FRESHWATER GAME FISHING REGULATIONS

www.dnr.sc.gov/fishregs

FREE FISHING DAYS

Memorial Day, May 27, 2019 & July 4, 2019
(For residents only, as specified in Sect. 50-9-730.)

DON’T DUMP YOUR BAIT BUCKET!

FRESHWATER GAME FISH

Freshwater game fish are: Bream: bluegill, flier, green sunfish, pumpkinseed, redbreast, red-ear (shellcracker), spotted sunfish, warmouth; Black Bass: largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, spotted bass, redeye bass (coosae bass); striped bass or rockfish; white bass; hybrid striped bass; white crappie; black crappie; Trout: rainbow, brown and brook; chain pickerel (jackfish); redfin pickerel; sauger, walleye and yellow perch.

Methods and Devices

- Game fish may be caught with only hook and line, pole, artificial pole, or rod and reel. Not more than 4 of these devices may be used by any fishermen at the same time, except when fishing in a boat. An unlimited number of lawful fishing devices may be used if all persons in the boat sixteen years and older have valid fishing licenses.
- Cast nets for catching nongame bait fish may be in possession while fishing for game fish.
- No game fish may be used as bait to catch fish recreationally except for bream (excluding redbreast). Trout may be used as bait only on Lakes Hartwell, Russell, Thurmond, Tugalo, Yonah, Stevens Creek Reservoir and the Savannah River. When using game fish as bait to catch fish recreationally they must be included in the daily creel limit.

Seasons

No closed freshwater game fish season except in the following areas:
- Striped bass have exceptions, see Freshwater Fish Size and Possession limits page 30.
- All watercraft and fishing are prohibited Nov. 1 through Feb. 28 on Cantey Bay, Black Bottom and Savannah Branch in Lake Marion.
- Hatchery WMA on Lake Moultrie is closed to fishing each Saturday until 12:00 noon and all day the last Saturday of the waterfowl season.
- Potato Creek Hatchery Waterfowl Area is closed to public access and fishing one week prior to and two weeks after the Federal Waterfowl Season.

Selling and Importing

- No freshwater game fish may be sold in this state except by a SCDNR permitted aquaculturist, a SCDNR wholesale aquaculture licensee, a SCDNR aquaculture game fish retail licensee or a private pond owner selling less than $2500 in product annually.
- It is illegal to possess, import or sell any fish species that is not native to SC waters without a SCDNR permit.
- Sterile grass carp may only be sold, purchased or possessed under a SCDNR permit.

Prohibited Practices

- Game or nongame fish may not be taken by explosives, electrical devices, poison or similar means.
- Except for bait lost while fishing and fish released back to waters where they were caught, it is unlawful to intentionally release any aquatic species, including bait, regardless of the stage of its life cycle, into the waters of this State without a permit from SCDNR.
- Native freshwater mussels cannot be taken without a permit from SCDNR, except for Asian clams also known as Corbicula. Contact the Freshwater Fisheries Section at 803-734-3891 for a permit.

Let’s Go Fishing!

Charlie Brewser’s Slider Fishing

$19.99 Special offer! 5 packs; 46 lures
1 1/2” Crappie Grubs
2 1/8” Slider Minnow
3 1/2” Shad
5 1/2” Shad
4” Bad Puppy

Free Catalog, Sticker, & Shipping!
use code SC2018 www.sliderfishing.com
Offer expires August 2019.
1-803-762-4100

2018-2019 SOUTH CAROLINA HUNTING & FISHING GUIDE • www.dnr.sc.gov
GET HOOKED on South Carolina’s Lakes!

WORLD CLASS FISHING
Large & Smallmouth Bass
Stripers
Catfish
Rainbow Trout
Bream
Crappie

Capital City
Lake Murray Country
Lake Murray
866-SC JEWEL
LakeMurrayCountry.com

Lakes Greenwood, Russell & Thurmond
800-849-9633
FISHSC.info

Olde English DISTRICT
Lakes Wateree & Wylie
800-968-5909
SCTravel.net

Santee Cooper Country
Lakes Marion & Moultrie
803-854-2131
SanteeCooperCountry.org

Upcountry
Lakes Hartwell, Jocassee & Keowee
800-849-4766
UpcountrySC.com
What are Aquatic Invasive Species?

- Non-native organism that lack natural predators or disease that help keep their growth in check. These species typically reproduce rapidly and negatively impact waterways and native aquatic organisms.

Aquatic Invasive Species Laws

- Anyone caught spreading nuisance aquatic weeds, intentional or unintentional, can be fined up to $500 and/or imprisoned.
- Except for research or under a permit, it is not lawful to possess, sell or place into any waters many water plants including hydrilla, water hyacinth, water lettuce, giant Salvinia, and any other plant on the state or federal Noxious Weed List.
- Except bait lost incidental to fishing or fish released into the waters from which they were taken, it is unlawful to intentionally release any aquatic species, regardless of the stage of its life cycle, into the waters of this State without a permit from the department. It is unlawful to use any nonindigenous fish as bait that is not already established in the water body being fished except the following minnows: fathead minnows, golden shiners, and goldfish, including ‘black salties’. A person who is guilty upon conviction of either of these may be fined a minimum of $500 and/or 30 days in jail.
- A person may not possess, sell, offer for sale, import, bring, or cause to be brought into this State or release anywhere in this State the following species at any stage of its life cycle: carnero or candiru catfish, freshwater electric eel, white amur or grass carp, walking catfish, piranha, stickleback, Mexican banded tetra, sea lamprey, rudd, snakehead, rusty crayfish and other nonindigenous species. SCDNR may issue special import permits to qualified persons for research and education only. A person violating this provision may be fined a minimum of $500 and/or 30 days in jail.
- It is unlawful to take, harm, or kill grass carp from public waters. Any grass carp taken must be returned immediately to the water from which it was taken. Anyone convicted of doing so may be fined a minimum of $500 and/or 30 days in jail. Sterile grass carp may only be sold, purchased or possessed under a SCDNR permit.
- Eliminate all water from your motor, live well, boat hull, gear and clothing.
- Don’t dump your bait bucket! Dispose of live bait properly in a trash receptacle or on one’s compost heap. Not only is it illegal, but live bait introduced into a system even if the live bait is native can introduce disease to an aquatic ecosystem.
- Dispose of shrimp parts and oyster shells properly. Shrimp heads and shells need to be disposed of in the trash and not thrown in the water because non-native shrimp parts can also spread disease. Oyster shells can be taken to a nearby recycling facility.
- Wading gear can be cleaned by either allowing it to dry 100% and remain dry for 5 days before using it again or dip the gear in a 3% bleach solution, rinsed well and allowed to dry thoroughly. Instead of a bleach solution, anglers can instead soak waders in a 100% vinegar solution or a 1% salt solution for 20 minutes.
- Pets allowed to swim should be rinsed, towel dried and brushed well after each fishing or wading trip.
- Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless that is the water body from which they came.

Taking time to prevent the spread of aquatic hitchhikers will help assure the resources are protected from harmful, exotic species and save millions of public and private dollars in control costs!

What You Can Do to Help!

- Remove any visible mud, sand, plants or plant fragments from your boat, wading gear, clothing and or fishing equipment before leaving a water body to prevent transporting any potential hitchhikers.
- Eliminate all water from your motor, live well, boat hull, gear and clothing.
- Don’t dump your bait bucket! Dispose of live bait properly in a trash receptacle or on one’s compost heap. Not only is it illegal, but live bait introduced into a system even if the live bait is native can introduce disease to an aquatic ecosystem.
- Dispose of shrimp parts and oyster shells properly. Shrimp heads and shells need to be disposed of in the trash and not thrown in the water because non-native shrimp parts can also spread disease. Oyster shells can be taken to a nearby recycling facility.
- Wading gear can be cleaned by either allowing it to dry 100% and remain dry for 5 days before using it again or dip the gear in a 3% bleach solution, rinsed well and allowed to dry thoroughly. Instead of a bleach solution, anglers can instead soak waders in a 100% vinegar solution or a 1% salt solution for 20 minutes.
- Pets allowed to swim should be rinsed, towel dried and brushed well after each fishing or wading trip.
- Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless that is the water body from which they came.

Taking time to prevent the spread of aquatic hitchhikers will help assure the resources are protected from harmful, exotic species and save millions of public and private dollars in control costs!

For more information:

Website — www.dnr.sc.gov/invasiveweeds
E-mail — invasiveweeds@dnr.sc.gov
Phone — Aquatic Plants 803-755-2836
Farm Bureau Insurance® has combined all your favorite things about auto insurance: local agents, competitive rates and fast, friendly claims. Take advantage of these great rates and service so you can spend more time enjoying the outdoors.
Fishing

Fish Habitat Enhancement

Habitat Improvement Ups Your Chance of Landing the Big One

Catching a fish sometimes isn’t as simple as dropping your line in the water. The aquatic habitat has to be suitable for popular game fish to find shelter, food and spawning grounds. “Fish Attractors” utilize recycled Christmas trees and other brush to create underwater diversity. Habitat enhancement in major South Carolina freshwater bodies has been an ongoing effort to provide improved fish habitat and fishing opportunities.

Habitat improvement takes place from the shoreline out to deeper waters marked by buoys. Long-term enhancement along the shoreline includes live plantings, which can help reduce erosion and create a natural habitat. More fish-friendly improvements include gravel and rocks to create spawning grounds.

Funding from a Natural Resource Damage Assessment is supporting a large scale habitat enhancement project at Lake Hartwell. Many of the techniques mentioned above were used at Lake Hartwell. The first site, a cove adjacent to the Cherry Farm at Clemson University, was completed in 2015. Twelve additional sites are currently being evaluated for the next phase of the project.

A recent joint project between the Santee Cooper Public Service Authority, Santee Cooper Promotions Board and the Department of Natural Resources brings new freshwater artificial reefs to Lake Moultrie and Lake Marion. Concrete structures were donated by Concrete Pipe & Precast of North Charleston and General Pre Cast manufacturing Company of Moncks Corner. The concrete fish attractors differ from the brush piles, which are typically used in the lakes, in that they will provide more diverse and long lasting habitat. Each site is marked with a buoy and will provide better fishing opportunities for anglers not familiar with the lakes.

To find out more information and view maps of habitat restoration visit:
http://www.dnr.sc.gov/fish/fishattract/fishattr.html

State Lake Enhancements Underway

Like many small ponds and lakes, SCDNR’s State Lakes need to be drained periodically and restocked in order to produce good fishing. This process, referred to as renovation, involves draining the lake, removing any fish left in the lake, adding wood structures and gravel spawning areas to the lake bottom and is finalized by refilling and restocking. The process takes two years to complete. This lake renovation process was just completed at Lake Hartwell in Union County and the lake reopened on July 1, 2015. Sunrise Lake in Lancaster County, in order to begin the renovation process, is scheduled to reopen in January 2019.
For some of the best hunting and fishing in the state, visit the Lowcountry counties of Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper.

For more information and to order your FREE Lowcountry Guidebook, call 800.528.6870 or visit www.southcarolinalowcountry.com

Outfitting Sportsmen and Their Families Since 1969

Woody's
898 Russell Street
Orangeburg, SC
803.536.1711
www.shopwoodys.com

Established 1969

Over 4,000 Guns In Stock!

Truck Accessories!
Redeye Bass Species Profile

South Carolina has two native black bass. Most are familiar with the well-known largemouth bass which is native statewide. The other is the lesser known redeye bass, also referred to as Bartram’s bass. It is the only ‘shoal loving’ black bass native to South Carolina and occupies an important ecological niche in the streams where it is found as a top predator.

