

Marine Laws and Regulations for the Gulf States



The following is an unofficial compilation of statute laws and regulations for the field States. It was compiled by enforcement personnel of the field States specifically for State information and convenience. The information is current as of October 1, 1967 but changes may occur in each State at any time. The exclusive enforcement jurisdiction in each State contains the enforcement personnel listed at the various State lists.

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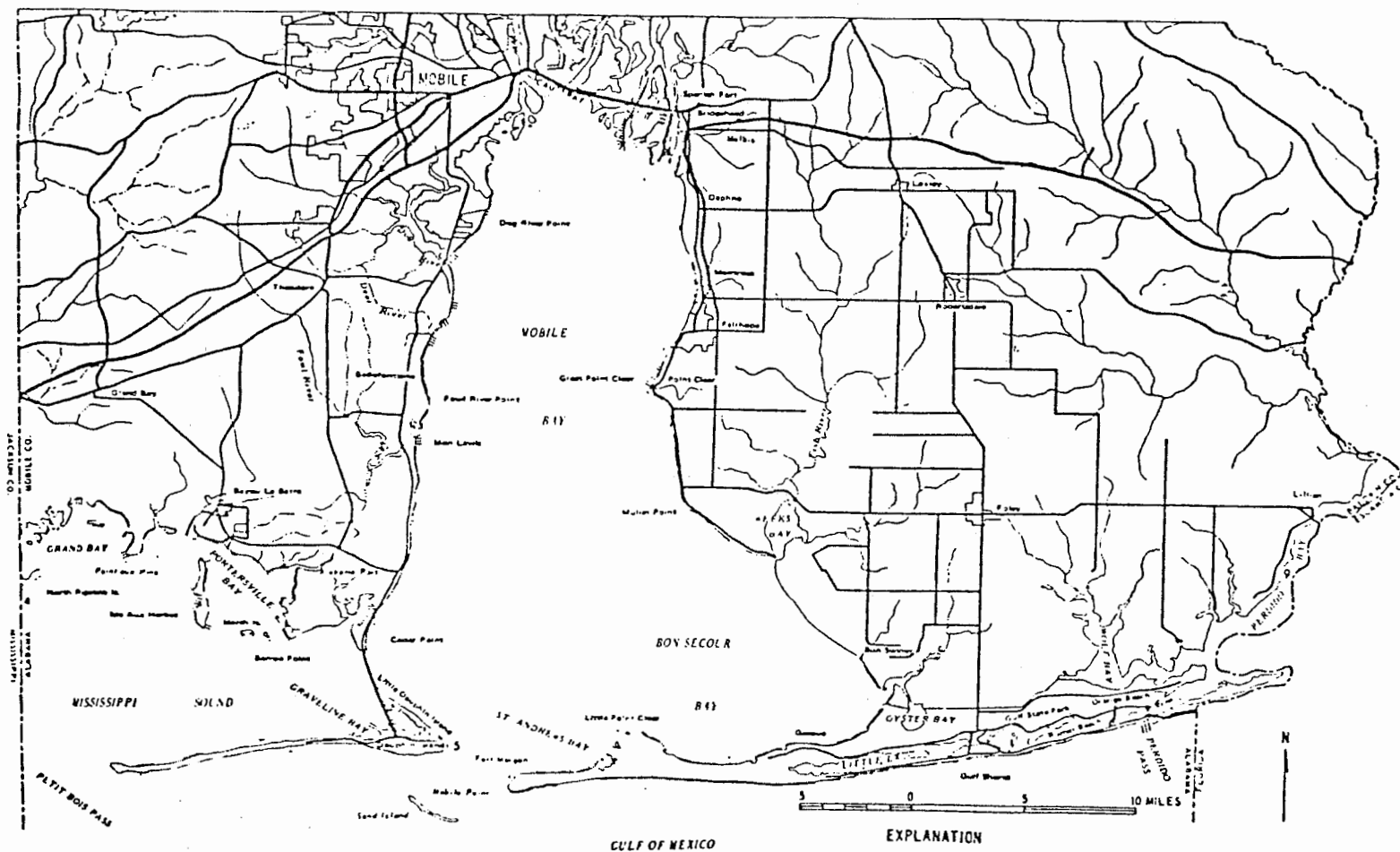
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October 1, 1967

