TL 8" TL		7/person Not Applicable Not Applicable	All reef fish with size limits must be landed with head and fins intact. Only persons fishing from charter or head boats on trips of more than 24 hours may possess up to two bag limits.	
Gray Mutton Yellowtail	12" TL 12" TL 12" TL		10/person in Aggregate ^a		
DEEP-WATER Groupers Misty Snowy Yellowedge Morone	None None None None		3/person in Aggregate (includes all groupers in addition to those listed).		
SHALLOW-WATER Groupers Red Morone Yellowfin Black Gag	20" TL 20" TL 20" TL 20" TL 20" TL				
Black seabass	8" TL		Not Applicable		
Greater Amberjack	(recreational) 28" FL		3		
Flourish		Season closed	Zero	No retention of , etc.	

^aFL = fork length measure: Tip of snout to fork of tail

TL = total length measure: Tip of snout to tip of tail

^a Includes all snappers other than red, vermilion, and lane

^a Became effective on August 20, 1990.

Fishing Regulations for Gulf of Mexico Federal Waters

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Species	Permit Required	Size Limit	Gear Restrictions	Remarks
Cobia (ling)	No	Minimum size limit of 33" FL ^a or 37" TL ^a .	Drift gill nets are prohibited.	Must be landed with heads and fins intact. Limit of 2/person/day ^a .
Stone Crab	No	Minimum claw size limit 2 3/4".	Biodegradable panel required on traps. Traps may not be tended at night. Buoy and trap identification required.	Season Closed 5/16 - 10/16. Measures apply off Florida's west coast and the Keys. Area restrictions apply off Hernando and Citrus Counties. Vessel identification required. Illegal to land whole crabs. Claws may not be removed from egg-bearing crabs.
Spiny Lobster	Yes	Size limit more than 3" carapace or 5 1/2" tail. ^{***}	Degradable panel required on non-wooden traps. Traps may not be tended at night. Buoy and trap identification required.	Season Closed 4/1 - 8/5. No spears, hooks, or piercing devices. No taking of berried spiny or slipper lobsters. Vessel identification required. Maximum of 100 shorts may be held aboard as attractants in a live well containing 3/4 gallons of aerated, circulating sea water per lobster.
King Mackerel	Yes	Minimum size 12" FL or 14" TL. ^{**}	Only hook and line and run around gill-nets are allowed (minimum mesh 4 3/4" stretch.)	Vessel identification required. Reporting required for selected vessels and dealers. Season opens 7/1 except off Monroe County, Fla. opens 4/1. Season closes when quota is filled. Must be landed with head and fins intact.
Spanish Mackerel	Yes	Minimum size 12" FL or 14" TL.	Purse seines and drift gill-nets prohibited. Gill-net minimum mesh 3 1/2" stretch.	Vessel identification required. Reporting required for selected vessels and dealers. Season opens 4/1 and closes when quota is filled. Must be landed with head and fins intact.
Red Drum			Season closed.	Season closed.
Shrimp	No	No, but white shrimp taken in the EEZ and transported to Louisiana must comply with the minimum size limit of that state.	Trawling prohibited in Tortugas sanctuary; stone crab zone off Florida Bay 1/1 - 3/20; stone crab zones off Hernando and Citrus Counties, Fla. seasonally; and Texas closure 6/1 - 7/15 off Texas.	Reporting required for selected vessels and dealers. Vessel identification required.

Billfish (except swordfish)	No	See Recreational regulations.	Red and reel only.	Retention prohibited on longline and driftnet vessels. Sale prohibited.
Swordfish	Yes			Vessel identification, permit, and reports required. Fish must be landed whole or dressed.
Bluefin Tuna	Yes			Season closed.
Bigeye Tuna		7 pounds		
Yellowfin Tuna		7 pounds		
DEEP FISH				
GROUPERS				
Red		13" TL		Closes when quota is filled.
Vermilion		8" TL		No closure.
Lane		8" TL		No closure.
Gray Mutton		12" TL		No closure.
Yellowtail		12" TL	See "Other Reef Fish Requirements".	No closure.
		12" TL		No closure.
DEEP-WATER GROUPERS				
Misty		None		Closes when the deep-water grouper quota is reached.
Snowy		None		
Yelloweye		None		
Verasa		None		
SHALLOW-WATER GROUPERS				
Red		20" TL		
Masou		20" TL		
Yellowfin		20" TL		
Black		20" TL		
Gag		20" TL		
Other Reef fish				
Black seabass				
Greater Amberjack		8" TL (commercial)		No closure.
		36" FL		No closure.
Sea fish				Season closed.