The redeye bass is a species of Highest Conservation concern in the South Carolina Wildlife Action Plan. Threats facing this native bass are primarily from introduced species. The redeye will hybridize with smallmouth and spotted bass. The offspring typically have traits of both parents. The unauthorized release of spotted bass (Alabama bass) into the reservoirs of the upper Savannah Basin has led to the spread of that species throughout that system. The impact of this non-native species to redeye bass has been catastrophic in those reservoir habitats. Most recent survey work done by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources has shown that through hybridization between the two species, redeye bass have been eliminated from Lakes Keowee and Russell and are in sharp decline in Jocassee and Hartwell. Except for isolated tributary streams separated from reservoirs, pure redeye populations may no longer exist.

The continued presence of redeye bass in South Carolina depends on populations in their native Piedmont streams. Movement of spotted and smallmouth bass from one body of water to another presents the greatest current threat to redeye bass. Conserving the current populations and their habitats is critical to the continued existence of this unique native fish. You can help conserve redeye bass and other native species by following the law and never releasing aquatic organisms into waters other than that from which they were caught. Also remember, it is unlawful to release your bait bucket contents unless the bait was collected from the waterbody that you are fishing. Please be responsible when fishing with live bait.

The redeye bass is valued not only as a species of concern, but also because it is an excellent game fish. It is a hard fighting fish and even small individuals are a lot of fun to catch on light tackle. The unique angling opportunities of redeye bass offer an exciting fishing experience in some of South Carolina’s most scenic settings. Fly fishing for redeye on the Chattooga River has become popular in the summer months. Wading or paddling any of the beautiful Piedmont streams where this fish is found is a great way to spend time outdoors. Please review the regulations for redeye bass and all game fish before fishing (black bass found on page 29).

Quick Stats

Redeye Bass (Bartram’s Bass)

Micropterus coosae

- Identification: The eyes are sometimes, but not always red. Slender bronze-olive body that fades into white on the belly, dark distinct lateral blotches or bars along the side typically numbering twelve or less and horizontal rows of spots on the lower side, which can vary from black to pale green in color. Distinguishing white edges along the upper and lower edges of the caudal (tail) fin. The mouth is large and extends to the rear edge of the eye, but not beyond. Teeth are usually present on the tongue. Often has turquoise coloration around the gill and eye.

- Range: Northwestern parts of the state, primarily in the Savannah river basin, it is also present in tributaries of the upper Saluda and Broad river in the Santee basin.

- Habitat: Small to moderate size upland streams in riffles or pools with some flow, some lakes around rocky substrates. Appear to prefer shoal habitats and generally associated with cool water streams

- Average Length and Size: 6-9 inches and 6 oz.–1 lb.

- Food Preferences: Terrestrial insects, crayfish, small fish, salamanders and aquatic insects

- Similar Species: Largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass.

- Threats: Hybridization with non-native species, primarily spotted bass and smallmouth bass, and the expansion of the range of non-native species in South Carolina. Increase in water temperature and poor water clarity from loss of surrounding vegetation and tree coverage.

Background Photo Ideal redeye bass habitat on the Chauga River.

Anglers seek redeye bass in the scenic Chauga River in Oconee County.

Redeye bass can display individually unique and beautiful colorations. (Photo by Steve Sammons)

Redeye bass collected from the Little River during one of SCDNR’s sampling trips.
The Aquatic Education Section of SCDNR offers FREE education programs on recreational fishing techniques, opportunities and angler ethics.

Here are some of the unique, fun fishing and learning opportunities available:

**Family Fishing Clinics**
Family Fishing Clinics are an introductory class to fishing. Families with kids ages 4 and up can learn how to tie fishing knots, rig a rod and reel, cast and try their hand at fishing.

**Fishing Tackle Loaner Program**
The tackle loaner program has sites all around the state in various state and county parks that allow adults, kids and families to try their hand at fishing. Checking out a rod, reel and tackle is free. Bring your own bait and pay the park entry fee and the fishing fun is free!

**Youth Fishing Rodeos**
Fishing Rodeos are designed to provide youth with opportunities to catch fish and spend time with family outdoors. Rodeos are recommended for kids ages 5-15 years old.

**Trout in the Classroom**
Teachers Take Note! Expose your students to a world of wonder. Let your students raise trout from eggs to fingerlings.

**Youth Bass Fishing Clubs**
The SCDNR, The Bass Federation of SC and B.A.S.S. have teamed up to help bring youth bass fishing clubs to schools around the state. Students can establish school bass fishing clubs to compete for prizes, scholarships and more on a club, state and national level.

To learn more about these education programs, visit [www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed) or call 803-737-8483 or email aquaticed@dnr.sc.gov

---

**FISHING SPECIES IDENTIFICATION**

**Crappie**
- Black Crappie
- White Crappie

**Black Bass**
- Largemouth Bass
- Spotted Bass
- Redeye Bass
- Smallmouth Bass

**Pickerel**
- Chain Pickerel
- Redfin Pickerel

**Perch**
- Yellow Perch

**Coldwater Trout**
- Brook Trout
- Rainbow Trout
- Brown Trout

**Coldwater Trout**
- Brook Trout
- Rainbow Trout
- Brown Trout

**Black Bass**
- Largemouth Bass
- Spotted Bass
- Redeye Bass
- Smallmouth Bass

**Pickerel**
- Chain Pickerel
- Redfin Pickerel

**Perch**
- Yellow Perch

---

**AQUATIC EDUCATION PROGRAM**

The Aquatic Education Section of SCDNR offers FREE education programs on recreational fishing techniques, opportunities and angler ethics.

Here are some of the unique, fun fishing and learning opportunities available:

**Family Fishing Clinics**
Family Fishing Clinics are an introductory class to fishing. Families with kids ages 4 and up can learn how to tie fishing knots, rig a rod and reel, cast and try their hand at fishing.

**Fishing Tackle Loaner Program**
The tackle loaner program has sites all around the state in various state and county parks that allow adults, kids and families to try their hand at fishing. Checking out a rod, reel and tackle is free. Bring your own bait and pay the park entry fee and the fishing fun is free!

**Youth Fishing Rodeos**
Fishing Rodeos are designed to provide youth with opportunities to catch fish and spend time with family outdoors. Rodeos are recommended for kids ages 5-15 years old.

**Trout in the Classroom**
Teachers Take Note! Expose your students to a world of wonder. Let your students raise trout from eggs to fingerlings.

**Youth Bass Fishing Clubs**
The SCDNR, The Bass Federation of SC and B.A.S.S. have teamed up to help bring youth bass fishing clubs to schools around the state. Students can establish school bass fishing clubs to compete for prizes, scholarships and more on a club, state and national level.

To learn more about these education programs, visit [www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed) or call 803-737-8483 or email aquaticed@dnr.sc.gov
Ample amounts of fishing fun. Unless you’re the fish.

Visit FishCherokee.com or call 828.359.6110 for fishing permit locations.

From WATER TO PLATE

bubbablade.com

HI-POINT FIREARMS

1095TS EDGE

Featuring:
10mm auto
REALTREE Edge camo
Suppressor ready
Lifetime warranty
100% American made

More info:
HI-POINTFIREARMS.COM

Cypress Ridge Hunting Preserve
African Safaris
www.huntcrp.com
Thabazimbi in the Limpopo province...
The hunting trip of a lifetime!
Call Jason (406) 698-8170

With our tailor made African adventures we offer safaris into some of the best and unforgettable hunting concessions and private game ranches in Africa.

We are situated twenty kilometers from Thabazimbi in the Limpopo province on the foot of the Kransberg mountain range. We cater for the professional bow or rifle Hunter within in the local & international Trophy Hunting markets. Both markets play pivotal role in conservation and animal management.
FISHING www.dnr.sc.gov/fishregs

FRESHWATER FISH SIZE & POSSESSION LIMITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATER BODY</th>
<th>FISH</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT PER PERSON PER DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>American Eel</td>
<td>9 inches</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes Marion &amp; Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River</td>
<td>Blue Catfish</td>
<td>Only 1 fish larger than 36 inches may be taken</td>
<td>No limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congaree &amp; Wateree Rivers</td>
<td>Blue Catfish</td>
<td>Only 1 fish larger than 36 inches may be taken</td>
<td>No limit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NONGAME FISH SIZE & POSSESSION LIMITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATER BODY</th>
<th>FISH</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT PER PERSON PER DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Bream (includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redatear (shellcracker) and spotted sunfish)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Redbreast Sunfish</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Crappie</td>
<td>8 inches</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Walleye &amp; Sauger</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>No more than 8 combined total of walleye or sauger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Chain Pickerel</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Redfin Pickerel</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Yellow Perch</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GAME FISH SIZE & POSSESSION LIMITS

BREAM, REDBREAST SUNFISH, CRAPPIE, YELLOW PERCH, PICKEREL, WALLEYE & SAUGER

- A total of 40 game fish may be kept in any one day. This total shall not exceed more than the limits or exceptions listed below. Any game fish or species with a size limit listed must be landed with head and tail fin intact. All freshwater fish species in the state of South Carolina are measured using total length. Special limits and regulations apply to SCDNR managed lakes.
- Check with state parks, city reservoirs or county parks for special limits and regulations that apply to those areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATER BODY</th>
<th>FISH</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT PER PERSON PER DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Bream (includes bluegill, flier, warmouth, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, redatear (shellcracker) and spotted sunfish)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Redbreast Sunfish</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Crappie</td>
<td>8 inches</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Walleye &amp; Sauger</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>No more than 8 combined total of walleye or sauger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Chain Pickerel</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Redfin Pickerel</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Yellow Perch</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bluegill

Sunfishes of South Carolina

Green Sunfish

Redbreast Sunfish

Redear Sunfish

Warmouth

Flier

Pumpkinseed

Spotted Sunfish
GAME FISH SIZE & POSSESSION LIMITS
LARGEMOUTH, SMALLMOUTH, REDEYE & SPOTTED BASS

• A total of 40 game fish may be kept in any one day. This total shall not exceed more than the limits or exceptions listed below. Any game fish or species with a size limit listed must be landed with head and tail fin intact. All freshwater fish species in the state of South Carolina are measured using total length. Special limits and regulations apply to SCDNR managed lakes.

• Check with state parks, city reservoirs or county parks for special limits and regulations that apply to those areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATER BODY</th>
<th>FISH</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT PER PERSON PER DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statewide except the water bodies listed below:</td>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes Hartwell, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah; Stevens Creek Reservoir; the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers</td>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Keowee</td>
<td>Smallmouth Bass</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide except the water bodies listed below:</td>
<td>Redeye Bass</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah; Stevens Creek Reservoir; the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers</td>
<td>Redeye Bass</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide except the water bodies listed below:</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes Blalock, Greenwood, Jocassee, Marion, Monticello, Moultrie, Murray, Secession, Wateree, Wylie and the middle reach of the Saluda River and the upper reach of the Santee River</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>14 inches</td>
<td>No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah; Stevens Creek Reservoir; the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Robinson (Greenville County)</td>
<td>Largemouth Bass</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>No more than 5 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide except the water bodies listed below:</td>
<td>Spotted Bass</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes Hartwell, Keowee, Russell (including the Lake Hartwell tailwater), Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah; Stevens Creek Reservoir; the Chattooga and Savannah Rivers</td>
<td>Spotted Bass</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>No more than 10 combined total of smallmouth, largemouth, redeye, spotted bass or their hybrids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slade’s Lake</td>
<td>Largemouth, Redeye, Smallmouth &amp; Spotted Bass</td>
<td>12 inches</td>
<td>No more than 2 bass per person per day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MEASURING A FISH
How to Properly Measure a Freshwater Fish
TL=total length measure; Tip of snout with mouth closed to tip of tail. Tail should be pinched. All freshwater fish species in the state of South Carolina are measured using total length. Some saltwater species are measured with fork length.

STATE FISHING RECORDS
Check out state record catches at www.dnr.sc.gov/fish/freshrecs/records
Report potential record breaking catches at your nearest regional SCDNR office.
• A total of 40 game fish may be kept in any one day. This total shall not exceed more than the limits or exceptions listed below. Any game fish or species with a size limit listed must be landed with head and tail fin intact. All freshwater fish species in the state of South Carolina are measured using total length. Special limits and regulations apply to SCDNR managed lakes.