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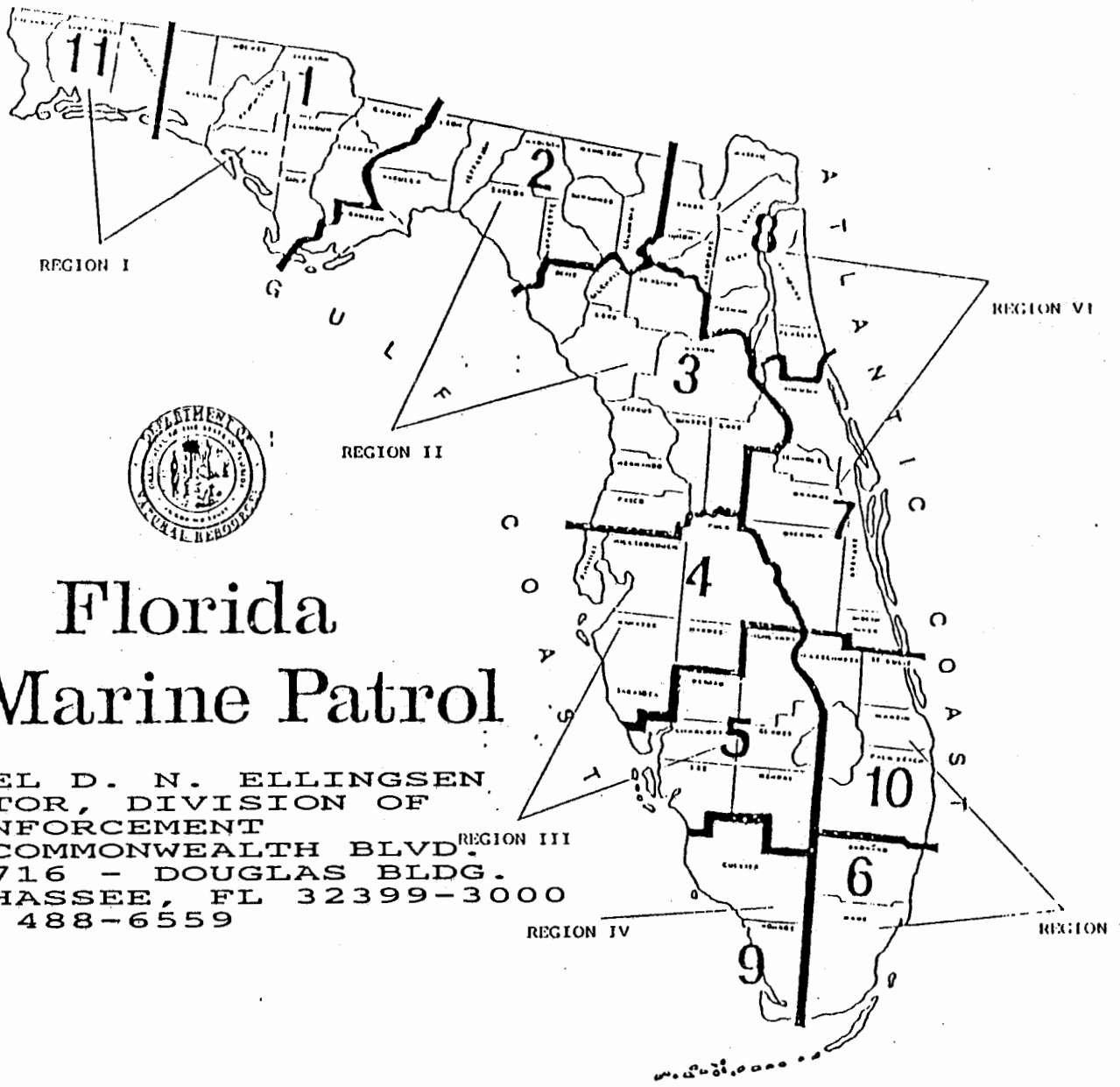
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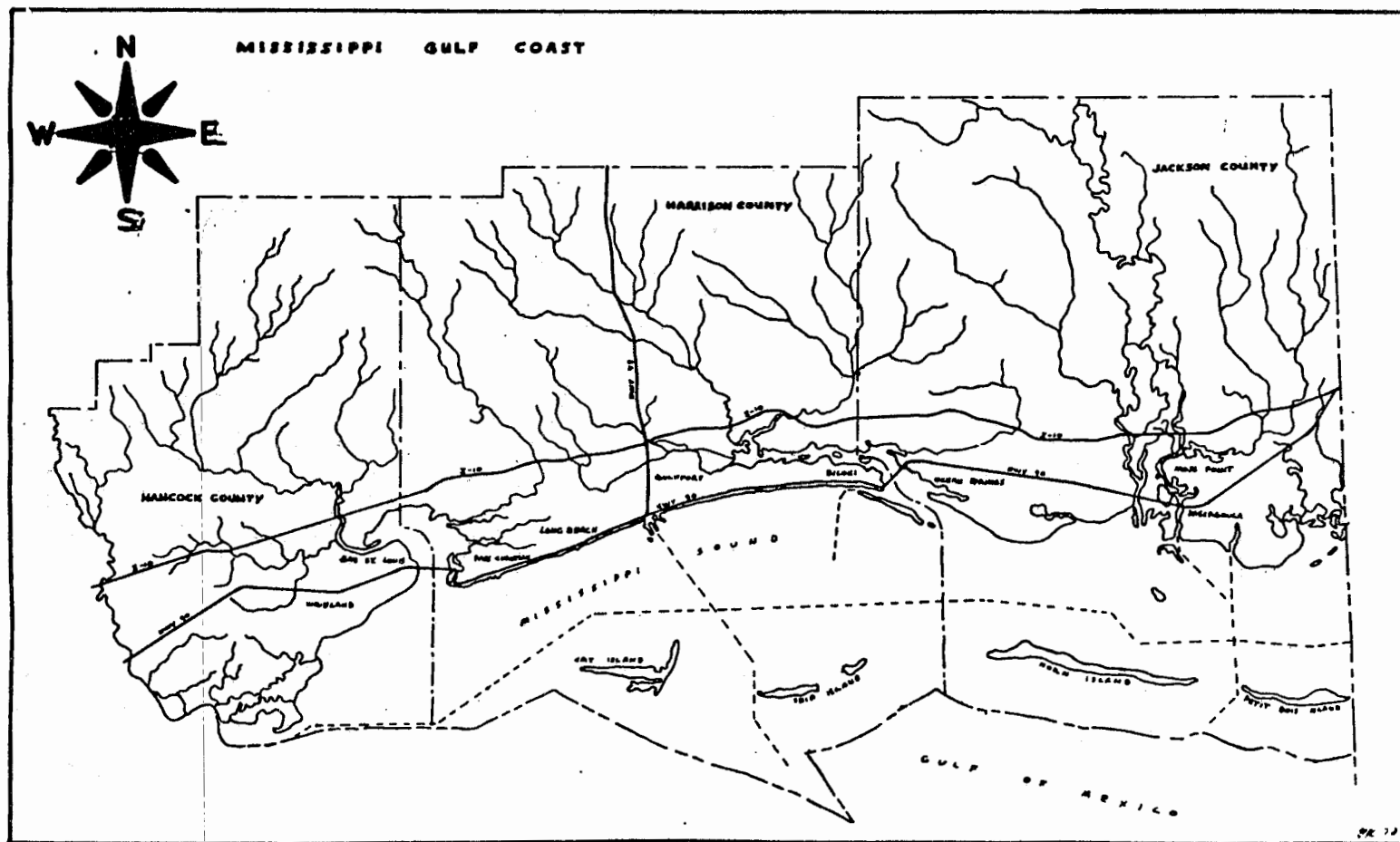
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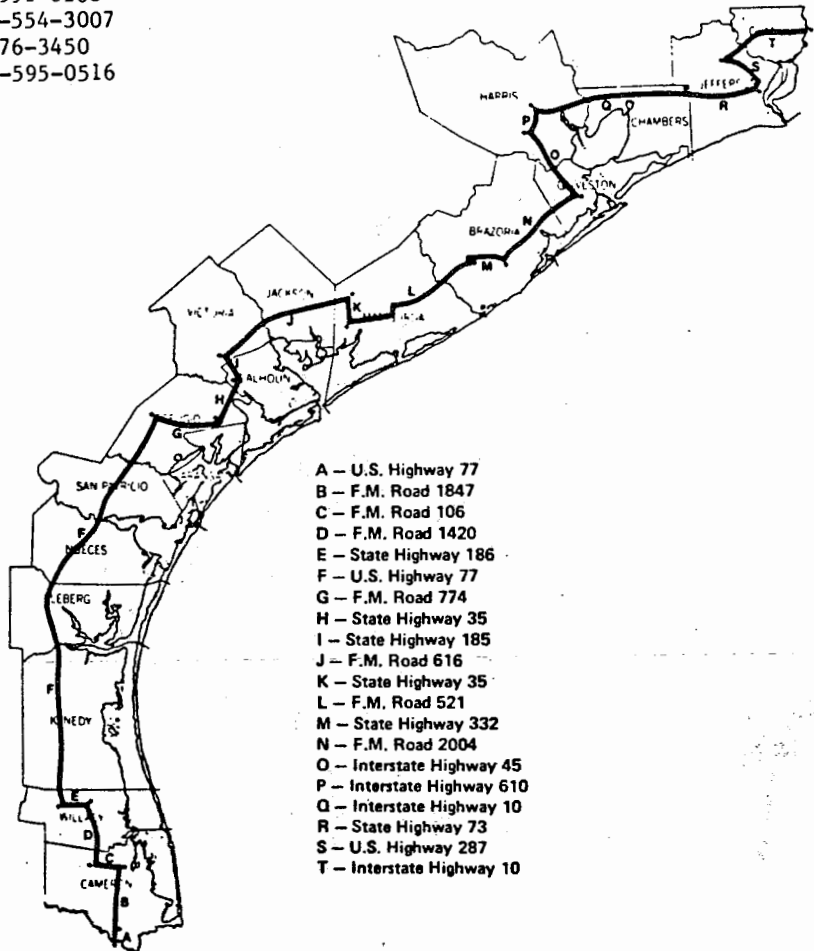
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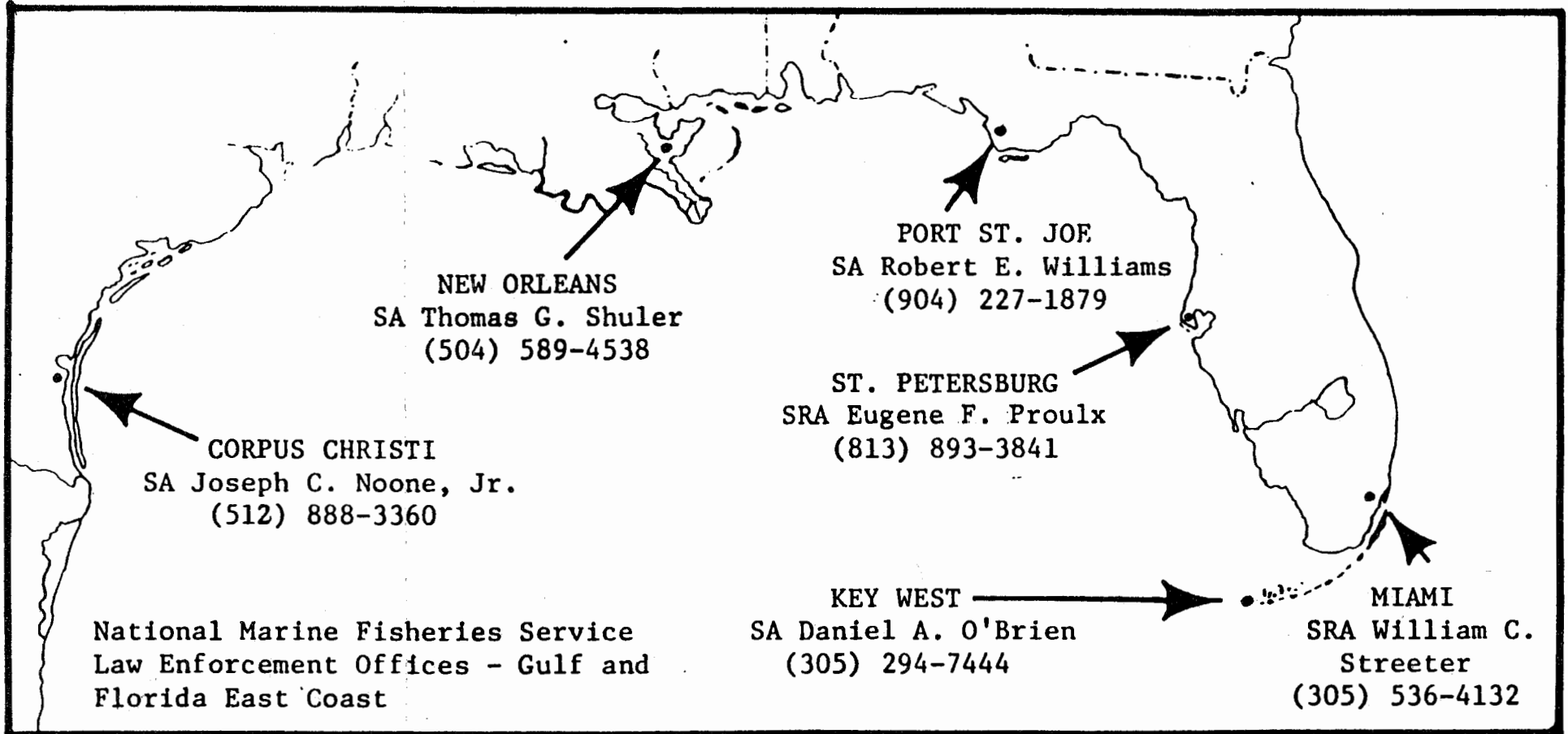
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GUIDE TO FISHERY REGULATIONS FOR THE GULF OF MEXICO AND SOUTH ATLANTIC
 (* See Regulations for exceptions)

