

Protect Seagrasses IT'S THE LAW

Do Not Uproot With Your Prop



SUPPORT



SEAGRASS
CONSERVATION

KNOW THE CODE!

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Coastal Code of Ethics

- Respect others
- Respect our natural resources
- Know the regulations
- Protect bird-nesting islands
- Lift, Drift, Pole or Troll when boating over seagrasses
- Keep coastal waters clean
- Know all boating regulations
- Know your boat's limits
- Share your knowledge and traditions
- Get involved in the regulatory process
- Continue educating yourself about coastal waters

Report game or fishing violations.
Call 1 + (800) 792-GAME

Regulations in federal waters (>9nm from shore)
may differ from state regulations. For federal
information call toll-free (888) 833-1844.

PWD CD V3400-100B (8/17)



Pocket Guide to Bag and Size Limits of Saltwater Fishes and Crabs

Effective September 1, 2017
Expires August 31, 2018

For further information on fishing rules refer to the
Texas Parks & Wildlife Outdoor Annual
or call (800) 792-1112.

Provided by the Coastal Fisheries Division
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

SPORT ANGLER BAG AND LENGTH LIMITS OF SALTWATER FISHES AND CRABS

NOTE: Possession limit is twice the daily bag EXCEPT as listed below. There are no bag, possession or size limits on fish or crabs EXCEPT as listed below. Limits may change due to Legislative or Commission action. All sizes except as noted are total length. **Total Length**—Perpendicular distance from tip of snout (mouth closed) to extreme tip of tail. The tail should be squeezed together or rotated to produce the maximum overall length.

Species	Daily Bag	Min. Size (Inches)	Max. Size (Inches)
Amberjack, greater	1	38	No Limit
Bass, striped	5	18	No Limit
Catfish, gafftopsail	No Limit	14	No Limit
Cobia	2	37	No Limit
Drum, black a	5	14	30 a
Drum, red b	3	20	28 b
Flounder c	5/2 c	14	No Limit
Gar, alligator	1	No Limit	No Limit
Grouper, black	4	24	No Limit
Grouper, gag	2	24	No Limit
Grouper, goliath	0	Catch & Release Only	No Limit
Grouper, Nassau	0	Catch & Release Only	No Limit
Mackerel, king	2	27	No Limit
Mackerel, Spanish	15	14	No Limit
Marlin, blue	No Limit	131	No Limit
Marlin, white	No Limit	86	No Limit
Mullet d	No Limit	No Limit	12 d
Sailfish	No Limit	84	No Limit
Seatrou, spotted e, f	10 e	15	25 f
Shark: Atlantic sharpnose, blacktip, bonnethead	1	24	No Limit
Shark: Hammerhead (smooth, great, scalloped)	1	99	No Limit
Shark: allowable species	1	64	No Limit
Shark: prohibited species g	0	Catch & Release Only	No Limit
Sheepshead	5	15	No Limit
Snapper, lane	No Limit	8	No Limit
Snapper, red h	4	15	No Limit
Snapper, vermillion	No Limit	10	No Limit
Snook	1	24	28
Tarpon	1	85	No Limit
Triggrerfish, gray	20	16	No Limit
Tripletail	3	17	No Limit
Blue Crab i	No Limit	5 j	No Limit
Stone Crab j	No Limit	2 1/2 j	No Limit
Ghost Shrimp	20 k	No Limit	No Limit

a One black drum over 52" allowed as part of the daily bag.

b One red drum over 28" allowed per license year with a properly filled out red drum tag or bonus red drum tag. This may be taken in addition to the daily bag limit.

c Flounder possession limit is 5 fish EXCEPT for that period Nov. 1–Dec. 14 the possession limit is 2 fish. From Nov. 1–30 flounder may be taken using pole and line only. After Nov. 30 gigs may be used.

d May not take from public waters or possess on board a boat mullet over 12" during Oct., Nov., Dec., and Jan. No limits apply during other months.

e The spotted seatrout daily bag limit is 5 for public waters south of FM 457. Possession limit is 10 fish. For all public waters north of FM 457 daily bag limit is 10. Possession limit is 20 fish.

f One spotted seatrout over 25" is allowed per person per day; and counts as part of the daily bag limit.

g Prohibited shark species are as follows: Atlantic angel, Basking, Bigeye sand tiger, Bigeye sixgill, Bigeye thresher, Bignose, Caribbean reef, Caribbean sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Sandbar, Sand tiger, Sevengill, Silky, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White

h Red snapper may be taken using pole and line, but it is unlawful to use any hook other than a circle hook.

i May not retain or possess egg-bearing (sponge) crabs or female crabs that have had the apron removed. Blue crabs are measured across the widest point of the body from tip of spine to tip of spine.

j Only the right claw may be retained. The body must be returned immediately to the water from which it was taken. Claws are measured from the tip of the immovable claw to the first joint behind the claw.

k May not possess more than 20 ghost shrimp per person at any time.