**Basic Recreational Fishing Regulations**

This brief summary of regulations governs the taking of species in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico for personal use. Federal waters begin where state waters end and extend 200 miles. The absence of complete laws, rules and regulations in this summary does not relieve persons from compliance with those laws, rules or regulations.

Some species are subject to in-season closures. Please click on the fish for more detailed information, or check with the Council.

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<tr>
<th>Snapper</th>
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[Image of fish icons and regulations table]

[Image of fish icons and regulations table]
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<tr>
<th>Grouper</th>
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- **Black Grouper**
- **Red Grouper**
- **Yellowtail**
- **Scamp**
- **Yellowmouth**
- **Yellowedge**
- **Warsaw**
- **Goliath**

- **Gag Grouper**

- **Closed**
  - February 1 through March 31 when fishing beyond the 20-fathom break

- **Open**
  - February 1 - December 31
  - No Size Limit
  - 4 per person in aggregate

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - 22” TL
  - 2 per person in aggregate

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - 20” TL
  - 2-fish bag limit reduction pending

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - 22” TL
  - 4 per person in aggregate

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - 20” TL
  - 4 per person in aggregate

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - 16” TL
  - 4 per person in aggregate

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - No Size Limit
  - 4 per person in aggregate

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - No Size Limit
  - 4 per person in aggregate

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - No Size Limit
  - 1 fish per vessel

- **Open**
  - July 1 - December 2
  - No Size Limit
  - 1 fish per vessel

- **Harvest Prohibited**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Reef Fish</th>
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- **Closed June 1 - July 31**
- **Open 12’ FL 5 per person**
- **In-Season Closure Effective 2/7/15 - 12/31/15 Subject to reduced season length**
- **Closed June 1 - July 31**
- **In-Season Closure Effective 2/7/15 - 12/31/15 Subject to reduced season length**
- **Open 30’ FL 1 per person**
- **Subject to in-season closure**
- **Open 14” - 22” FL 5 per person in aggregate**
- **Open 14” - 22” FL 5 per person in aggregate**
- **Open 33’ FL 2 per person**
- **Open 30’ FL 1 per person**
- **Subject to in-season closure**
- **Open 12’ FL 1 per person**
- **Open 30’ FL 1 per person**
- **Subject to in-season closure**
- **Open 14” - 22” FL 5 per person in aggregate**
- **Open 12’ FL 1 per person**
- **Open 30’ FL 1 per person**
- **Subject to in-season closure**
- **Open 14” - 22” FL 5 per person in aggregate**
- **Open 33’ FL 2 per person**
- **Open 24’ FL 2 per person**

**Spiny Lobster**

- **Open 3” minimum carapace**
- **Must be measured in water**
- **Closed April 1 through August 5**
- **NOTE: 2 Day Mini-season last consecutive Wednesday/Thursday in July**
- **Open 3” minimum carapace**
- **Must be measured in water**

**Other Reef Fish**

- **Open 14” FL 2 per person**
- **Closed June 1 - July 31**
- **In-Season Closure Effective 2/7/15 - 12/31/15 Subject to reduced season length**
- **Open 30” FL 1 per person**
- **Subject to in-season closure**

**Coastal Pelagics**

- **Open 14” FL 2 per person**
- **Closed June 1 - July 31**
- **In-Season Closure Effective 2/7/15 - 12/31/15 Subject to reduced season length**
- **Open 30” FL 1 per person**
- **Subject to in-season closure**

**Other**

- **Harvest Prohibited**

**Shellfish**

- **Open 3” minimum carapace**
- **Must be measured in water**

**Coastal Pelagics**

- **Open 14” FL 2 per person**
- **Closed June 1 - July 31**
- **In-Season Closure Effective 2/7/15 - 12/31/15 Subject to reduced season length**
- **Open 30” FL 1 per person**
- **Subject to in-season closure**