July 1, 1992

SHORE TITLE (Act)	REGULATION (16 CFR)	AREA	PERMIT	VESSEL IDENTIFICATION	GEAR IDENTIFICATION	GEAR RESTRICTION	AREA RESTRICTION	POSSESSION LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT	OTHO PAS	TRAP / DAY
Atlantic Tuna (Bluefin) (16 USC 971)	Part 203	State/Federal Gulf and South Atlantic	Yes: Dealer and vessel	NONE	Flotation Device/ Hand and Harpoon Gear	Permits for: Hand Harpoon Paper Incid (LL)	Closures when quotas reached	LL Vessel + 2 Rod & Reel + 1 Giant annually in Gulf	8" class Excluded water	Yes: By permit, stagger	01/01 - 12/31
Coral (16 USC 1801)	Part 638	Federal Gulf and South Atlantic	Yes: Prohibited Coral & Toxic chemicals	NONE	NONE	Toxic chemicals and gear types in HAPCs	Flower Garden Banks/ FL Middle Grounds Occochee Bank	Prohibited without permit	NONE	NONE	12/31 - 09/30
Mackerel (16 USC 1801)	Part 692	Federal Gulf and South Atlantic	Yes: Commercial quotas No: Bag limit	Permitted Vessels FL J or Doc #: 18" - O/G # 10" - All Others Visible air and water	NONE	Gill nets - Minimum 1-17/8" mesh for kings	Closures when quotas reached	Gulf 2 kings per person per trip -4- Charter: 2 including captain & crew 3 excluding captain & crew Atlantic 3 kings per person per trip	Spanish* 12" fork Cuba* 13" fork	Yes: Commercial Recreational Paper Scale	Gulf 07/01 - 06/30 South Atlantic 06/01 - 03/31
Reef Fish (16 USC 1801)	Part 691	Gulf	Vessels with fish traps	Color Code and Permit Number 20" - Circle 10" - Letters Visible air & water	Trap - Permit # and Buoy - Color and Permit #	No poisons, explosives (ex. powerheads). Maximum 200 traps. Dog panel or fasteners. Opening: 1/8 sq in. 1 x 2" mesh 2 x 2" escape	Stress Area No traps, powerheads, roller trawls, poisons, explosives.	NONE	Red Snapper 12" Fork Landed whole	NONE	01/31 - 12/31 Traps - Daytime
Sheep (16 USC 1801)	Part 638	Gulf	NO	FL # or Doc # 18" - O/G # 10" - All Others Visible air and water	NONE	Trawling prohibited in closed area	TSS - Closed year round TX - 45 day closure FL Myers and Crystal River Seasonal closures	NONE	NONE	Yes: Recreational Paper Scale	8" Fork 01/31 - 12/31 Others 01/01 - 04/30
Snapper-Grouper (16 USC 1801)	Part 646	South Atlantic	NO	Vessels with Fish Traps * ID# and Color Code Aust: 20" Circle Waters: 8" Circle 6" Letters	Traps - ID# Buoys - 2" high ID# and Color	No poisons, explosives (ex. powerheads) Dog panel or fasteners Minimum mesh sizes on traps & trawls (*)	No traps 100' Contour	NONE	12" Total Red Snapper Yellowtail Snapper Red Grouper Nassau Grouper 8" Total Black Sea Bass Landed Whole	NONE	Traps Daytime
Skipper Lobster (16 USC 1801)	Part 640	Gulf and South Atlantic	NO	Vessels with Traps State or ID# & Color 20" Circle 10" Letters Visible air and water	Trap - ID# 1" high Buoy - ID# 3" high	No poisons, explosives, hooks. Traps - Dog panel	NONE	Recreational Weekend 6 per person/day Maximum 20 per boat/day	Carapace - 3" Tail - 3.2"	NONE	7/26 - 9/31 Traps - Daytime Special Recreational Weekend
Stone Crab (16 USC 1801)	Part 650	Gulf	NO	State or Doc # and Stone Crab # & Color Visible air	Trap and Buoy ID or State # & Color	Dog panel	Seasonal closures off Crystal River	Bottles without claws return to FCZ.	Claw - 2-1/4"	NONE	10/15 - 5/15 Traps - Daytime
Swordfish (16 USC 1801)	Part 630	Gulf and South Atlantic	Yes: Vessel Permit *	State or Doc # 18" - O/G # 10" - All Others	NONE	Same during Variable Season Closures (VSC)	Variable Season Closures (VSC)	NONE	NONE	NONE	1/1 - 12/31

