

Summary Table of Gray Triggerfish (*Balistes caprisicus*) life history for the Gulf of Mexico. Associations and interactions with environmental and habitat variables are listed with citations.

Life Stage	Season	Location	Temp(°C)	Salinity(ppt)	Oxygen	Depth(m)	Trophic relationships		Habitat Associations and Interactions			Production
							Food	Predators	Habitat Selection	Growth	Mortality	
Eggs	Late spring and summer	Pelagic or demersal:eggs in a nest prepared and guarded by the female and/or male. In sand near a natural or artificial reef head					Yolk sac	Wrasses; red snapper ( <i>Lutjanus campechanus</i> )		Hatch in 48-55 hours	Wrasses (on video) take eggs from a gray triggerfish nest and from nests of other species of triggerfish. Red snapper (on video) take eggs from nests	
Citation	27	2,10,17,19,21						24,28		4,19	17,24,28	
Larvae							Initially yolk-sac		Pelagic plankton			
Citation							11		21			
Post Larvae						Upper water column		Tunas	Pelagic larvae associated with <i>Sargassum</i> spp. and other flotsam		Predation on the pelagic life stages by the above mentioned predators	
Citation								1	1,5,18		1	
Early Juveniles						Upper water column	Rely on the sargassum complex for food (i.e., algae, hydroids, barnacles and polychaetes)	Tunas, blue marlin, dolphinfish, sailfish, and sharks	1st year; planktonic and associated with <i>Sargassum</i> spp. and other flotsam or found in mangrove estuaries		Predation on the pelagic life stages by the above mentioned predators	
Citation							5	1,6,7	1,5,18		1	

Summary Table of Gray Triggerfish ( <i>Balistes capricus</i> ) cont.												
Life Stage	Season	Location	Temp(°C)	Salinity(ppt)	Oxygen	Depth(m)	Trophic relationships		Habitat Associations and Interactions			Production
							Food	Predators	Habitat Selection	Growth	Mortality	
Late Juveniles						Upper water column	Rely on the <i>Sargassum</i> complex for food (i.e., algae, hydroids, barnacles and polychaetes)	Tunas, blue marlin, dolphinfish, sailfish, and sharks	Gray triggerfish up to 10 cm associated with <i>Sargassum</i> spp. and other flotsam or found in mangrove estuaries		Predation on the pelagic life stages by the above mentioned predators	
Citation							5	1,6,7	1,5,18		1	
Adults		Both natural and artificial reefs in waters greater than 10 m in depth on the continental shelf				Waters greater than 10 m	Natural reefs: bivalves dominant prey. Artificial reefs:barnacles dominant prey. Also polychaetes, decapod crabs, gastropods, sea stars, sea cucumbers, brittle stars, sea urchins, sand dollars	Greater amberjack, sharks, grouper	At 16-17 cm SL, colonize either natural or artificial hard bottom habitat in waters greater than 10 m	Rapid for the first year of life, then slows; relatively long lived	Predation by the above mentioned predators. Fully recruited into the recreational fishery by age 3 and into the commercial fishery by age 4	Reach sexual maturity at 2 years, but may mature at 1 year, 1.5 years or up to 3 yrs. (30 cm at first spawning). No evidence of sex change.
Citation		15,23				15,23	1,8,9,16,25,26	3,6,7	15,23,26		3,6,7	20,27
Spawning Adults	Late spring and summer	Both natural and artificial reefs in waters greater than 10 m on the continental shelf as adults				Greater than 10 m	Natural reefs:bivalves dominant prey. Artificial reefs:barnacles dominant prey. Also polychaetes, decapod crabs, gastropods, sea stars, sea cucumbers, brittle stars, sea urchins, sand dollars.	Greater amberjack, sharks, grouper	Both natural and artificial reefs in waters greater than 10 m as adults	See Growth for Adults	See Mortality for Adults	Fecundity estimates: 49,000 eggs for a 30 cm triggerfish, 66,000 eggs for a 41 cm triggerfish, and greater than 90,000 for a 56 cm fish
Citation	27	15,23					1,8,9,16,25,26	3,6,7	15,23			20

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