• Check with state parks, city reservoirs or county parks for special limits and regulations that apply to those areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATER BODY</th>
<th>FISH</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT PER PERSON PER DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statewide except the Savannah River</td>
<td>White Bass</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide except on the Savannah River and Lakes Hartwell, Russell and Thurmond see below.</td>
<td>Hybrid Bass</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide except the water bodies list below:</td>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashepoo River; Ashley River; Back River in Jasper County and the Back River in Berkeley County; Black River; Black Mingo Creek; Bull Creek and Little Bull Creek; Combahee River; Cooper River system (see map, page 31); Coosawhatchie River; Cuckholds Creek; Edisto River; Horseshoe Creek; Intracoastal Waterway (Horry County); Lumber River; Lynches River; Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers; Pocotaligo in Beaufort, Jasper, and Hampton Counties; Salkehatchie and Little Salkehatchie Rivers; Sampit River; Tulifinny River; Thoroughfare Creek; and Waccamaw River</td>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>Oct. 1 - June 15: 26 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santee River system (see map, page 31)</td>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>Oct. 1-June 15 striped bass between 23 and 25 inches may be harvested except that one fish may be greater than 26 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jun. 1 - Sept. 30: any length</td>
<td>Unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saluda River (Middle Reach) All waters of Saluda River from backwaters of Lake Murray at SC Hwy 395 upstream to Lake Greenwood Dam</td>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>Oct. 1 - May 31: 21 inches</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jun. 1 - Sept. 30: any length</td>
<td>Unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saluda River (Lower Reach) All waters of Saluda River from confluence with Broad River upstream to Lake Murray Dam</td>
<td>Striped Bass</td>
<td>Oct. 1 - Jun. 15: 26 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>June 16 - Sept. 30: any length</td>
<td>Catch and Release only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Russell</td>
<td>Striped or Hybrid Bass or a combination</td>
<td>Only 1 fish larger than 34 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Hartwell Tailwater</td>
<td>Striped or Hybrid Bass or a combination</td>
<td>Only 1 fish over 34 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savannah River (Lower) All waters of Savannah River from its confluence with the Atlantic Ocean upstream to the Lake J. Strom Thurmond Dam</td>
<td>Striped, Hybrid or White Bass or a combination</td>
<td>27 inches</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Hartwell &amp; Lake Thurmond</td>
<td>Striped or Hybrid Bass or a combination</td>
<td>Only 3 fish over 28 inches</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### White Perch
- **A.** Dorsal fins joined by a membrane.
- **B.** No tooth patches on tongue.
- **C.** Body deepest in front of 1st dorsal fin.
- **D.** No stripes present or only faintly striped on lower body only.
- **E.** 2nd spine almost equal the length of 3rd spine.

### Striped Bass
- **A.** Dorsal fins not joined.
- **B.** Back of tongue has 2 distinct tooth patches.
- **C.** Body slender, less than 1/3 length.
- **D.** Stripes distinct, several extend to tail.
- **E.** 2nd spine 1/2 the length of 3rd spine.

### White Bass
- **A.** Dorsal fins not jointed.
- **B.** Back of tongue has 1 tooth patch.
- **C.** Body deep, more than 1/3 length.
- **D.** Stripes faint, only 1 extends to tail.
- **E.** 2nd spine 2/3 the length or more of 3rd spine.

### Hybrid Bass
- **A.** Dorsal fins not joined.
- **B.** Back of tongue has 2 distinct tooth patches.
- **C.** Body deep, more than 1/3 length.
- **D.** Stripes distinct, usually broken, several extend to tail.
- **E.** 2nd spine 2/3 or more the length of 3rd spine.
GAME FISH SIZE & POSSESSION LIMITS
BROOK, BROWN & RAINBOW TROUT

A total of 40 game fish may be kept in any one day. This total shall not exceed more than the limits or exceptions listed below. Any game fish or species with a size limit listed must be landed with head and tail fin intact. All freshwater fish species in the state of South Carolina are measured using total length. Special limits and regulations apply to SCDNR managed lakes.

Check with state parks, city reservoirs or county parks for special limits and regulations that apply to those areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATER BODY</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT</th>
<th>BAIT &amp; TACKLE RESTRICTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statewide except the water bodies listed below:</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waters on Georgia Border</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chauga River (SC Hwy 290 [Cassidy Bridge Road] upstream to Bone Camp Creek)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>Nov. 1 - May 14: Catch and Release only</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 15 - Oct. 31: 5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattooga River (Hwy 28 to Reed Creek)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>Nov. 1 - May 14: Catch and Release only</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 15 - Oct. 31: 5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheohee Creek</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheohee Creek (portion that runs through the Piedmont Forestry Center) Open Mon, Wed, Sat or as posted</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>Nov. 1 - May 14: Catch and Release only</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 15 - Oct. 31: 5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corbin Creek (from confluence with Howard Creek upstream to SC Hwy 130)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>Nov. 1 - May 14: Catch and Release only</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 15 - Oct. 31: 5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devils Fork Creek</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>Nov. 1 - May 14: Catch and Release only</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 15 - Oct. 31: 5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastatoe Creek (Keowee to Roy Jones Road)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>Nov. 1 - May 14: Catch and Release only</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 15 - Oct. 31: 5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

Northern Snakehead

Note long anal fin

Bowfin

Note short anal fin

It is unlawful to transport, purchase, possess or sell live snakehead in South Carolina. If you catch a snakehead, **DO NOT RELEASE IT**! Keep the fish, freeze it or place it on ice and contact:

S.C. Department of Natural Resources
(803) 366-7024 or (843) 661-4767
GAME FISH SIZE & POSSESSION LIMITS (CONTINUED)
BROOK, BROWN & RAINBOW TROUT

• A total of 40 game fish may be kept in any one day. This total shall not exceed more than the limits or exceptions listed below. Any game fish or species with a size limit listed must be landed with head and tail fin intact. All freshwater fish species in the state of South Carolina are measured using total length. Special limits and regulations apply to SCDNR managed lakes.

• Check with state parks, city reservoirs or county parks for special limits and regulations that apply to those areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WATER BODY</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT</th>
<th>BAIT &amp; TACKLE RESTRICTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastatoe Creek (portion on Eastatoe River Heritage Preserve)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Creek (from confluence with Corbin Creek upstream to confluence with Limberpole Creek)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>Nov. 1 - May 14: Catch and Release only</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except single hook artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 15 - Oct. 31: 5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Saluda River (All waters of Saluda River from confluence with Broad River upstream to Lake Murray Dam)</td>
<td>Only 1 fish may be more than 16 inches</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Saluda River from the east bound I-20 bridge downstream to Stacey’s Ledge</td>
<td>Catch and Release Only</td>
<td>Catch and Release Only</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthews Creek (from Asbury Drive Bridge at Asbury Methodist Camp upstream including all tributaries and headwaters)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthews Creek (downstream from Asbury Drive Bridge at Asbury Methodist Camp downstream to the confluence with South Saluda River)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Saluda (from the foot bridge at Jones Gap State Park Office upstream to US Hwy 276 in Greenville County)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Saluda (from Hugh Smith Road Bridge upstream to the foot-bridge at Jones Gap State Park) Open Mon, Wed, Sat</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>Catch and Release only</td>
<td>Lawful to use or possess only artificial lures with single hooks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitewater River (Oconee County)</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unlawful to use or possess any lure or bait except artificial lures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Jocassee</td>
<td>Oct. 1 - May 31: 15 inches, but only 1 fish more than 20 inches</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jun. 1 - Sept. 30: Any length</td>
<td>Unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess more than 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Russell</td>
<td>Any length</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT IS AN ARTIFICIAL LURE?

Artificial lure: means manufactured or handmade flies, spinners, plugs, spoons, and reproductions of live animals, which are made completely of natural or colored wood, cork, feathers, hair, rubber, metal, plastic, tinsel, styrofoam, sponge, or string, or any combination of these materials, in imitation of or as substitute for natural bait. Lures or fish eggs enhanced with scents or salts are not artificial lures. Artificially produced organic baits are not artificial lures.

THIS WATERBODY IS STOCKED WITH
STERILE TRIPLOID GRASS CARP
FOR THE CONTROL OF AQUATIC WEEDS

Short Dorsal Fin
Long Dorsal Fin
No Barbels
Barbels

Triploid Grass Carp
Common Carp

State Law Section 50-13-1630(E): It is unlawful to take, harm, or kill grass carp from public waters. Any grass carp taken must be returned immediately to the water from which it was taken.

SCDNR
Aquatic Nuisance Species Program
www.dnr.sc.gov/invasiveweeds/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>WATER BODY</th>
<th>ACRES</th>
<th>OPEN DAYS</th>
<th>OPEN TO FISHING</th>
<th>MAXIMUM BOAT/MOTOR HP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barnwell</td>
<td>Lake Edgar Brown</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>24 hours a day</td>
<td>Motor allowed, gas outboards of 10 hp or less allowed north of Wellington Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berkeley</td>
<td>Bonneau Ferry Lakes*</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Thur.– Sun. Mar. 2 – Oct. 31</td>
<td>Daylight hours</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>Lake Cherokee</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>24 hours a day</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>Lake Thicketty</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>24 hours a day</td>
<td>Paddle, electric trolling motor, or gas outboards 10 hp or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chester</td>
<td>Lake Oliphant</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Mon., Wed., &amp; Sat.</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chester</td>
<td>Mountain Lake 1</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Tue., Thur., Sat., &amp; Sun.</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chester</td>
<td>Mountain Lake 2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tue., Thur., Sat., &amp; Sun.</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darlington</td>
<td>Dargan's Pond</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwood</td>
<td>Star Fort Pond</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Wed., Fri., &amp; Sat. April 1 - Nov. 1</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampton</td>
<td>Lake George Warren</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>24 hours a day</td>
<td>Paddle, electric trolling motor, or gas outboards 10 hp or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>Lancaster Reservoir</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Thur. &amp; Sat.</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>Sunrise Lake</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Will reopen Jan. 2019 Mon., Wed., &amp; Sat</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Lake Ashwood</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Every day, except Tue.</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Paddle, electric trolling motor, or gas outboards 10 hp or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlboro</td>
<td>Lake Paul Wallace</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>24 hours a day</td>
<td>Fishing side - Paddle, electric trolling motor or outboard motors 10 hp or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spartanburg</td>
<td>Lake Edwin B. Johnson</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>Jonesville Reservoir</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Mon., Wed., &amp; Sat.</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>Lake John D. Long</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>Paddle or electric trolling motor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York</td>
<td>Draper WMA Lakes**</td>
<td>1 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Every day, except Tue.</td>
<td>½ hour before official sunrise to ½ hour after official sunset</td>
<td>No boats allowed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Statewide size & possession limits apply for all other species, unless noted otherwise. For detailed information, visit www.dnr.sc.gov/lakes/state/

* Adult/youth fishing only. Each youth (17 and younger) must be accompanied by no more than 2 adults, 18 years of age or older. The youth must actively fish. Fishing is not allowed during scheduled deer and turkey hunts. See Bonneau Ferry WMA hunt regulations for hunt dates.

** Daily creel limits are combined for all Draper WMA Lakes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATFISH CREEL/ SIZE LIMITS</th>
<th>BASS CREEL/ SIZE LIMITS</th>
<th>BREAM CREEL/SIZE LIMITS</th>
<th>STATEWIDE CRAPPIE LIMIT APPLIES?</th>
<th>MINNOWS ALLOWED AS BAIT?</th>
<th>BOAT RAMP</th>
<th>FISHING PIER</th>
<th>HANDICAP ACCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3 (16” or longer)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Limited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1 (only 1 16” or longer)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2 (16” or longer)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Catch &amp; Release only</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**State Lake Closures**

The following lakes have been closed for renovations and restocking.

- Sunrise Lake will reopen January 2019.
Freshwater Nongame Fish

Freshwater nongame fish are any freshwater fish species not classified as game fish.