VIII

MARINE LAWS AND REGULATIONS FOR THE GULF STATES

SHRIMP

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
Commercial License	AL	Shrimp Boat (resident) - \$7.50 Trawl 30' or smaller - \$7.50 Trawl over 30' - \$15.00 (Non-residents pay the same fee as that charged Alabama residents in the applicant's state of residence - except for reciprocal states - Mississippi, Louisiana)
Recreational License		A \$7.50 trawl boat license is required of any boat used for catching or hauling shrimp for any purpose.
Commercial Season		Set by regulation.
Recreational Season		Prohibited in areas closed to commercial shrimping and permanently closed areas. Shrimping is allowed throughout the year in Dauphin Island Bay and Terry Cove.
Commercial Gear Limitations		No restrictions on mesh size. In inside waters a trawl or trawls used together cannot exceed 50' on the cork line. No more than two trawls may be used at the same time (not including a try trawl, which cannot exceed 10' on the cork line). Wings shall be cut and tied to the wing line only on points and the length of the top leg line shall not exceed the length of the bottom leg line. Webbing or netting shall not be hung, tied or otherwise connected between the rear of the trawl board or door and the adjacent wing line or between the top leg line and bottom leg line of any trawl so as to extend the width of any trawl or trawls over the legal width (50').

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

Recreational
Gear
Limitations

Trawl size not to exceed 16' as measured on the cork line. Wings shall be cut and tied to the wing line only on points and the length of the top leg line shall not exceed the length of the bottom leg line. There are no restrictions on mesh size.

Commercial
Legal Size

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

Recreational
Legal Size

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

Commercial
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

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

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

Commercial
License

FL

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

Resident individual - \$25.00

Non-resident - \$100.00

Alien individual - \$150.00

Resident vessel - \$50.00
Non-resident vessel - \$200.00
Alien vessel - \$300.00

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

Recreational
License

All recreational shrimp fishermen must have a current SPL.

Commercial
Season

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

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

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

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

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

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

Recreational
Season

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Gear
Limitations

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

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

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

Franklin and Wakulla Counties: Net cannot exceed 50' in length in inside waters. Mesh size must be 1" bar or 2" stretch mesh in bays and sounds. In outside waters, there

are no restrictions on length, mesh or size of net, except between Cape St. George and Cape San Blas from April 1 through June 15.

Recreational
Gear
Limitations

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Legal
Size

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

Recreational
Legal
Size

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

Commercial
License

LA

All Commercial Shrimp Fishermen must purchase the following licenses:

Commercial Fisherman

Resident - \$55.00

Non-resident - \$105.00

Vessel

Resident - \$15.00

Non-resident - \$60.00

Gear

Resident Shrimp Trawl* - \$25.00 per trawl

Non-resident Shrimp Trawl - \$100.00 per trawl

Resident Butterfly - \$25.00 per net

Non-resident Butterfly - \$100.00 per net

*Residents of Alabama may purchase a resident shrimp trawl license.

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

Recreational
License

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

Gear types and fees are as follows:

Shrimp Trawls (resident) - \$25.00 per trawl in use 16' or less.

Shrimp Trawls (non-resident) - \$50.00 per trawl in use 16' or less.

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

Commercial
Season

In state inside waters, spring season must start no later than May 25 for a period of 50 days, or until biological evidence shows sufficient number of juvenile white shrimp, but cannot open on a Sunday. Fall season starts on the third Monday in August and remains open until December 21.

In state outside waters, season may be closed from January 15 through April 15.

Recreational
Season

Spring season must start no later than May 25 for a period of 50 days but cannot open on a Sunday. Fall season starts on the third Monday in August and remains open until December 21.

In state outside waters, the season may be closed from January 1 to May 1.

**Commercial
Gear
Limitations**

Trawls cannot have a mesh size less than 5/8" bar or 1 1/4" stretched. In state inside waters, trawls must be 50' or less and limited to one trawl plus one test trawl, or pull no more than two 25' trawls and a test trawl not to exceed 16', except in Breton and Chandeleur Sound where you may pull up to two trawls of 65' or less plus one test trawl. There are no size limits on trawls in state outside waters, but there can be no more than four trawls.

Test trawls cannot exceed 16' on the cork line, or 20' along the lead line or head rope.

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

**Recreational
Gear
Limitations**

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

**Commercial
Legal Size**

There is a general rule that says you may not catch saltwater white shrimp that average more than 100 per pound, heads on, with these exceptions: 1) no count restrictions on any shrimp during the spring open season; 2) no count restrictions on sea bobs taken in state outside waters during any season; 3) no count on brown shrimp from November 15 to December 20.

**Recreational
Legal Size**

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

100 pounds per day per vessel.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Commercial License	MS	Shrimp Boat under 30' Resident - \$50.00 Non-resident* - \$100.00 Shrimp Boat 30-45' Resident - \$75.00 Non-resident* - \$150.00 Shrimp Boat over 45' Resident - \$100.00 Non-resident* - \$200.00

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

Recreational
License

Resident - \$15.00
Non-resident - \$30.00

Commercial
Season

Trawling is prohibited north of the Intracoastal Waterway after sunset of December 31, except by licensed live bait dealers. Shrimp season is officially opened by public notice at such a time that the Bureau of Marine Resources, Division of Saltwater Fisheries has determined that the shrimp have reached legal size (statistically probable in the second week of June).

Additionally, the area south of the Intracoastal Waterway will be closed after April 30 of each year and prior to the opening of the season for shrimp.

Recreational
Season

All rules and regulations of commercial
shrimp apply.

Commercial
Gear
Limitations

Shrimp may be taken in any manner south
of a line formed by the barrier islands of
Cat, Ship, Horn and Petit Bois. North of
this line (within Mississippi Sound) shrimp
may only be taken with a single net measuring
no larger than 50' on the cork line and 60'
along the lead line. A test (or try) trawl
no larger than 12' on the cork line and 15'
along the lead line used with boards no more
than 30' in length is permitted in addition.

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

Recreational
Gear
Limitations

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

Commercial
Legal Size

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

Recreational
Legal Size

All rules and regulations of commercial
shrimp apply.

Commercial
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

No limit.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

Commercial
License

TX

Resident General Commercial Fisherman -
\$15.00 -- Required for any resident who
catches fish, oysters, or any other edible

aquatic product from state waters for pay or to sell, barter or exchange.

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

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

Non-Resident Bay Shrimp Boat - \$320.00

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

Non-Resident Gulf Shrimp Boat - \$200.00

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

Recreational
License

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Season

Spring open season in "major bays" is from May 25 to July 15, days only, from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

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

Gulf open season runs from July 16 to December 15 and February 2 to May 31.