- FL = fork length measure: Tip of snout to fork of tail
- TL = total length measure: Tip of snout to tip of tail
- •• Becomes effective on August 20, 1990.
- •• Removal of tail only under special circumstances and with tagging permit.

OTHER REEF FISH REQUIREMENTS

- o The use of longlines and buoy gear for reef fish is prohibited inside of lines approximating 50 fathoms west and 20 fathoms east of Cape San Blas, Florida. Vessels fishing within this zone and possessing longlines or buoy gear may not exceed the recreational bag limits for reef fish.
- o Entangling nets may not be used for directed harvest of reef fish.
- o Vessels with shrimp trawls or entangling net gear aboard may not exceed the recreational bag limits.
- o Reef fish taken under the recreational bag limit may not be sold.
- o Permitted reef fish vessels must display identification numbers.

- o Vessels are limited to 100 reef fish traps. Traps must have degradable panels, mesh no smaller than 1" x 2", 1.5" hexagon, or 1.5" by 1.5". Inside 300' contour, traps may not exceed 33 cu.ft. Two 2" x 2" escape windows required on two sides (4 openings). Hinges and fasteners of degradable panel or access door must be constructed of either untreated jute string of no more than 3/16 inch diameter or magnesium alloy. Buoy and trap identification required. Traps may not be tended at night.

Reporting required for fish trap users, for other selected vessels, and for selected dealers.

- o Stressed areas for reef fish begin at the shoreward boundary of federal waters and generally follow the 10 fathom contour from the Dry Tortugas to Sanibel Island; the 20 fathom contour to Tarpon Springs; the 10 fathom contour to Cape San Blas; the 25 fathom contour to south of Mobile Bay; and the 13 fathom contour to Ship Island, Mississippi; 10 fathom contour off Louisiana; and the 30 fathom contour off Texas. In designated "stressed areas" use of fish traps, roller trawls, and power heads is prohibited.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CORAL: It is unlawful to take, damage, or possess stony corals or sea fans in federal (or Florida) waters. It is unlawful to use bottom trawls, longlines, or traps on the Flower Garden Banks or Florida Middle Grounds.

FEDERAL WATERS begin 9 nautical miles off Texas and Florida's west coast and 3 nautical miles off other Gulf states.