General Information

- Nongame fish may be taken with any lawful nongame fishing device. Nongame fish may also be taken with hook and line. A fisherman may only use four rods and reels. A fisherman fishing from a boat may use an unlimited number of rods and reels if all persons in the boat 16 years and older have valid fishing licenses.
- Nongame fishing permits and tags may be purchased from SCDNR only. Applications may be obtained at www.dnr.sc.gov or by calling 803-734-3833.
- Nongame fishing permits and tags are required, in addition to a valid South Carolina fishing license, for youth under 16, to use the following devices for recreational purposes:
  - up to 1 trotline with not more than 50 hooks
  - up to 2 traps
  - 1 gill net no more than 100 yards in length or 3 gill nets, none of which exceed 30 yards in length (This does not apply to shad and herring. See page 43).
  - up to 2 eel pots
  - 1 recreational net on the Wateree River, licensee 65 years and older
  - With a valid South Carolina fishing license and no additional tags or permits, archery equipment, cast nets, crayfish traps (5 or less), gill, hand grabbing, minnow seines, minnow traps and spears may be used in freshwaters except lakes owned or managed by the DNR to take nongame fish. This requirement applies to all freshwaters of the state inland of the saltwater-freshwater dividing line, except privately-owned ponds.
- Nongame devices are not allowed in certain waters. The maximum number of devices allowed per area is shown in the Nongame Device Limits by Location (See page 40).
- A tag must be attached to the device for which it was issued, and each permit and tag identification receipt must be in the licensee’s possession while engaging in the activity.
- On Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River only 2 blue catfish larger than 32 inches may be taken and there is a 25 fish possession limit. On the Congaree and Wateree Rivers there is no possession limit and only 2 fish larger than 32 inches may be taken.
- Native freshwater mussels cannot be taken without a permit from the Department of Natural Resources. The non-native Asian clams, also known as Corbicula may be taken. Contact the Freshwater Fisheries Section at 803-734-3891 for permit.
- Game fish must be immediately released if caught by net or trap or any other device used for catching nongame fish.
- Federal law requires passenger for hire service operating on U.S. navigable waters to comply with minimum federal safety and personnel licensing laws and regulations. Vessels that are carrying paying passengers must have a Captain that is USCG Licensed/USCG Vessel Inspected. Please contact USCG for more information 1-888-427-5662.

Shad/Herring

Includes American and hickory shad and blueback herring.

- To take shad for recreational purposes by hook and line, cast net, or skimbow net in waters of the state, a person must have the appropriate freshwater or saltwater recreational fishing license.

- American shad and herring may be harvested by skimbow net from February through April. Only 10 shad per person per day or 1 US bushel of herring per person per day, except in the Santee River and Rediversion Canal (which is 20 shad per person per day), can be harvested. Gill nets are allowed to harvest American shad and herring for commercial use. If fishing gill nets recreationally, one must adhere to the recreational limits.
- It is unlawful to possess saltwater or freshwater game fish or fishing tackle capable of taking saltwater or freshwater game fish while taking or attempting to take shad or herring with gillnets.
- It is unlawful to take shad by hook and line or by skimbow net while operating or possessing any commercial fishing equipment for taking shad or herring.
- Herring fishery area closures: Herring fishery closed in the Savannah River seaward of the Augusta Diversion Dam and in all rivers in the Winyah Bay River System (means all waters of Winyah Bay east of a line running south from the southern tip of North Island to the eastern tip of Sand Island, and extending to the mouths of the Sampit, Great Pee Dee, and Waccamaw Rivers) except for the Great Pee Dee River.
- Herring fishing is prohibited within one hundred feet of the fish lift exit channel at St. Stephens Powerhouse.
- See detailed shad & herring info on page 43.

Commercial Fishing

- A commercial freshwater fishing license must be in possession to take nongame fish by any method from public waters and sell or offer for sale such nongame fish, and/or fish with the following nongame fishing devices:
  - 6 or more crayfish traps
  - 3 or more eel pots
  - 1 elver fyke net
  - 2 or more hoop nets
  - 3 or more traps, or
  - 2 or more trotlines or fish trotlines with more than 50 hooks.
  - 4 or more gill nets (or a total of more than 100 yards of net).
  - Strikers are defined as persons other than the licensed freshwater commercial fishermen, who under immediate supervision assists a licensed commercial freshwater fisherman, but does not use separate nongame fishing devices from the vessel engaged in commercial fishing. A striker is not required to have a commercial or recreational freshwater fishing license.
- On Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River only 2 blue catfish larger than 32 inches may be taken and there is a 25 fish possession limit. On the Congaree and Wateree Rivers there is no possession limit and only 2 fish larger than 32 inches may be taken.
- To qualify for a resident commercial freshwater fishing license, one must have been a resident of this state for the past 365 consecutive days and furnish proof to the SCDNR.

Markers & Identification of Nongame Devices

- Trotlines, traps, eel pots, gill nets, and hoop nets must be marked with a white floating marker not less than a capacity of one quart and not more than a capacity of one gallon and must be made of solid, buoyant material that does not sink if punctured or cracked. A floating marker must be constructed of plastic, PVC spongex, plastic foam, or cork. A hollow buoy or float, including plastic, metal, or glass bottles or jugs, must not be used, except that a manufactured buoy or float specifically designed for use with
nongame fishing devices may be hollow if constructed of heavy duty plastic material and approved by the department. The owner’s name and department customer identification number must be legible on each of the white floating markers. Both commercial and recreational fishermen shall comply with provisions of this title pertaining to the marking and use of a nongame fishing device. A trotline must be marked on both ends.

- A commercial trotline must be marked at intervals of every 50 hooks. A commercial trotline which uses fifty or fewer hooks must be marked at intervals of 25 hooks. A recreational trotline must be marked at intervals of every 25 hooks. Each interval float must be ‘International Orange’ in color.

**Bait**

- No game fish (except bream, excluding redbreast, cut into two or more equal parts), live bait or any bait other than bait listed below shall be used with trotlines, set hooks and jugs: soap, doughballs, shrimp, grapes or meat scraps (which may not include insects, worms and other invertebrates).

  - On the Edisto, Black, Sampit, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches and Waccamaw Rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used with single-barbed set hooks that have a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater.
  - On the Black, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches and Waccamaw rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used on trotlines having not more than 20 hooks with a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater.

- However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.

- There are no restrictions on the type of bait permissible in traps or eel pots, except that no game fish or parts thereof shall be used as bait.

- Except for bait lost while fishing, it is unlawful to intentionally release any aquatic species, including bait, regardless of the stage of its life cycle, into the waters of this State without a permit from the SCDNR.

- It is unlawful to use any nonindigenous fish as bait that is not already established in the water body being fished except the following minnows: fathead minnows, golden shiners, and goldfish, including ‘black salties’. Except for bream (other than redbreast), no other game fish is allowed to be used as bait, provided, trout are allowed to be used as bait only on Lakes Hartwell, Russell, Thurmond, Tugaloo, Yonah, Stevens Creek Reservoir, and the Savannah River. When using game fish as bait to catch fish recreationally they must be included in the daily creel limit.

- There are no restrictions on the type of bait permissible in traps or eel pots except that no gamefish or parts thereof shall be used as bait.

**Penalties**

- The boat, motor, fishing gear and fish of any person who is charged with unlawfully fishing, using or having in possession a gill net or hoop net on any freshwater lake or reservoir shall be confiscated.

- Any person who tampers with any non-game fishing device with intent to damage or to make it ineffective for the purpose of taking fish shall be fined not less than $100 nor more than $200 or imprisoned for not more than 30 days, and for stealing a device or fish caught in the device shall be fined not less than $500 nor more than $1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months or both.

- Upon the conviction of any commercial freshwater fisherman of illegal possession of game fish or the sale or traffic in game fish, SCDNR shall suspend such person’s license or privilege to fish in this state for a period of one year.

**Prohibited Areas**

- No nongame fishing devices of any kind may be used in SCDNR State Managed Lakes.

**Prohibited Practices**

- Possession or use on the freshwaters of this state of any device or gear designed or used to catch nongame fish not authorized by law is prohibited. Nongame fish may not be taken by explosives, electrical devices, poison or similar means.

- Possession of game fish or tackle designed to catch game fish is prohibited while fishing traps, trotlines, or other nongame fish devices except cast nets.

- It is unlawful for any person to tamper with, fish, or use in any manner the nongame fishing device or gear owned and tagged by another person, or to take from any such device or gear, any fish caught therein. No fishing device shall be used, placed, set or fished so as to create a hazard to boating.

- No trotlines, traps or eel pots shall be placed within 200 yards of any permanent man-made structure on Lakes Marion and Moultrie nor placed anywhere in the Diversion Canal connecting Lakes Marion and Moultrie, the Tailrace Canal nor the area known as the Borrow Pit (also known as “Bar Pit”) in Clarendon County.

- Nongame devices, such as set hooks, may not be attached or secured to any vegetation or structure on the Congaree National Park property bordering the Wateree or Congaree Rivers. Rules and regulations concerning the Congaree National Park may be obtained from the National Park Service at 803-776-4396 or at www.nps.gov/cong.
A fishing license is required of all persons who fish nongame fishing devices. Some devices are not permitted on certain waters. See page 40, Nongame Device Limits by Location.

**Gill Nets**
(Not for shad and herring; see page 43).

**Description**
Nets must have a mesh size not less than 4-1/2 inches stretch mesh. The maximum length is 100 yards in the freshwater and no net, cable line or other device used for support of a gill net may extend more than halfway across any stream or body of water. Nets must be marked with a white floating marker (see Markers and Identification of Nongame Devices on page 36).

**Permits/Regulations**
A gill net tag is required. A gill net may be placed in the freshwaters on a first come first serve basis but a gill net must not be placed within 200 yards of another gill net. Along the Little Pee Dee River upstream of Punch Bowl Landing, no net may be set within 75 feet of another drifting net. Nongame fish taken in shad nets lawfully fished during the open season for taking shad may be kept. A sturgeon caught must be returned immediately to the waters from which it was taken.

**Hours/Seasons**
The season for taking nongame fish other than American shad and herring in the freshwaters of this State with a gill net is from Nov. 1 to New Year’s Day, with the exception that gill nets may be used for American shad and herring in the Little Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks), Sampit and Waccamaw Rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding redbreast, may be used with single-barbed set hooks that have a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers.

**Set Hooks**
A single hook and line attached to a free-floating device with a minimum capacity of one pint and a maximum of one gallon. May not have more than one line.

**Permits/Regulations**
A permit is required to fish up to 50 hooks (50 hook limit). A licensee’s name and customer ID number must be clearly marked on each hook. Hook fishing is legal only in lakes Greenwood, Hartwell, Santee, Russell, and Thurmond and Stevens Creek Reservoir. A hook permit is not required for residents assisting hook permit holders. Hooks must be marked with name and customer ID number (see pages 37-39).

**Hours/Seasons**
Must be removed from the water before one hour after official sunrise each day and not replaced prior to one hour before official sunset.

**Traps**
Traps & eel pots described below must be marked with a white floating marker (see Markers and Identification of Nongame Devices, page 36-37).

**Trap Type 1 Description**
The trap may be made of wire or textile material and be cylindrical in shape of a length not more than 6 feet and a width of not more than 3 feet. The mesh shall not be smaller than 1 inch by 1 inch, and there shall be only one application of exterior wire to the trap. The muzzle shall have one of the following designs: A trap door on the second muzzle or catch muzzle which remains in a closed position and which only opens for the entry of fish into the trap; or constructed of netting so that the opening of the small end of the second or catch muzzle is held in the shape of a slit and the trap configuration constructed such that as the trap rests on the bottom, the slit shall be oriented horizontally with the greatest vertical opening being no greater than 1 inch.