Recreational
Season

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Gear
Limitations

All trawls, including bags, must be at least 8 3/4" in length between the two most widely separated knots in any consecutive series of five stretched meshes after the net or bag has been placed in use in the fall season and during the spring season trawls must be at least 6 1/2" in length between the two most widely separated knots in any consecutive series of five stretched meshes.

Trawl size must meet the following specifications:

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

Recreational
Gear
Limitations

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Legal Size

In Bay waters from August 15 to October 31, legal count is 50 heads-on; from November 1 to December 15 there are no legal count requirements.

Recreational
Legal Size

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

Commercial
Pounds
Allowed

In inside waters, no more than 300 pounds of any size whole shrimp per day may be taken during the spring open season.

Recreational
Pounds
Allowed

All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES

License
Requirements

NMFS

No permits are required in the FCZ. All shrimp boats in the FCZ are required to display official Coast Guard documentation or state registration numbers on the sides of the boat and on the weather deck. Numbers must be 18" high on boats 65' or over and 10" on smaller vessels.

Season

Texas Closure - 45 to 60 day closure in the EEZ off Texas (to coincide with closure in Texas waters) during portions of June and July. Specific dates of closure vary from year to year. Extent of closure in the EEZ is currently from 9 to 15 nautical miles offshore.

Tortugas Closure - Tortugas Shrimp Sanctuary off Florida is closed to trawling year round.

Designated zones off Florida's Citrus and Hernando Counties are closed to trawling during all or portions of the period from October 5 to May 20.

Designated areas off southwest coast of Florida is closed to trawling between January 1 and May 20.

Size Limits

There are no size limits in the FCZ.

LIVE BAIT DEALERS

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
License	AL	\$50.00 per boat or truck (limit two per dealer). Required by persons who catch or transport live shrimp for sale as bait as well as persons selling shrimp for bait. Dealer facilities must be inspected prior to obtaining a license.
Season		No closed season. Prohibited in permanently closed areas.
Gear		No restrictions on mesh size. Trawl size not to exceed 16' along the cork line (one net per boat). Wings shall be cut and tied to the wing line only on points and the length of the top leg line shall not exceed the length of the bottom leg line.
Legal Size		No restrictions.
Pounds Allowed		No restrictions on live shrimp. Dead shrimp not to exceed 15 pounds with heads on per boat at any time.
Restrictions		Drags shall not exceed 20 consecutive minutes before retrieving trawl and sorting bait shrimp into the live tank. Bait boats shall display the words "LIVE BAIT" in letters no smaller than 6" high on the port and starboard sides of the boat. Bait shrimp shall be sold only alive or with heads on. A licensed bait boat cannot be used for commercial shrimping.

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

Season Information not available.

Gear Taylor, Dixie, Levy, Citrus, Pasco and Hernando Counties. All live bait shrimp boats must be equipped with live bait shrimp tanks.
St. Johns River - Duval County. Net cannot exceed 60' perimeter measurement. Live bait tank required.

Legal Size No restrictions.

Pounds Allowed No more than 50 pounds of dead shrimp under the count size classification will be allowed on board in Taylor, Dixie, Levy, Citrus, Hernando and Pasco Counties. In all other counties no more than 5 pounds of dead shrimp are allowed on board.

Restrictions Information not available.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
License	LA	Live bait dealers controlled by commission action. Persons allowed to take live shrimp for sale as bait must have a proper trawling license and post \$1,000 bond with LDWF. Persons desiring to catch own bait may catch shrimp with cast nets, bait traps, dip nets (up to 3' diameter and hand operated), seines (less than 100' and foot operated). A basic sports fish license is required to take bait with a cast net.

Season During the closed seasons, bait shrimp may be taken in state inside waters, but only with cats nets, bait traps, dip nets (diameter of no more than 3' and hand operated) or seines less than 100 feet in length with no mechanical devices.

Gear Trawls cannot have a mesh size less than 5/8" bar or 1 1/4" stretched. However, during closed seasons when seine nets are used, the bait seine must be 1/4" mesh or less. Permitted trawls cannot exceed 25' in length.

Legal Size No restrictions.

Pounds Allowed No more than 50 pounds of dead shrimp allowed in possession; unlimited amount of live shrimp.

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

CATEGORY AGENCY REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

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

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

Gear Trawls cannot be larger than 16' on the cork line and 22' on the lead line.

Legal size No restrictions.

Pounds Allowed No more than 20 pounds of dead shrimp allowed on board at any time.

Restrictions Live bait dealers must mark their boats with the words "LIVE BAIT" in letters no smaller than 6" high on the port and starboard sides of the boat. The name of the bait camp must be similarly displayed. Fish caught

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

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License	TX	Bait Shrimp Dealer - \$60.00 -- Required for any person engaging in the business of selling shrimp for bait. Bait Shrimp Boat - \$80.00 -- Required for any boat used in the inside or bay waters of the state for taking bait shrimp for sale. Non-Resident Bait Shrimp Boat - \$320.00
Season		Inside waters open year round except from sunset to sunrise during the fall open season.
Gear		All rules and regulations of commercial shrimp apply.
Legal Size		No restrictions.
Pounds Allowed		No more than 200 pounds per day may be taken from inside waters by commercial bait boats.
Restrictions		Information not available.

SHELLFISH - OYSTERS AND CLAMS

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License Requirements	AL	<p>All licenses expire September 30th of each year.</p> <p>Persons are allowed to take up to 100 oysters for personal consumption without a Catcher's License; however, if these oysters are transported by boat for any reason, an Oyster Boat License (\$1.00) is required.</p> <p>Commercial Oyster Catcher - \$10.50 -- Required by all persons (must be in possession) taking oysters for commercial purposes.</p> <p>Commercial Oyster Boat - \$1.00 -- Required by all persons transporting oysters by boat for any reason.</p> <p>Transport - \$5.00 -- Required by all persons transporting raw oysters by motorized vehicle for commercial purposes. License must be kept on vehicle while transporting.</p> <p>Seafood Processor - \$50.00 -- Required by any person, firm or corporation opening oysters for resale, after acquiring a Health Department permit. Oysters may be opened for resale only on premises certified by the AL Department of Public Health.</p> <p>Wholesale Oyster - \$5.00 -- Required by any person, firm or corporation wholesaling oysters, whether shucked or in the shell, to either jobbers or retail dealers.</p> <p>Retail Oyster - \$1.00 -- Required by any person, firm, corporation or association before engaging in the retail sale of oysters in or out of the shell (except canned</p>

processed oysters), or bartering or exchanging oysters or delivering by vehicle.

Oyster Shipper - \$15.00 -- Required by any person who causes the shipment of raw oysters from his place of business.

Oyster Dredge - \$25.00 -- Required before an oyster dredge can be used along with evidence that a \$1,000 bond has been secured.

Seasons

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

Gear

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

Size Limits

Oysters taken for either commercial or personal consumption must be at least 3" in length.

Limits

Oysters must be culled on the reef where they are taken. Unlawful to take or have in possession more than 8 sacks of oysters per boat per day. Unlawful to land any oysters for commercial purposes which have not been sacked in this manner. [2 bushel baskets = 1/2 barrel; 1 tub = 1 sack; 4 sacks = 1 barrel; 8 sacks = 2 barrels]

Leases

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

Restrictions

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

CATEGORY

AGENCY

REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

License
Requirements

FL

Oysters and clams can only be harvested from approved shellfish harvesting areas.