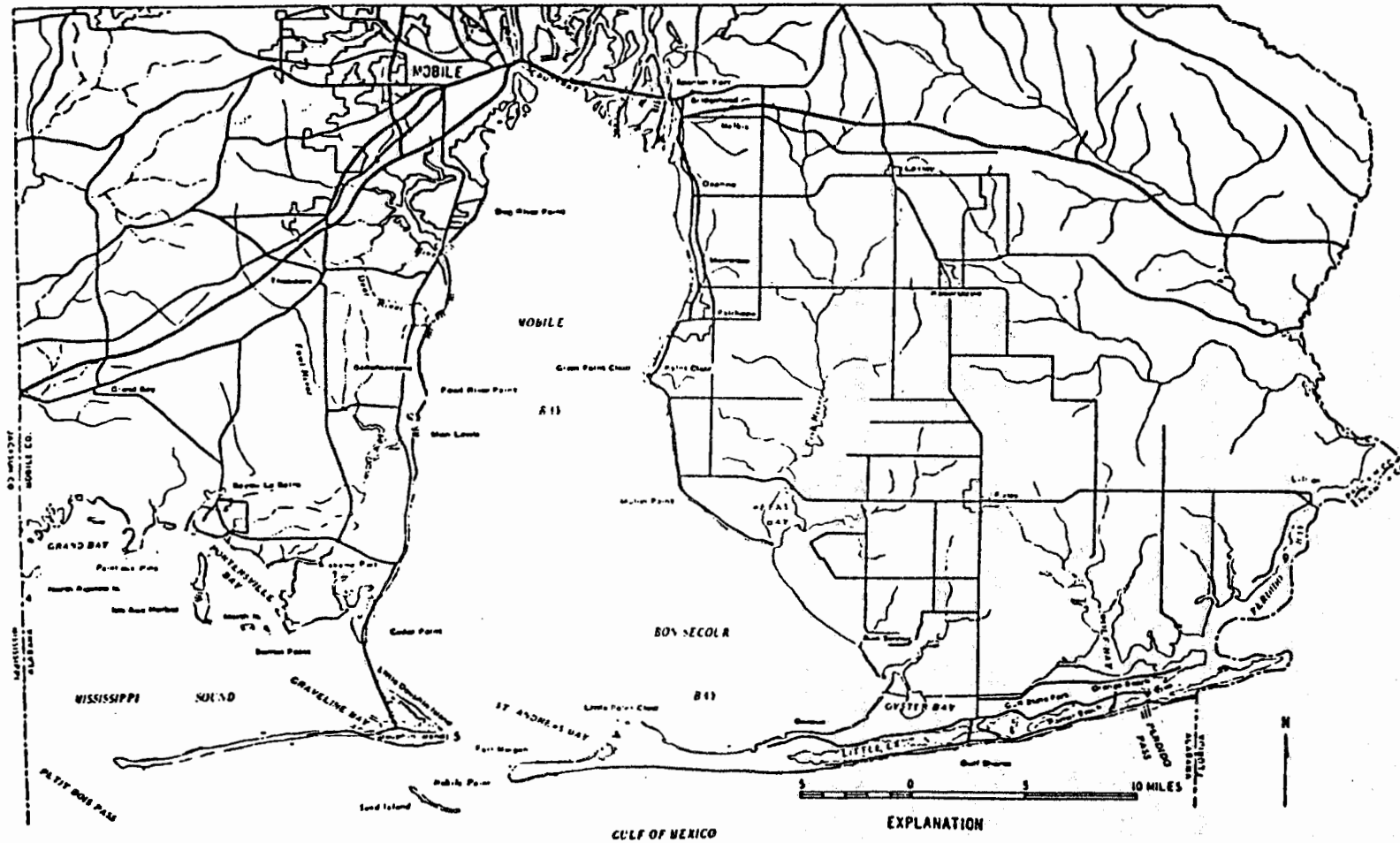
PERMITS: Applications for permits may be obtained from:

National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702
813-893-3722

STATE REQUIREMENTS may differ from federal regulations. For information pertaining to laws, rules, and activities in state waters, contact the individual state conservation agencies.

This leaflet was prepared for general informational purposes in July 1990 and has no legal force or effect. Fishing regulations are subject to change.