**Trap Type 2 Description**
The trap may be made of wood strips or slats and be cylindrical or rectangular in shape. The length shall not exceed 6 feet, and the width or diameter shall not exceed 2 feet. The throat opening of the catch muzzle in a resting position shall not exceed 3 inches measured in any direction. The sides, top and rear of the trap shall have a minimum of one inch opening between the slats to allow for the escape of small catfish. This shall apply only to the last 12 inches of the trap.

**Eel Pot Description**
Pots no larger than 24 inches by 48 inches and constructed of wire with a mesh size no smaller than 1/2 by 1/2 inch, except for the throat or muzzle and the end opposite the throat or muzzle. The throat opening shall not exceed 2 inches measured in any direction. (Permit required, call 843-953-9311)

**Permits/Regulations**
A tag is required for each trap or eel pot. A permit is required for the harvest of eels in both freshwater and saltwater. Traps and eel pots may be suspended in water at a depth which does not create a hazard to watercraft. No trap or eel pot shall be placed within 100 feet of the mouth of any tributary stream. No crab pot or trap of like design may be used in the freshwaters of this state.

**Hours/Seasons**
No closed season.

**Trotlines**
Two or more hooks attached to a line which is rigged horizontally and marked with a
white floating marker. Stainless steel hooks are prohibited statewide. Hooks used in Lakes Marion and Moultrie ONLY must measure 7/16 inch or less between point and shank.

On the Black, Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lumber, Lynches (including Clarks, Mill and Muddy Creeks) and Waccamaw rivers, live nongame fish and bream, excluding red-breast, may be used on a trotline having not more than 20 hooks with a shank-to-point gap of fifteen-sixteenths inches or greater. However, it is unlawful for a person to have in possession more than the lawful creel limit of bream while fishing with nongame devices on these rivers. (See Markers and Identification of Nongame Devices on page 36-37).

Permits/Regulations
A tag is required for each trotline with up to 50 hooks. Trotlines with more than 50 hooks require a tag for every 50 hooks or less. No trotline shall be attached in any manner to another trotline or to the support or float of another trotline. No trotlines allowed within 100 feet of the mouth of any tributary stream.

Hours/Seasons
Trotlines must be inspected and fish removed at least every 24 hours. From Apr. 1 to Oct. 1, no trotline is permitted in any waters from one hour after official sunrise to one hour before official sunset, unless the trotline is sunk to the bottom or a minimum depth of four feet below the surface. From Oct. 2 to Mar. 31, trotlines may be left in the water 24 hours per day at any depth.

Other Devices
Crayfish Trap
A device constructed of coated wire with the opening of the throat or flues not exceeding 21/4 inches with a minimum mesh size of 1/4 inch bar mesh. All crayfish traps must be marked with the name and customer ID number. These traps only may be used in those bodies of water permitted. A commercial fisherman may fish up to fifty crayfish traps. A recreational fisherman may fish up to five crayfish traps.

Elver Fyke Net
A net with wings not exceeding 10 feet in length and 14 feet in depth. The distance from throat to cod end does not exceed 20 feet. The maximum bar mesh for any part of the net does not exceed 1/8 inch square. (Commercial license and permit required, call 843-953-9311)

Minnow Seine
Must not be greater than 4 feet in depth by 20 feet in length with a mesh size of not more than 1/4 inch square mesh. It is unlawful to have in possession a minnow seine from 10 PM to official sunrise. Must be marked with name and customer ID number.

Minnow Trap
A cylindrical device not longer than 24 inches and no more than 30 inches in circumference or a rectangular device not larger than 24 inches long, 8 inches high, and 9 inches wide. The mesh must be no smaller than 1/4 inch bar mesh. The throat opening of the funnel of the trap may not exceed 1 inch in diameter. All minnow traps must be marked with the user’s name and customer ID number. A minnow trap may be fished with a recreational license only, with a limit of 5 for each person, and must not be fished for commercial purposes.

Seine
A net having a stretch mesh of not less than 1 inch and not more than 1-1/2 inches which does not exceed 75 feet in length or 6 feet in depth. It shall be unlawful to anchor a seine and leave it unattended.

Skimbow Net
A hand-operated dip net with the bow constructed of wood with wire or textile netting with a mesh size not greater than 1-1/2 inches square. The bow shall not exceed 14 feet in any direction and may be used only from Feb. 1 through Apr. 30 for shad or herring. A skimbow net can only be fished from a boat and used only for recreational fishing.

CUSTOMER ID NUMBER
To find your customer identification number, please see the number in the lower left hand corner of your DNR issued license.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>River</th>
<th>Recreational Devices</th>
<th>Commercial Devices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashpeo River</td>
<td>Eel Pots: 2, Set Hooks: 50</td>
<td>Eel Pots: 2, Set Hooks: 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Creek including Lakes Robinson &amp; Prestwood</td>
<td>Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black River</td>
<td>Gill Nets: nongame nets in season, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Gill Nets: nongame nets in season, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad River</td>
<td>Seine not allowed, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Seine not allowed, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper River</td>
<td>Eel Pots (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 2</td>
<td>Eel Pots (not allowed upstream from Wadboo Creek): 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enoree River</td>
<td>Seine allowed from the Norfolk-Southern Railroad in Greenville County downstream to the Broad River: 1</td>
<td>Eel Pots downstream from US Highway 701 to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line including the navigable oxbows and sloughs and Bull Creek: 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catawba River</td>
<td>Seine not allowed, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Seine not allowed, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Holes Lakes system</td>
<td>Gill Nets: nongame nets in season, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Gill Nets: nongame nets in season, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conesawatchie River</td>
<td>Eel Pots: 50, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Eel Pots: 50, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edisto River</td>
<td>Eel Pots: 50, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Eel Pots: 50, Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Pee Dee River</td>
<td>Eel Pots downstream from US Highway 701 to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line including the navigable oxbows and sloughs and Bull Creek: 2</td>
<td>Eel Pots downstream from US Highway 701 to the saltwater/freshwater dividing line including the navigable oxbows and sloughs and Bull Creek: 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: For a comprehensive list, please refer to the website www.dnr.sc.gov/fishregs/nongameregs.
Great Pee Dee River
The waters from US Interstate Highway 95 to the NC/SC State Line including the navigable oxbows and sloughs.
Recreational Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50
- Traps: 2
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame nets in season
- Hoop Nets: upstream from SC Line: 50
- Set Hooks: 50
- Traps: 50
- Trotlines: 250 hooks maximum no more than 5 lines

Jequeries Creek
Florence County.
Recreational Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame nets in season
- Hoop Nets: upstream from SC Line: 50
- Set Hooks: 50
- Traps: 50
- Trotlines: 250 hooks maximum no more than 5 lines

Lake Keowee
Recreational Devices
- Traps: 2
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Traps: 5
- Trotlines: 150 hooks maximum no more than 3 lines

Lakes Marion and Moultrie and the upper reach of the Santee River
Recreational Devices
- Traps: 2
- Trotlines (hooks must have a gap or clearance between point and shank no greater than 7/16"): 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Traps: 25
- Trotlines (hooks must have a gap or clearance between point and shank no greater than 7/16"): 3 lines with not more than 400 hooks on each line

Lake Murray
Recreational Devices
- Traps: 2
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Traps: 5
- Trotlines: 150 hooks maximum no more than 3 lines

Lake Russell
Recreational Devices
- Jugs: 50
- Traps: 2
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Traps: 5
- Trotlines: 150 hooks maximum no more than 3 lines

Lake Seccesion
Recreational Devices
- Jugs: 50
- Traps: 2
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Traps: 5
- Trotlines: 150 hooks maximum no more than 3 lines

Lake Thurmond and Stevens Creek Reservoir
Recreational Devices
- Traps: 50
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Traps: 5
- Trotlines: 150 hooks maximum no more than 3 lines

Lake Wateree
Recreational Devices
- Traps: 2
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Traps: 5
- Trotlines: 150 hooks maximum no more than 3 lines

Lake Wylie
Recreational Devices
- Traps: 2
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Traps: 5
- Trotlines: 150 hooks maximum no more than 3 lines

Little Pee Dee River
Including Russ’s Creek and other navigable oxbows and sloughs.
Recreational Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50
- Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum

Little River
From Mars Bridge in McCormick County up to the confluence of Barkers Creek (Long Branch) and Corner Creek in Anderson County.
Recreational Devices
- Seine: 1

Log Creek
Edgefield County.
Recreational Devices
- Seine: 1

Long Cane Creek
McCormick County from above Patterson Bridge on SC Highway S-33-117 upstream to the SC Highway S-1-75 in Abbeville County.
Recreational Devices
- Seine: 1

Louther’s Lake
Darlington County.
Recreational Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame gill nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50

Commercial Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame gill nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50

Lumber River
Recreational Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame gill nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50
- Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum

Lynches River
Includes Clarks Creek, Mill Creek and Muddy Creek.
Recreational Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50
- Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum
Commercial Devices
- Gill Nets: nongame nets in season
- Set Hooks: 50
- Trotlines: 5 lines with 250 hooks maximum

Mulberry Creek
Greenville County.
Recreational Devices
- Seine: 1

New River
Recreational Devices
- Set Hooks: 50
Commercial Devices
- Set Hooks: 50
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Recreational Devices</th>
<th>Commercial Devices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacolet River</td>
<td>Seine: 1, Set Hooks: 50, Traps: 2, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabon Creek</td>
<td>Seine: 1</td>
<td>Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedy River</td>
<td>Seine from the Norfolk-Southern Railroad in Greenville County downstream to the backwaters of Lake Greenwood: 1</td>
<td>Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saluda River</td>
<td>Seine: 1, Set Hooks: 50, Traps: 2, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
<td>Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 1 line with 50 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrior Creek</td>
<td>Seine: 1</td>
<td>Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wateree River</td>
<td>Seine: 1</td>
<td>Set Hooks: 50, Trotlines: 3 lines with 150 hooks maximum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, visit the DNR website: [www.dnr.sc.gov/fishregs/nongamereg](www.dnr.sc.gov/fishregs/nongamereg)
SHAD & HERRING FISHING REGULATIONS

Applies to American and hickory shad and blueback herring only

**Shad Gill Net**
A gill net used for taking or attempting to take shad in the inshore saltwaters must have a stretched mesh size of no smaller than 5-1/2 inches and a length not exceeding 900 feet. A gill net used for shad in the freshwaters must have a stretched mesh size of no smaller than 5-1/2 inches and be no longer than 600 hundred feet. Gill nets for taking shad may be freely drift fished or set.

**Herring Gill Net**
A gill net used for taking or attempting to take herring in the salt waters of this State must have mesh size of 2-1/2 inches stretched and a length no greater than 900 hundred feet. Gill net used for taking or attempting to take herring in freshwaters must have a stretched mesh of 2-1/2 inches stretched and a length no greater than 600 hundred feet.

For more information on recreational or commercial blueback herring, American shad or hickory shad fishing requirements, contact the Office of Fisheries Management at 843-953-9311 or visit [http://www.dnr.sc.gov/marine/shad](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/marine/shad).

**Recreational (unlawful to sell catch) Limits**

**Shad**
Ten shad per person per day except in Santee River and Rediversion Canal (where it is 20 per person per day)

**Herring**
One US bushel of herring per person per day. Herring Fishery closed in the Savannah River and in all rivers in the Winyah Bay River System (which means all waters of Winyah Bay east of a line running south from the southern tip of North Island to the eastern tip of Sand Island, and extending to the mouths of the Sampit, Great Pee Dee, and Waccamaw Rivers) except for the Great Pee Dee River.

**Gear Type:**
- It is unlawful to take American shad and herring using the following nongame fishing devices: archery equipment, crayfish trap, eel pot, elver fyke net, gig, hand grabbing, hoop net, jug fishing device, minnow seine, minnow trap, pump net, seine, set hook, spear, trap or trotline.

**Hook and Line, Cast Nets or Skimbow Nets**
- To take shad or herring for recreational purposes by hook and line, cast net (for bait), or skimbow net in freshwaters a person MUST have a recreational freshwater fishing license.