Oyster Harvesting License -- West of Aucilla River only.

Resident - \$5.00

Non-resident and Alien - \$100.00

Oyster Harvesting Permit (non-resident) - \$100.00.

Commercial Permit to Transport Oyster Over Land - No Charge -- West of Aucilla River only.

Oyster Relaying Permit - No Charge.

Oyster Leases - \$5.00/acre

Seasons	Season is closed between June 1 and September 1 of each year except in Apalachicola Bay.
Gear	Dredges may be used for harvesting oysters or clams on private leases after posting a \$3000 bond and securing a Special Activity License.
Size Limits	Minimum size for oysters is 3". Minimum size for clams is 1" thick.
Limits	Bag limits are established in certain areas of the state.
Leases	Information available from FDNR.
Restrictions	Oysters and clams can only be harvested from an approved shellfish harvesting area.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License Requirements	LA	<p>All commercial oyster fishermen must purchase the following licenses:</p> <p>Commercial Fisherman Resident - \$55.00 Non-resident - \$105.00</p> <p>Vessel Resident - 15.00 Non-resident - \$60.00</p> <p>Gear Resident Oyster Tongs - \$30.00/tong Non-resident Oyster Tongs - \$120.00/tong Resident Oyster Dredge - \$25.00/dredge Non-resident Oyster Dredge - \$100.00/dredge</p>
Seasons		Designated when open by commission action, natural reefs may be fished from the first Wednesday after Labor Day through April 1 of each year.

Gear

Oysters may be taken from public oyster beds by dredges, scrapers and tongs. Dredges and scrapers used shall be no smaller than 3' in width and no longer than 6' in width measured along the tooth bar. The dredge teeth shall be no longer than 5" in length and there shall be no more than seven dredges in use on one vessel. Oysters may be taken from privately owned reefs with dredges smaller than 3' after obtaining a special permit from the secretary.

Size Limits

All oysters taken from natural reefs must be over 3" in length from hinge to mouth. A lessee of private oyster grounds may be permitted to take undersize oysters for bedding purposes only.

Limits

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

Leases

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

Restrictions

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

CATEGORY AGENCY REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES

License
Requirements

MS

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

Dredging
Resident - \$100.00
Non-resident - \$200.00

Recreational
Resident - \$10.00
Non-resident - \$10.00

Seasons

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

Gear

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

Size Limits

Oysters taken in state waters must be at least 3" long (at the greatest length of the

shell). At times, however, the Bureau may decrease this limit upon Public Notice to that effect.

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

Leases The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife Conservation, Bureau of Marine Resources conducts a program of oyster leasing. Any resident of the state may lease state waterbottoms for the purpose of oyster culture. Oysters taken from private lease areas must be so designated by tags indicating the official leased number issued by the BMR.

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

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License Requirements	TX	Commercial Oyster Dredge - \$50.00 -- Required for each dredge used; if boat is registered as a Commercial Bay or Bait Shrimp Boat, no

dredge license is required. License may be purchased during the month of August only.
Non-Resident Commercial Oyster Dredge -
\$200.00

Seasons

Season is open from November 1 through April 30 except in that part of the Laguna Madre south of the Port Mansfield Channel and all private leases with permits from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department where there is no closed season. During open season oysters may be taken only from sunrise to sunset.

Gear

One oyster dredge not more than 48" in width across the mouth and of not more than two-barrel capacity may be used or possessed on board any boat in public waters. Commercial vessels may not have more than two dredges on board. Oyster dredge licenses may be purchased only during the month of August.

Size Limits

Minimum size for oysters is 3". Oysters 3/4" to 3" are to be culled and returned to reef from which taken. Provided, however, that each cargo may contain not more than 5% of oysters of this size.

Limits

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

Leases

Information not available.

Restrictions

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

SHELLFISH - CRABS

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Licenses	AL	No commercial or recreational crabbing license required.
Restrictions		It shall be unlawful to set or place any trap used for the taking of crabs within 100 yards of any marked navigational channel or public boat launching ramp. Traps shall not exceed 27 cubic feet in volume.
Legal Size		It shall be unlawful to sell for commercial purposes blue crabs that measure less than 4" in width as measured across the widest points of the upper shell. Provided, however, this limitation does not apply to soft-shelled crabs or crabs sold for use as bait.

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Licenses	FL	An SPL is required to engage in the trapping of stone crabs and to fish with more than five blue crab traps. Saltwater Products License -- Required by the fisherman to sell any saltwater product and allows sale only to a licensed wholesale dealer.
Restrictions		Stone crab claws season is closed between May 15 and October 15.
Legal Size		Hardshell blue crabs must be 5" in width if sold. Stone crab claws must have 2 3/4" forearm length.

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
Licenses	LA	Recreational Crab Trap - \$10.00 -- Required for use of no more than 10 traps.

Resident Commercial Crab Trap Fishing - \$25.00
 Non-resident Commercial Crab Trap Fishing - \$100.00.

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

Legal Size Hardshell blue crabs must be 5" in width, crabs less than 5 inches in width may be taken for the purpose of producing soft crabs only. Soft shell blue crabs must be 4 1/2" in width.

CATEGORIES AGENCY REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES

Licenses MS Commercial Crabbing
 Resident - \$75.00
 Non-resident - \$200.00

Restrictions Crabs may also be taken by trawl; however, the trawl must not exceed the maximum allowable dimensions specified for shrimp. All crabs incidentally caught in trawls must be immediately returned to the water unless the boat operator holds a valid state crab fishing license. Crab pots or traps must be visibly marked with the license number of the owner. All egg-bearing crabs caught south of the Intracoastal Waterway between the Gulfport Ship Channel and the MS/AL state line must be immediately returned to the water. It is illegal to remove crabs from traps for which one is not licensed. A valid crabbing license must be obtained when using in excess of six crab traps or whenever crabs caught are to be offered for sale.

Legal Size No limit.

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
Licenses	TX	<p>General Commercial Fisherman -- Required for person who catches edible aquatic products from the waters of the state for pay or for the purpose of sale, barter or exchange.</p> <p>Resident - \$15.00</p> <p>Non-resident - \$100.00</p> <p>Saltwater Commercial Fishing Boat -- Required for boat (registered under federal or state laws) used in taking aquatic life except shrimp from the tidal waters of the state for pay, barter, sale or exchange.</p> <p>Resident - \$10.50</p> <p>Non-resident - \$60.00</p>
Restrictions		<p>It is unlawful to possess egg-bearing crabs or stone crabs. No person may buy or sell a female crab that has its abdominal apron detached and was taken from coastal waters. No more than 300 crab traps may be used by any person. Crab trap buoys must be marked with the owner's name, address, General Commercial Fisherman's License number and date set out. Crab traps must be marked with an orange floating buoy not less than 10" in width. Crab traps may not exceed 18 cubic feet.</p>
Legal Size		<p>Hardshell blue crabs must be 5" in carapace width. 5% of undersized crabs may be possessed for purposes other than bait or for shedding. One claw may be removed from a stone crab and it must measure 2 1/2".</p>

<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
Restrictions	NMFS	<p>The taking of claws from or retention of egg bearing stone crabs is prohibited. Live stone crabs held on board temporarily shall be kept damp and in containers shaded from sunlight. Traps may be tended only during daylight hours.</p>
Legal Size		<p>Stone crab claws must be 2 3/4".</p>