ALABAMA



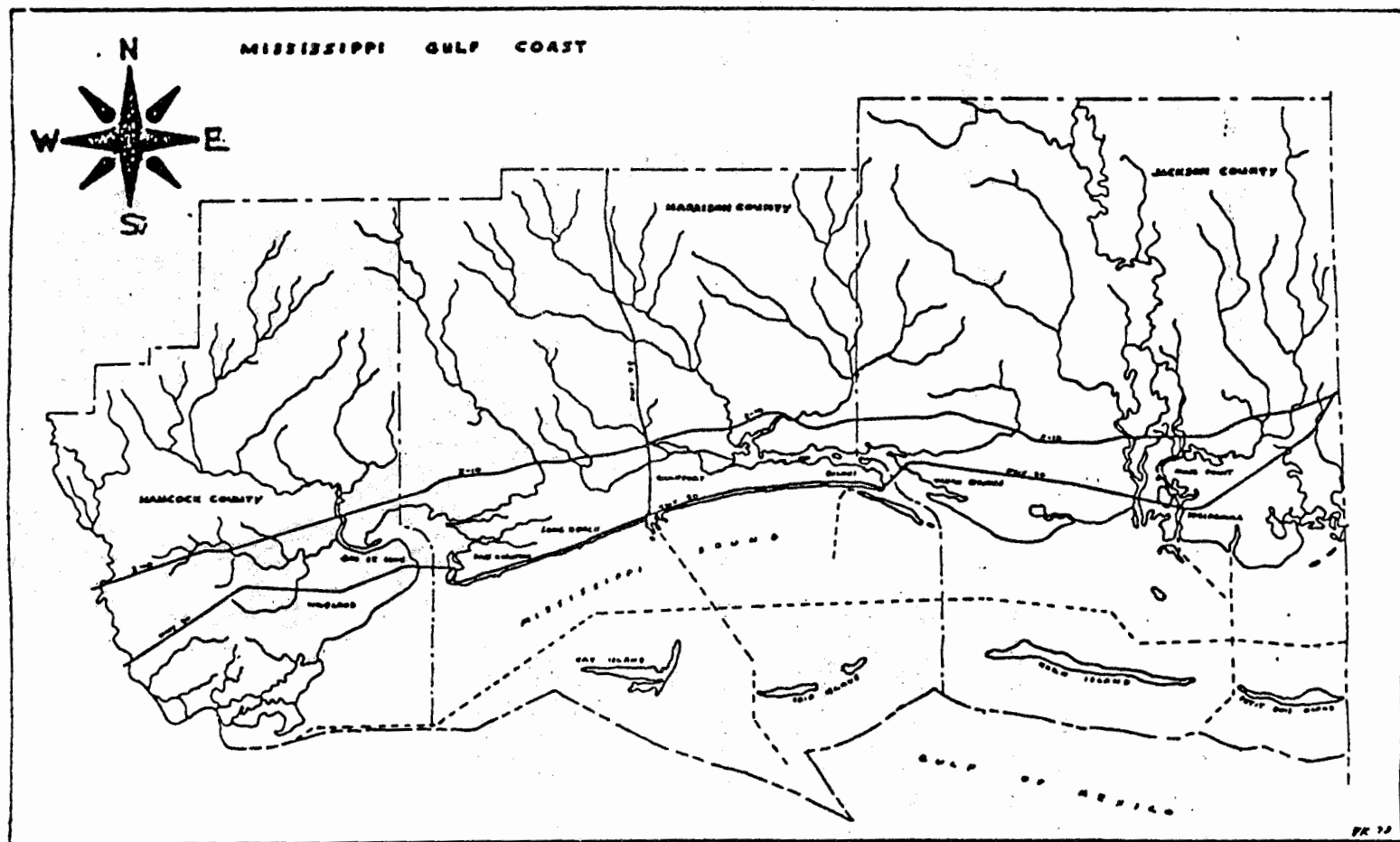
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION

MAJOR JERALD K. WALLER
 MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION
 P.O. BOX 189
 DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL 36528
 (205) 861-2882

DIRECTOR D. N. ELLINGSEN
DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
3900 COMMONWEALTH BLVD.
ROOM 716 - DOUGLAS BLDG.
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399
(904) 488-6559

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
AND FISHERIES
MAJOR TOMMY CANDIES
P.O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
504/765-2985

LOUISIANA'S INSIDE-OUTSIDE SHRIMP LINE



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE,
FISHERIES AND PARKS

MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT

JERRY GOLLOTT, CHIEF INSPECTOR
PAT ANGLADA, DISTRICT MANAGER
(601) 385-5860

Capt. Jim Robertson
Coastal Law Enforcement
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744
512-389-4628

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

24 hour communications 713-471-3202

Region IV
Capt. Carl Covert, Regional Director
713-931-6471
Lt. Bill Colbey, Regional Lieutenant
713-931-6471

TEXAS COASTAL COUNTIES COASTAL WATER BOUNDRY

District Supervisors:
Lt. Wayne Harrington 512-575-6306
Lt. Gordon Hart 409-892-8666
Lt. Albert Gonzalez 713-645-0212
Lt. Preston Miculka 713-585-6297
Lt. Bobby Miles 713-573-9260
Lt. Forrest Laughlin 409-762-0732

Region X
Capt. Frank Dickerson, Regional Director
512-289-5566
Lt. Jack King, Regional Lieutenant
512-289-5566

District Supervisors
Lt. Roy Lawrence 512-543-4248
Lt. Frank Kelso 512-991-6168
Lt. Roy Gonzales 512-554-3007
Lt. Roger Long 512-776-3450
Lt. Wes Clogston 512-595-0516