**Shad Gill Net or Herring Gill Net**
- To take shad or herring for recreational purposes using a shad or herring gill net, a person MUST have a recreational fishing license, gear license, and related permits.
- Only one shad or herring gill net may be fished by occupants of a boat, and if drifted, it must be attended at all times when deployed. Additional boats in tow may not be used to increase the number of authorized nets. Must adhere to legal commercial fishing areas and the recreational limit.

**Recreational License Requirements**
- If fishing recreationally in the freshwaters of the state, a person needs a recreational freshwater fishing license. If fishing recreationally in the saltwaters of the state, a person needs a recreational saltwater fishing license. If fishing in both fresh and saltwaters, a person MUST have both a recreational freshwater fishing license and a recreational saltwater fishing license.
- MUST have a shad gill net or herring gill net license (not the same as a gill net license).
- MUST have the required permit from the Office of Fisheries Management 843-953-0453.

**Commercial (selling your catch)**

**Gear Type:**
- Cast Net
  - To use a cast net to take herring for commercial purposes, a person MUST have a commercial license, a gear license, and related permits.

**Shad Gill Net or Herring Gill Net**
- To take shad or herring for commercial purposes using a shad or herring gill net, a person MUST have a commercial fishing license, gear license, and related permits.

**Commercial License Requirements**
- If fishing commercially in the freshwaters of the state, a person needs a commercial freshwater fishing license. If fishing commercially in the saltwaters of the state, a person needs a commercial saltwater fishing license. If fishing in both fresh and saltwaters, a person MUST have both a commercial freshwater fishing and a commercial saltwater fishing license.
- MUST have a shad gill net, herring gill net or herring cast net license (not the same as a gill net license).
- MUST have the required permit from the Office of Fisheries Management 843-953-0453.
All Boats
In South Carolina, vessels may not be operated in excess of idle speed within 50 feet of an anchored vessel, wharf, pier, dock, or a person in the water. Vessels may not operate in excess of idle speed within 100 yards of the Atlantic coastline (Sec. 50-21-870).

Marine Events
A permit is required for any marine event with more than 20 boats. For permits or information on these and other marine events, contact Marine Law Enforcement, P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422, 843-953-9302.

Equipment
Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)
All boats must have a US Coast Guard approved wearable type PFD for each person on board or being towed. Each PFD must be in good condition, readily available and the proper size for the intended wearer. In addition, boats 16 feet in length or longer must carry a Type IV throwable device. In South Carolina, any person under twelve years of age must wear a US Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III, or V PFD when on board a class “A” (less than 16 ft. long) boat.

Fire Extinguisher
One Coast Guard approved hand-held portable fire extinguisher must be aboard each boat less than 26 feet if the boat is carrying passengers for hire or if the construction permits the entrapment of flammable vapors or if it has a permanently installed gas tank, including gas tanks that use any type of fastener that would hamper the immediate removal of the tank from the boat. Additional extinguishers are required in boats larger than 26 feet. Contact the SCDNR for complete regulations.

Navigation Lights
Navigation Lights must be on between official sunset and sunrise.

Flares
Flares are required for vessels in coastal waters.

Bells, Whistle
All boats less than 39.4 feet must carry an efficient sound producing device. Every vessel from 39.4 to 65.6 feet must carry a whistle and a bell.

Personal Watercraft
In South Carolina, each person on a personal watercraft must wear a US Coast Guard-approved Type I, II, III or V PFD.

A personal watercraft may not be operated between sunset and sunrise and must be equipped with a self-circling or lanyard-type engine cutoff switch.

When operating a personal watercraft, one may not operate in a manner so as to leave the water completely while crossing (jumping) the wake of another vessel within 200 feet of the vessel creating the wake.

Minimum Age of Operators
In South Carolina, boat operators under age 16 must complete a boating course approved by the SCDNR to operate a boat or personal watercraft with a 15 h.p. motor or greater, unless accompanied by an adult age 18 years or older.

Reporting Boating Accidents
The operator of every vessel involved in a boating accident shall report to the SCDNR whenever the accident results in loss of life, loss of consciousness, medical treatment or disability in excess of 24 hours, or property damage. For more information, call 843-953-9302.

Restrictions
Airboats are prohibited on public waters of this state from the freshwater-saltwater dividing line seaward, and on that portion of Lake Marion and Santee Swamp west of the I-95 bridge upstream to the confluence of the Congaree and Wateree rivers during the season for hunting waterfowl.

Titling & Registration
Titling
The seller of a used watercraft or outboard motor in South Carolina must produce a South Carolina Certificate of Title in his/her name at the time of sale. Titles are valid until the watercraft or outboard motor is sold, traded or exchanged. A title with erasures, white out or information marked through is not valid. The owner must request a duplicate title. Titles are required for all sailboats, all outboard motors 5 horsepower and greater, and all other watercraft except: documented vessels, windsurfers, and those propelled by human power with oars, paddles or similar devices.

Registration
Watercraft propelled by any mechanized means must be registered in addition to being titled in the owner’s name.

Stolen Watercraft/Outboard Motors
The owner of a watercraft or outboard motor which has been stolen should immediately contact local law enforcement to file a report, and then the SCDNR Marine Investigations at 803-734-3856 to receive a Theft Report form. Forms can also be found at www.dnr.sc.gov/boating in the Forms section.

VESSIEI SEWAGE REGULATIONS
It is Illegal:
• To have a toilet installed aboard your boat without a marine sanitation device.
• For any boat used for habitation moored at a private dock to discharge raw or treated sewage.
• For houseboats to discharge treated or raw sewage in freshwater.
• For any vessel to discharge treated or untreated sewage in a No Discharge Zone.

Designated No Discharge Zones
• Broad Creek (Hilton Head Island)
• Lake Hartwell
• Lake Keowee
• Lake Murray
• Lake Thurmond
• Lake Wylie

What Can You Do?
To prevent the possible dangers that sewage can cause to humans and the environment, boaters should: use portable toilets, utilize onshore or floating restrooms, and have a Marine Sanitation Device installed on board and use a pumpout at a local marina.

For more information about vessel sewage regulations, contact SC-CVA@dnr.sc.gov, or visit www.dnr.sc.gov/cleanvessel.
no boat works harder


WAREAGLEBOATS.COM

(870) 367-1554
General Information

The following laws pertain to recreational saltwater fishing, shrimping, crabbing and shellfishing. Individuals (age 16 and older) harvesting marine resources, including finfish, oysters, clams, shrimp and crab must purchase an annual, temporary or 3 Year Saltwater Recreational Fishing License - unless fishing on a licensed public fishing pier; fishing on a licensed charter/headboat vessel while under hire; using 3 or fewer drop nets, 3 or fewer fold up traps, or 3 or fewer handlines with no hooks and a single bait per line (chicken necking); or shrimp baiting (which requires a shrimp housing license).

Fishing piers and chartered vessels charging a fee for fishing must purchase an annual Saltwater Recreational Fishing License or Charter/Headboat Vessel license, respectively. Applications for Public Fishing Pier and Charter Vessel Licenses are available from the SCDNR office in Charleston.

Any person engaged in selling any fish or fishery product, including bait harvested in SC state waters, must first obtain the appropriate license. Regulations concerning commercial saltwater fishing are provided with commercial licenses and are available through the Marine Resources Division at the address below.

As required by S.C. Code Section 8-29-10; applicants for a commercial license or permit are required to complete an affidavit entitled “Verification of Lawful Presence in the United States” certifying that the applicant is lawfully in the United States. The affidavit MUST be completed, notarized and returned with the application.

For more information, contact: SCDNR Licensing, P.O. Box 12539, Charleston, SC 29422,843-953-9301, http://www.dnr.sc.gov/licensing.html.

For federal fishery limits and regulations, contact South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405, 843-571-4366, www.safmc.net.

To learn about the projects and programs that received support from the Saltwater Recreational Fishing License Program this fiscal year, visit http://saltwaterfishing.sc.gov.

Saltwater Fishing Methods & Devices

For information on how to purchase a Saltwater Recreational Fishing License see page 8.

Bush Lines / Pole Lines

Permits/License

Saltwater Recreational Fishing License required.

Restrictions

Recreational fisherman may not use more than ten bush or pole lines with single hooks or baits.

Hook & Line

Permits/License

Saltwater Recreational Fishing License required. Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit required when fishing for tuna, billfish, swordfish, and sharks in federal waters. The same federal permit is also required for possession of these species in state waters, with the exception of sharks.

Restrictions

- It is unlawful to fish from a boat within 300 feet of commercial fishing piers extending into the Atlantic Ocean.
- Fishing from the shore in the waters under or within 50 feet on either side or beyond the end of any ocean fishing pier in Horry County is prohibited.

Gigging

(Gig, Spear, & Bow & Arrow)

Permits/Licenses

Saltwater Recreational Fishing License required.

Restrictions

- It is unlawful to gig for flounder in salt waters during daylight hours. For the purposes of this section, gigging does not include underwater spear fishing.
- It is unlawful to gig for sharks.
- It is unlawful to gig red drum or spotted seatrout during Dec., Jan. and Feb.
- It is unlawful in Georgetown County to gig for fish in saltwaters from the northern tip of North Island to the northern tip of Magnolia Beach during daylight hours.

Cast Nets

(Other than Shrimp Baiting)

Permits/Licenses

Saltwater Recreational Fishing License required.

Seines & Gill Nets

(Anchor, Set, Stake & Drift Nets)

Permits/Licenses

Saltwater Recreational Fishing License and Gill Net Equipment License required. For more information on equipment licenses call 843-953-9311.

Seasons

No closed season in saltwater (except shad and herring see page 43).

Restrictions

- SC gamefish (cobia, red drum, spotted seatrout, tarpon, and striped bass) may not be taken by nets. Sharks may not be taken by gill nets.
- No more than one lawful gill net can be used recreationally.
- Gill nets no longer than 100 feet with a 3-inch minimum stretched mesh size may be used only in unrestricted areas of the Atlantic Ocean. Gill nets no longer than 100 yards with 3-inch minimum stretched mesh size may be used only in special designated inshore areas.
- Gill nets must be marked with one end buoy that is international orange in color with the name and address of the owner. Operator must be within 500 feet of the net, be within hailing distance and have visual contact with the net at all times when deployed.
- Nets may not be set more than halfway across any waterway at any time.
- Stationary or fixed nets, including gill nets, may not be set or placed within 600 feet of a net previously set.
- It is unlawful to use any seine or gill net in any waters within a state park; except, small hand seines and cast nets for taking shrimp are allowed.

Need to Know

On the Go?

The South Carolina Hunting & Fishing Regulations are now available online through your mobile devices!
Trotlines (Long Lines)

Permits/Licenses
Saltwater Recreational Fishing License and Trotline Equipment License required. For more information on equipment licenses call 843-953-9311.

Restrictions
- No more than two trotlines with a cumulative total of 50 hooks or baits can be used recreationally.
- Trotlines used in the inshore SC saltwaters must have at least one end buoy, international orange in color with the name and address of the owner.
- Trotlines used in the Atlantic Ocean must be marked with a buoy not less than 20 inches in diameter at each end, international orange in color, which floats in a manner to be clearly visible at all times.

Special Information

Special Management Zones
The following Artificial Reefs have been declared “Special Management Zones” and are protected by federal regulations: BP-25, Beaufort, 45, Betsy Ross, Bill Perry, C.J. Davidson, Cape Romain, Capers, Charleston 60, Comanche, Eagles Nest, Edisto 40, Edisto 60, Edisto Offshore, Fripp Island, Georgetown, Greenville, Hilton Head, Hunting Island, Kiawah, Little River Offshore, North Inlet, Paradise, Pawleys Island, Ten Mile, Vermilion, Wayne Upchurch, Will Goldfinch and Y-73. Fishing may be conducted only with handheld hook and line gear and spearfishing gear (excluding powerheads). The use of fish traps, longlines, Gill nets and trawls is prohibited. Powerheads (bangsticks) are prohibited except for safety purposes. It is unlawful to possess, land or sell any species of fish taken with a bangstick (reef and non-reef areas). The harvest and possession of snapper grouper and coastal migratory pelagic species by commercial and recreational fishermen will be limited to the recreational bag limit within the Special Management Zones.