SHELLFISH - LOBSTERS

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
Season	FL	August 6-March 31 for spiny lobster. Trap may be placed in the water five days prior to season. Traps must be removed from the water by April 5. There is a special two-day non-trap recreational spiny lobster season the last full weekend prior to August 1.
Gear		Wood slat traps and until April 1, 1990 plastic traps with a wood slat top panel. Trap can be no larger than 3' x 2' x 2' or equivalent.
Vessel and Gear Identification		Each trap must have a buoy or be attached to a trap trotline; all traps and buoys must have the trap number permanently affixed. Buoy numbers shall be at least 2" high. The buoy color and trap number must be displayed on boats working traps so as to be readily identifiable from both the air and water.
Size Restrictions		Spiny lobsters minimum size is more than 3" carapace or 5 1/2" tail measurement if separated from head. separating the head from tail of lobster is prohibited in state waters.
Harvest Limitations		Egg bearing lobsters must be returned to the water unharmed. The stripping of eggs or removal of the pleopods from the lobster is prohibited. The bag limit during the two-day recreational season is 6 spiny lobster per person per day. Traps worked during daylight hours only. The working of another's traps without written permission is prohibited.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
Season	NMFS	<p>Year round for slipper lobster. July 26 - May 31 for spiny lobster. Traps may be placed in the water five days before the season (July 21). Traps must be removed from the water by April 5.</p> <p>There is a special two day non-trap recreational season for spiny lobster the first full weekend preceding July 21.</p>
Gear Restrictions		<p>Poisons, explosives, spears, hooks (or similar devices) may not be used to take spiny lobsters. In non-wood traps, a degradable panel in the upper half of the sides or on top is required. When the panel is removed, the opening can be no smaller than the diameter found at the throat or entrance.</p>
Vessel and Gear Identification		<p>Traps, buoys and vessels in the trap fishery must be identified by the number and color code issued by NMFS or Florida. Vessels must permanently and conspicuously display color code and number so as to be identifiable from the air and water. Color code must be a circle at least 20" in diameter and number at least 20" high. Buoys and traps must have numbers at least 3" high.</p>
Size Restrictions		<p>Spiny lobsters with a carapace length of 3" or less or with a tail length of less than 5 1/2" must be returned immediately to the water unharmed except that a maximum of 100 undersized spiny lobsters may be retained in a shaded live box for use as attractants in traps.</p>
Harvest Limitations		<p>Egg bearing spiny or slipper lobsters must be returned to the water unharmed. Eggs may not be stripped. During the two-day recreational season, catch is limited to six spiny</p>

lobsters per person per day, up to 24
lobsters per boat per day.

Traps may be tended only during daylight
hours - one hour before sunrise to one hour
after sunset. Tending another's traps
permitted only with written consent of owner.

FINFISH

Size and Possession Limits for Alabama are as follows:

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Posses- sion</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
AL	Spanish mackerel			14	
	Speckled trout	10	*	14	
	Red drum	5	*	14	≤ 2 over 32
	Red snapper	25	*	11	

It is unlawful to sell speckled trout and red fish caught in
state waters.

*Persons returning from fish trips of two or more consecutive
days may have in possession not more than twice the daily
limit.

Size and Possession Limits for Florida are as follows:

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

*Black mullet minimum length - 9" west of Aucilla River, 10" north of Hernando County to Aucilla River, 11" rest of state.

Size and Possession Limits for Louisiana are as follows:

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
	<u>Recreational</u>				
LA	Speckled trout	50	50	12	
	Red drum	50	50	14**	≤ 2 over 30
	Sheepshead			10	

Commercial

Speckled trout	14
Red drum	18
Sheepshead	10

*Sport fishermen are limited to a combined total of not more than 50 speckled trout or red drum per day with a maximum of one day catch in possession.

**15" during calendar year 1988 and 16" total length thereafter.

All resident recreational fishermen shall purchase an annual license of \$5.50. Licenses are available on May 1 and expire on June 30 of the following year. Non-residents must purchase a fishing license for \$15.50 for the period from July 1 through June 30 or a temporary 7-day license for \$10.50.

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

Size and Possession Limits for Mississippi are as follows:

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

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
	<u>Recreational</u>				
MS	Red drum	10	30	≤ 5 over 14 TL	≤ 2 over 30 TL
	Spotted seatrout	25	75	≤ 5 under 14 TL	
	Cobia			33 FL	
	King Mackerel	2	2*		

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

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License	TX	Resident Commercial Finfish - \$65.00 Non-Resident Commerical Finfish - \$125.00

Size and Possession Limits for Texas are as follows:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
Cobia			37	
Flounder			12	
Gafftopsail			11	
Mackerel			14	
Pompano			9	
Red snapper*			13	
Sheepshead			9	

*Five undersize red snapper may be retained per fisherman. Persons on vessels legally operating shrimp trawls are excluded from the size limit.

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

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

Red drum and spotted seatrout taken from state waters may not be transported or possessed for the purpose of sale, offered for sale or purchased under any circumstances.

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

Federal Size and Possession Limits for the Gulf States are as follows:

	<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>	<u>Minimum length in inches</u>	<u>Maximum length in inches</u>
NMFS	Red snapper			13	
	Red drum (rec.)		1/trip		
	Spanish mackerel			14	
	Cobia			37	

Vessels fishing in the commercial fishery may not land red drum the total weight of which exceeds 5% of the total weight of all other fish aboard the vessel. The landing and possession laws of the state where landed apply to red drum taken from the EEZ by shrimp vessels. Red drum harvested from or possessed in the EEZ may not be transferred from a fishing vessel to any other vessel.

Spanish mackerel and cobia must be landed with the head and fins intact. Spanish mackerel limits are 4 per person per trip except for commercial fishermen subject to commercial quotas. When fishing from a charter vessel for king mackerel limits are 3 per person per trip, excluding captain and crew, or 2 per

person per trip, including captain and crew, whichever is greater. Limits are 2 per person per trip when fishing from other vessels. These limits apply except when a vessel is fishing with permit under a commercial quota.

On April 1, 1987 the commercial quotas for Spanish mackerel in the Gulf of Mexico were eliminated. The bag limit of 4 per person per trip applies to Spanish mackerel harvested from or possessed in the EEZ in the Atlantic and Gulf from April 1, 1987, through June 29, 1987. During this period Spanish mackerel taken in the EEZ under the bag limit may be sold upon landing only in those states where state laws and regulations authorize the sale of Spanish mackerel harvested from state waters.

The commercial fishery for king mackerel from the Gulf Group closed February 4, 1987. The commercial purse seine fishery for king mackerel from the Gulf Group closed February 10, 1987. The closures remain in effect through June 30, 1987. The eastern boundary of the Gulf Group is a line extending west from the Monroe/Collier County, Florida boundary.

During the closures king mackerel may not be sold in the geographical range of the Gulf Group. This prohibition on sale includes king mackerel taken by recreational fishermen under the bag limits. Vessels with permits to fish under the commercial quotas for king mackerel may not fish under the bag limit in the closed area for the duration of the closure except that charter vessels may fish under the bag limit provided they are under charter (more than 3 persons aboard including captain and crew).

The bag limit for Spanish mackerel from the Atlantic Group was reduced to zero effective September 19, 1987, through March 31, 1988. During this period, Spanish mackerel from the Atlantic Group may not be retained on board a recreational vessel, i.e., a vessel that does not have a permit to fish under the commercial allocation.