Unlawful to Sell Gamefish & Billfish
The following species have been declared gamefish and native caught fish may not be sold: cobia, red drum (channel bass), spotted seatrout, striped bass and tarpon. The purchase, barter, trade, or sale of billfish, including marlin, sailfish and spearfish, is unlawful regardless of where taken or landed.

Prohibited Practices
- Harvest of red drum from federal waters (3-200 miles offshore) is prohibited.
- It is unlawful to display, feed, net, trap, harvest, molest or otherwise interfere with the well-being or normal activity of marine mammals of the orders Cetacea, Sirenia and Pinnipedia, including but not limited to bottlenose dolphin, spotted dolphin, common dolphin, manatee, porpoise, harbor seal and any species of whale in any waters of the state. Marine mammals are also protected by federal law.
- It is unlawful to buy, sell, possess or ship Shortnose Sturgeon and Atlantic Sturgeon.

Marine Protected Areas (MPA’s)
Four MPAs (Snowy Grouper Wreck, Northern SC, Edisto, and Charleston Deep Artificial Reef) are located off of the SC coast. Fishing or possession (unless gear is appropriately stored) of snapper grouper species and shark bottom longline gear is prohibited in these areas. For locations and more details on these MPAs, please visit www.safmc.net or call 843-571-4366.

FRESHWATER/SALTWATER DIVIDING LINE

The dividing line between saltwater and freshwater on the rivers listed in this section. All waters of the rivers and their tributaries, streams and estuaries lying seaward of the dividing lines are considered saltwaters, and all waters lying landward or upstream from all dividing lines are considered freshwaters for purposes of licensing and regulating commercial and recreational fishing. Except as otherwise provided below, the saltwater/freshwater dividing line is US Highway 17:

1. On Savannah River the dividing line is the abandoned Seaboard Railroad track bed located approximately one and three-fourths miles upstream from the US Highway 17A bridge.
2. On Wright River is salt water for its entire length.
3. On Ashepoo River the dividing line is the old Seaboard Railroad track bed.
4. On New River the dividing line is at Cook’s Landing.
5. On Wallace River (5a), Rantowles Creek (5b), Long Branch Creek (5c), and Shem Creek (5d) are saltwater for their entire lengths.
6. On Edisto River the dividing line is the abandoned Seaboard Railroad track bed near Matthews Canal Cut.
7. On Ashley River the dividing line is the confluence of Popper Dam Creek directly across from Magnolia Gardens.
8. On Cooper River the dividing line is the seaward shoreline of Old Back River at the confluence of Old Back River downstream from Bushy Park Reservoir.
9. Wando River is saltwater for its entire length.
10. On the Intracoastal Waterway in Horry County the dividing line is the bridge across the Intracoastal Waterway at the intersection of S.C. Highway 9 and US Highway 17.

For more information visit: www.dnr.sc.gov/marine/dividingline
SALTWATER FISHING

SIZE & CATCH LIMITS

TL=Total Length, FL=Fork Length; See page 54 for information on how to measure a fish.
AIW=Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; State Waters extend from the saltwater-freshwater dividing line to the 3-mile limit. Federal Waters extend from the 3-mile limit to 200 miles offshore (international waters).

Up to date fishing regulations can be found on the SCDNR website at http://www.dnr.sc.gov/regs/saltwaterfish.html. All species in this section must be landed with head and tail intact.

SOUTH CAROLINA

FINFISH: INSHORE & OFFSHORE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>CLOSED SEASON</th>
<th>BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INSHORE FINFISH</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>American Shad</strong></td>
<td>No closed season for recreational hook &amp; line harvest; For all other gears, seasons as for commercial harvest.</td>
<td>10 shad per person per day except in Santee River and Rediversion Canal (20 per person per day)</td>
<td></td>
<td>• See page 43 for licensing, permitting, and gear requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Herring</strong></td>
<td>See page 36 for closed areas.</td>
<td>1 US bushel of herring per person per day</td>
<td></td>
<td>• See page 43 for licensing, permitting, and gear requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Black Drum</strong></td>
<td>5 per person per day</td>
<td>14-inch to 27-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flounders</strong> (Southern, Summer &amp; Gulf)</td>
<td>10 per person per day not to exceed 20 per boat per day</td>
<td>15-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Bag limits apply to hook and line or gig.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Red Drum**          | May not be harvested by gig Dec. 1 - Feb. 28       | 2 per person per day (state waters) not to exceed 6 per boat per day 0 per person per day (federal waters) | 15-inch to 23-inch TL | • May only be taken by rod & reel and gig.  
  • May not be harvested from federal waters. |
| **Saltwater Catfishes** (Hardhead & gafftopsail catfishes) | Possession prohibited | Possession prohibited |            | • If caught must be released immediately. |
| **Sheepshead**        | May not be harvested by gig Dec. 1 - Feb. 28       | 10 per person per day not to exceed 30 per boat per day | 14-inch TL | • May only be taken by rod & reel and gig. |
| **Spotted Seatrout**  | Possession prohibited: June 1 – Sept. 30 except in lower reach of the Savannah River (2 per person per day year round; see page 30 for details.) | Possession prohibited: June 1 – Sept. 30; 3 fish per person per day: Oct. 1 – May 31 except in lower reach of the Savannah River (2 per person per day year round; see page 30 for details.) | 26 inch TL except in lower reach of the Savannah River (27 inch TL; see page 30 for details.) | • May only be taken by rod & reel. |
| **Striped Bass**      | Possession prohibited: June 1 – Sept. 30 except in lower reach of the Savannah River (2 per person per day year round; see page 30 for details.) | Possession prohibited: June 1 – Sept. 30; 3 fish per person per day: Oct. 1 – May 31 except in lower reach of the Savannah River (2 per person per day year round; see page 30 for details.) | 26 inch TL except in lower reach of the Savannah River (27 inch TL; see page 30 for details.) | • May only be taken by rod & reel. |
| **Hybrid Bass, White Bass, & Combinations** | In lower reach of the Savannah River: 2 per person per day | All other saltwaters: no bag limit | In the lower reach of the Savannah River: 27 inch TL | All other saltwaters: no size limit |
| **Tarpon**            | 1 per person per day                               | 77-inch FL                                     |            | • May only be taken by rod & reel.               |
| **Tripletail**        | No associated regulations                          |                                                |            |                                                  |
| **Weakfish**          | 1 per person per day                               | 12-inch TL                                     |            |                                                  |
| **Atlantic Croaker, Spot, Whiting** | 50 per person per day aggregate bag limit |                                                |            | • Bag limit applies to hook and line only.     |
Cobia
- May 1 to May 31 in state waters south of 032° 31.0’ N latitude (Jeremy Inlet, Edisto Island) in federal and all other state waters, closed when Annual Catch Limit (ACL) is met.
- 1 per person per day and no more than 3 per boat per day in State waters south of 32.31
- 1 per person per day and no more than 6 per boat per day Federal waters and State waters north of 32.31
- 36-inch FL
- For-hire vessels must have a Coastal Migratory Pelagics permit to fish in federal waters.
- Sale of recreational catch is prohibited.

Dolphin
- 10 per person per day not to exceed 60 per boat per day.
- Headboats have no boat limit
- 20-inch FL
- For-hire vessels must have a Coastal Migratory Pelagics permit to fish in federal waters.
- Sale of recreational catch is prohibited.

King Mackerel
- 3 per person per day
- 24-inch FL
- For-hire vessels must have a Coastal Migratory Pelagics permit to fish in federal waters.

Spanish Mackerel
- 15 per person per day
- 12-inch FL
- For-hire vessels must have a Coastal Migratory Pelagics permit to fish in federal waters.

Wahoo
- 2 per person per day
- For-hire vessels must have a Coastal Migratory Pelagics permit to fish in federal waters.
- Sale of recreational catch is prohibited.
Many of these species are managed under annual catch limits. Seasons may be closed when catch limits are met. Visit http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov for the latest information on the status of annual catch limits.

These species are also managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) in federal waters. Regulations may change. Please contact the SAFMC at 843-571-4366 or www.safmc.net to get the most up to date regulations on these species. You can also download the FREE mobile application Fish Rules. Fish Rules is available for both android and apple products.

Recreational and commercial fishermen are required to use dehooking tools when fishing for snapper grouper species. Non-stainless circle hooks are required when fishing with natural baits for snapper grouper species.

Sale of snapper grouper under the recreational bag limit is prohibited. For-hire vessels must have a Snapper Grouper permit to fish for these species in federal waters.

The harvest and possession of snapper grouper species by commercial and recreational fishermen will be limited to the recreational bag limit within the Special Management Zones. See “Special Information” (page 47) for information on SMZs.

Sea Turtle Release Gear Requirements: For-hire vessels fishing for snapper grouper species and possessing a federal for-fire permit must have onboard NMFS approved sea turtle release gear and follow release protocols. For more information, call 727-824-5312 or visit, http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_sa/turtle_sawfish/fish_release/index.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>CLOSED SEASON</th>
<th>BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater Amberjack</td>
<td>In federal waters, closed when Annual Catch Limit (ACL) is met</td>
<td>1 per person per day</td>
<td>28-inch FL</td>
<td>In April, for-hire vessels are limited to 1 person/day or 1 person/trip.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hogfish</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 per person per day</td>
<td>17-inch FL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wreckfish</td>
<td>Closed: Jan. 1 – June 30 and Sept. 1 – Dec. 31</td>
<td>1 per vessel per day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black seabass</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 per person per day</td>
<td>13-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Porgy</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 per person per day</td>
<td>14-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermilion Snapper</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 per person per day</td>
<td>12-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Snapper</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lane Snapper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black, Blackfin, Cubera, Dog, Yellowtail, Gray, Mahogany, Schoolmaster</td>
<td>10 per person per day from this group</td>
<td>8-inch TL</td>
<td>12-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silk and Queen Snapper</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 per person per day, included in the above group limit of 10 per person per day</td>
<td>12-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutton Snapper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gag &amp; Black Grouper</td>
<td>Closed: Jan. 1 - Apr. 30</td>
<td>Included in the 3 grouper aggregate daily bag limit; Maximum of 1 gag or black grouper (but not both) per person/day</td>
<td>24-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scamp, Red, Yellowfin, &amp; Yellowmouth Groupers</td>
<td>Closed: Jan. 1 - Apr. 30</td>
<td>Included in the 3 grouper aggregate daily bag limit</td>
<td>20-inch TL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Tilefish, Blue-line Tilefish, and Sand Tilefish</td>
<td>Closed: Sept. 1 - Apr. 30</td>
<td>Included in 3 grouper aggregate bag limit; Blue line tilefish - 3 per person per day (May-August only); Golden tilefish – 1 fish per person per day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misty &amp; Yellowedge Grouper</td>
<td></td>
<td>Included in the 3 grouper aggregate daily bag limit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coney, Graysby, Red Hind &amp; Rock Hind</td>
<td>Closed: Jan. 1 - Apr. 30</td>
<td>Included in the 3 grouper aggregate daily bag limit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIES</td>
<td>CLOSED SEASON</td>
<td>BAG LIMIT</td>
<td>SIZE LIMIT</td>
<td>RESTRICTIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowy Grouper</td>
<td>Sept. 1 - Apr. 30</td>
<td>Included in the 3 grouper aggregate daily bag limit; Only 1 fish per VESSEL per day (May - August only)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warsaw and Speckled Hind</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td>• If caught must be released by cutting the line and not removing the fish from the water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nassau &amp; Goliath Grouper</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL OTHER SNAPPER GROUPER COMPLEX SPECIES</td>
<td></td>
<td>20 per person per day aggregate bag limit</td>
<td>12-inch FL</td>
<td>• Tomtates are excluded from the bag limit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Including but not limited to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser Amberjack; Cottonwick; White Grunt; Scup; Almaco &amp; Bar Jacks; Margate; Whitebone, Knobbed, Jolthead, Saucereye &amp; Longspine Porgies; Banded Rudderfish; Sailors Choice; Bank Seabass; Rock Seabass; Ocean Triggerfish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Triggerfish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spadefish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**You can still register & win!**

Like you need another reason to go fishing this summer!

101 Days of Fishing | $500,000 in Prizes | $75 Entry Fee includes CCA membership
Inshore & Offshore, Youth, Ladies, Kayak, Fly, Trash & Lionfish Division
Tagged Redfish prizes include a GMC Truck or boat, motor & trailer packages

**www.ccaflstar.com | 844.387.7827**
Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit required to fish for these species. All billfish to be released may not be removed from the water. All recreationally caught Atlantic billfish landed must be reported to NMFS within 24 hours of landing at the dock. Anglers can report by calling 1-800-894-5528 or by visiting https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/. Recreationally caught billfish may not be sold.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>CLOSED SEASON</th>
<th>BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Marlin</td>
<td></td>
<td>99-inch FL from lower jaw</td>
<td>• May only be taken by rod &amp; reel.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Marlin</td>
<td></td>
<td>66-inch FL from lower jaw</td>
<td>• May only be taken by rod &amp; reel.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sailfish</td>
<td></td>
<td>63-inch FL from lower jaw</td>
<td>• May only be taken by rod &amp; reel.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swordfish</td>
<td>1 per person per day not to exceed 4 per vessel per trip</td>
<td>47-inch FL from lower jaw</td>
<td>• May only be taken by rod &amp; reel and handlines. Handlines must be attached to, or remain in contact with, the vessel at all times. • See <a href="https://hmspermits.noaa.gov">https://hmspermits.noaa.gov</a> for for-hire vessel bag limits.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roundscale Spearfish</td>
<td></td>
<td>66-inch FL from lower jaw</td>
<td>• May only be taken by rod &amp; reel.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longbill Spearfish</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td></td>
<td>• If caught fish must be released immediately.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BILLFISH**

Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit required to fish for these species except for the Other Tunas. Check current federal regulations by calling 1-888-USA-TUNA (1-888-872-8862) or checking https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>CLOSED SEASON</th>
<th>BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albacore, Skipjack</td>
<td></td>
<td>27-inch curved FL</td>
<td></td>
<td>• See <a href="https://hmspermits.noaa.gov">https://hmspermits.noaa.gov</a> for for-hire vessel bag and size limits. All recreationally caught Atlantic billfish and Bluefin tuna landed must be reported to NMFS within 24 hours of landing at the dock.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bigeye Tuna</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA Fisheries has adjusted the Atlantic Bluefin tuna daily retention limits which applies to vessels permitted in the Highly Migratory Species Angling category and the HMS Charter/Headboat category. Visit <a href="https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/bulletin/bluefin-tuna-angling-category-daily-retention-limit-adjustment">https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/bulletin/bluefin-tuna-angling-category-daily-retention-limit-adjustment</a> for detailed information regarding bag limits prior to fishing.</td>
<td>• See <a href="https://hmspermits.noaa.gov">https://hmspermits.noaa.gov</a> for for-hire vessel bag and size limits. All recreationally caught Atlantic billfish and Bluefin tuna landed must be reported to NMFS within 24 hours of landing at the dock.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluefin Tuna</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowfin Tuna</td>
<td>3 per person per day per trip</td>
<td>27-inch curved FL</td>
<td>• All recreationally caught Atlantic billfish and Bluefin tuna landed must be reported to NMFS within 24 hours of landing at the dock.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other tunas: Blackfin, Bonita, and Little tunny</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No associated regulations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ATLANTIC TUNAS**

Federal Highly Migratory Species Permit with a Shark Endorsement are required in federal waters to recreationally fish for, retain, possess, or land sharks. All sharks must be landed with fins, head and tail naturally attached. Recreational anglers may only catch sharks using a rod & reel or handline. All other gears prohibited. Additionally, anglers aboard federally permitted vessels fishing recreationally for sharks are required to use non-offset, non-stainless steel circle hooks, except when fishing with flies or artificial lures. Check current federal regulations and find a shark identification guide by visiting http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/compliance/regulations/index.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>CLOSED SEASON</th>
<th>BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dogfish (spiny &amp; smooth)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Sharpnose</td>
<td>1 per person per day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnethead</td>
<td>1 per person per day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacknose, Blacktip, Blue, Bull, Finetooth, Lemon, Nurse, Porbeagle, Spinner, Thresher, Tiger and Oceanic Whitetip Sharks</td>
<td>1 shark per vessel per day</td>
<td>54-inch FL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortfin Mako</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>83-inch FL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead and Smooth Hammerhead Sharks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>78-inch FL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bignose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Caribbean Reef, Sandbar, Sevengill, Caribbean Sharpnose, Silky, Bigeye Sixgill, Sixgill, Smalltail, Bigeye Thresher, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Sand Tiger, Whale and White Sharks</td>
<td>Possession prohibited</td>
<td></td>
<td>• If caught, sharks from this group must be released immediately, without removing it from the water.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### CRUSTACEANS & SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>CLOSED SEASON</th>
<th>POSSESSION &amp; SIZE LIMIT</th>
<th>RESTRICTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Crabs</td>
<td>Size Limit: 5-inch minimum carapace width (point to point)</td>
<td>Females with egg mass (sponge) must be returned to water unharmed immediately.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone Crabs</td>
<td>Size Limit: Claws must be 2 3/4-inch minimum forearm (propodus)</td>
<td>Only crabs with 2 claws can have one removed.</td>
<td>Only the larger of the 2 claws may be kept.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No claw may be removed from a female with egg mass.</td>
<td>No claw may be removed from a female with egg mass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>It is unlawful to possess any stone crab body live or dead.</td>
<td>It is unlawful to possess any stone crab body live or dead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiny Lobster</td>
<td>Possession Limit: 2 per person per day</td>
<td>Removal of tail at sea prohibited.</td>
<td>A person may recreationally harvest shellfish (oysters and/or clams) no more than 2 days per 7 day period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size Limit: 3-inch minimum carapace</td>
<td>No harvest of berried females.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No explosives, poisons, spears, or piercing devices other than fishing hooks are allowed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oysters</td>
<td>Typically closed May 16 – Sept. 30; may be shortened or extended by the SCDNR.</td>
<td>Possession Limit: 2 US bushels per person per day from public or state shellfish grounds; No boat, vehicle, or boat/vehicle combination may contain more than 3 personal limits regardless of the number of people on the boat or in the vehicle</td>
<td>A person may recreationally harvest shellfish (oysters and/or clams) no more than 2 days per 7 day period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clams</td>
<td>Typically closed May 16 – Sept. 30; may be shortened or extended by the SCDNR.</td>
<td>Possession Limit: 1/2 US bushel per person per day from public or state shellfish grounds; No boat, vehicle, or boat/vehicle combination may contain more than 3 personal limits regardless of the number of people on the boat or in the vehicle.</td>
<td>A person may recreationally harvest shellfish (oysters and/or clams) no more than 2 days per 7 day period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Size Limit: 1-inch minimum thickness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHRIMP</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taking Shrimp Without Bait</td>
<td>Closed: Dec. 16 - Apr. 30</td>
<td>48 quarts whole or 29 quarts headed per day (sunrise to sunrise) per boat, per person if no boat is used, or per seining party</td>
<td>12 dozen dead or live shrimp allowed per boat during closed season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See Crustacean and Shellfish Methods and Devices for Shrimp Seine Gear Restrictions (see above).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrimp Baiting</td>
<td>2018 Shrimp baiting season Sept. 7 (Noon) - Nov. 6 (Noon)</td>
<td>48 quarts whole or 29 quarts headed per day (sunrise to sunrise) per set of poles</td>
<td>Participants must have a shrimp baiting license.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>License holders, while shrimping from a boat, may be assisted by a resident who is not required to have a shrimp baiting license.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shrimp caught over bait cannot be sold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No more than 10 poles can be used per license per day. Poles must be marked with reflective tape and may not exceed 1-inch in diameter and each pole must have a numbered tag attached which corresponds with the shrimp baiting license.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No more than 10 poles can be used per boat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>All poles of a licensed set must be within 100 linear yards of each other and sets of poles must be at least 25 yards apart. Poles may not be set within 50 yards of any dock, public landing or boat ramp. Unattended poles will be confiscated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Owners of private docks or persons with written permission may bait from those docks once properly licensed and with numbered tag displayed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shrimp pots or traps are prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cast nets used for taking shrimp over bait must have a minimum mesh size of 1/2-inch square (1-inch stretch).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Individuals who may NOT obtain a shrimp baiting license are: 1) owners or officers of a corporation which owns a vessel specified on a trawl license; 2) masters of a vessel specified on a trawl license; 3) licensed to use a channel net; 4) licensed to use a cast net for a commercial purpose; 5) licensed as a wholesale seafood dealer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crustacean & Shellfish Methods & Devices

When fishing for crustaceans or shellfish, a Saltwater Recreational Fishing License is required — unless you are using 3 or fewer drop nets, 3 or fewer fold up traps, or 3 or fewer handlances with no hooks and a single bait per line (chicken necking); or shrimp baiting (which requires a shrimp baiting license).

Crab Pots

Permits/Licenses
Saltwater Recreational Fishing License required.

Restrictions
- Licensee can fish no more than two pots recreationally. A Commercial Saltwater Fishing License, Vessel Decal, and Gear license are required for over two pots.
- If unattended each pot float must bear the name and address or license number of owner.
- No crab pot shall be left unattended in coastal waters more than 5 days.
- No crab trap or pot may be set within 200 yards of a public boat landing or launching area or set so as to be left dry at low tide.
- A float attached to a crab pot or trap must be made of solid, buoyant material which does not sink upon being punctured or cracked. The floats must be constructed of plastic, PVC Spongex, plastic foam, or cork. The primary float for a recreational pot or trap must be yellow in color and at least ten inches in diameter. Buoy lines for crab pots must be made of non-floating material.
- Retaining blue crabs caught in the freshwater of the state is prohibited; any blue crabs caught must be returned to the waters immediately.

Shellfish
(Oysters, Clams, Mussels, Whelks, and other Mollusks)

Permits/Licenses
Saltwater Recreational Fishing License required.

Season
Typically open Oct. 1 through May 15 (1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.) Call 843-953-9300 for season dates.

Restrictions
- Shellfish may be harvested recreationally from State shellfish grounds and Public shellfish grounds. Public and State shellfish grounds are marked with signs. Recreational harvesting is allowed on culture permit grounds (formerly leases), but only when the harvester has in possession written permission from the culture permit holder. License must be in possession while harvesting.
- Shell Recycling
- Oyster shells are collected throughout the coastal area and reused for maintenance of public grounds. Call 843-953-9300 for shell drop-off site locations, or visit www.saltwaterfishing.sc.gov/oyster.html for detailed maps of locations.

MEASURING A FISH

How to Properly Measure a Saltwater Fish

TL=total length measure: From the closed mouth (snout) to the tip of the tail fin when pinched together. It is a straight line measure, not over the curvature of the body. FL=fork length measure: From the tip of the closed mouth (snout) to the center of the fork of the tail. It is a straight line measure, not over the curvature of the body.

GUIDELINES FOR SEA TURTLE PROTECTION


- Keep hands away from turtle’s mouth and flippers.
- Do not lift the turtle by the hook or by pulling on the line.
- Safely land the turtle using a net or by walking it to shore.
- Leave the hook in place with one foot of line, as removing it can cause more damage.
- Keep the turtle out of direct sunlight and cover with damp towel.
- Use non-stainless, barbless hooks when possible.

If circumstances don’t permit you to hold the animal and contact DNR, cut the line as short as possible and release the turtle.