SALTWATER NETS

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
License	AL	<p>Licenses expire September 30 of each year.</p> <p>Less than 1200' in length - \$5.00 1200' - 1800' - \$10.00 1800' - 2400' - \$20.00 2400' - 3000' - \$40.00</p> <p>Non-residents pay a double fee. Non-residents must purchase a non resident sport fishing license before using any type of unlicensed seafood catching device in state waters (including such activities as gigging flounder, using a cast net, etc.)</p> <p>All nets and seines must be licensed except seines used for taking bait. Such seines shall not exceed 25' in length or 4' in depth. Two or more nets may be tied together and considered as one net. The total length of nets tied together must not exceed 3000' and are licensed based on total length when tied together. An employee of a seafood company or corporation can operate a net licensed under the name of the company or corporation but must have said license in possession. A license made out to an individual is not transferable, licensee must be present when net is in use.</p>
Restrictions		<p>Mesh size of seines over 25' in length must be at least 3/4" to 1 1/2" stretched mesh or larger. Mesh size of trammel and gill nets must be 1 1/4" bar or 2 1/2" stretch mesh or larger in all coastal waters except: 1) In all fresh water areas nets must be 3" bar (6" stretch or larger. NOTE: The use of nets in freshwater requires a separate \$10 license issued through the Game and Fish Division and</p>

all fish designated as "game fish" must be returned to the water alive regardless of where taken. 2) From June 15 through Labor Day of each year, gill and trammel nets are prohibited in the Gulf of Mexico within 150 yards of the Gulf beaches and Sand Island. 3) No gill nets under 750' long can be used in the inside waters. 4) No nets may be set within 100 yards above or below the mouth of any stream, bayou or river emptying into any salt waters of the state. 5) No nets may be used within 300' of any public boat ramp, man-made canal, public pier, marked navigational channel, or Little Lagoon Pass. Nets shall not extend more than one-mile way across any river, stream, bayou or creek. 6) All nets used in salt and brackish water must be attended.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
License	FL	Manatee County Gill Net - \$300.00 Pinellas County Gill Net - \$300.00 Pasco County Gill Net - \$300.00 Nassau County Gill Net - \$250.00 Bait Mullet Permit - \$10.00 - Volusia County St. Johns County Beach Seine - \$250.00
Restrictions		<u>Illegal Possession of Seines and Nets</u> -- prohibits possession of any fishing seine or net in any county that the use is prohibited by law. <u>Use of Purse Seines, Gill Nets and Pound Nets, etc.</u> -- it is illegal to take food fish from within or without the waters of the state, with a purse seine, purse gill nets, or other net using rings or other devices on the lead line thereof, through which a purse line is drawn, or pound nets, or to take any food fish so taken for sale or

shipment. Seines and Pocket Bunts -- in any county where seines are not prohibited on the open Gulf or Atlantic Ocean, such seines may have a pocket bunt on the middle of the seine of a mesh size less than that provided by law. Gill Nets -- where gill nets are not prohibited, such nets may be gathered, taken in or taken up by hand. No net may be pulled up on shore where seining is prohibited. Such nets may be gathered, taken in or taken up by power in the Gulf and Atlantic Ocean, except in Dade and Palm Beach Counties. A special activity license must be obtained for the use of gear and equipment for exploration of offshore fishery resources. Use of Gill Nets, Wing Nets and Similar Devices -- it is illegal to leave any gill net, wing net, or similar device unattended in Walton, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Franklin, Escambia, Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, Pinellas or Duval Counties. All nets must have a light or lights so that any device can be seen by an approaching vessel.

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

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

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

Recreational Nets - In St. Johns County a seine or similar net not exceeding 100' in length, with mesh not smaller than 2 1/2" set and hauled solely by hand and without use of any motor-driven boat or vehicle. No recreational net may be set or hauled within 100' of any other recreational or commercial

net. Prohibits the use of a recreational net after sunset or before sunrise between May 1 and September 15. Only one container of fish per net in use can be retained by the holder of a permit. All fish in excess and all unwanted species shall be returned alive to the water when caught.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>		
License	LA	Vessel, commercial fisherman and applicable gear licenses are required for fishing in saltwater.		
			<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-resident</u>
		Commercial Fisherman	\$ 55.00	\$ 105.00
		Hoop Net	25.00	100.00
		Gill Net	25.00	100.00
		Trammel Net	25.00	100.00
		Fish Seine	25.00	100.00
		Salt Trap	25.00	100.00
		Purse/Menhaden	505.00	2020.00
		Crab Trap	25.00	100.00
		Vessel	15.00	60.00

Restrictions

Mesh size of hoop nets must be at least 1" square or 2" stretched after treating with tar or copper. Mesh size of seines must be at least 1 3/4" square or 3 1/2" stretched whether treated or not. Mesh size of trammel nets shall be at least 1 5/8" square or 3 1/4" stretched, whether treated or not. Trammel nets shall not exceed 1200' in length nor shall two nets connected together exceed 1200' in length. Mesh size of gill nets shall be at least 1 3/4" square or 3 1/2" stretched. Gill nets cannot exceed 1200' in length nor can two or more nets joined together exceed 1200' in length. The use of monofilament for any type net is prohibited in saltwater areas of the state. The use of

purse seines is prohibited in inside waters. The use of purse seines is prohibited except for taking of menhaden and herring-like species. It is illegal to enter state waters with purse seine and speckled trout or red drum on same vessel.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEES</u>
License	MS	Resident Gill & Trammel Net - \$100.00 Non-resident Gill & Trammel Net - \$300.00 Resident Charter, Party or Commercial Hook and Line - \$100.00 Non-resident Charter, Party or Commercial Hook and Line - \$100.00 Resident Menhaden Boat/Net - \$150.00
Restrictions		<p>Saltwater finfish may be taken from Mississippi waters by any of the following methods: hook and line, trotline, throwline, spear, gig, bow and arrow, cast net, small-mesh beach seine (under 100' in length and with a maximum 1/4" bar), brill net, shrimp trawl, trammel net, gill net, wing net, beach and purse seines (all must be under 1200' in total length and with a minimum 3" stretched mesh size), fish traps (with a minimum 1 1/2" square mesh size).</p> <p>Nets, seines, or traps used for catching fish other than mullet are not permitted within 1200' of any pier or harbor. Mullet fishing is defined as any net fishing activity in which 90% or more of the total catch by weight consists of mullet. King mackerel fishing is defined as fishing activity in which the sole purpose is to catch king mackerel; and the catching in excess of 10% by weight of species other than king mackerel while net fishing for king mackerel is prohibited. All nets except species other than king mackerel while net fishing for king</p>

mackerel is prohibited. All nets except purse seines and trawls used for mullet fishing must be of mesh sizes 1 1/2" square (3" stretched) or larger.

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

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

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

When landing reports, as required by law, indicate that the 200,000 pound catch limit for red drum has been reached, the BMR will, with adequate notice, issue a news release and public notice closing state waters to the commercial net fishing for red drum for the remainder of that year. Purse seines may not be used to catch in excess of 5% by weight in any set of the net any of the following: spotted seatrout, bluefish, Spanish mackerel, king mackerel, dolphin, pompano, cobia or jack crevalle. It is illegal for any vessel carrying a purse seine to have on board in excess of 10% by weight of the total catch, any of the aforementioned species. It is illegal for any vessel carrying a purse seine to have on board any quantity of red drum.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REGULATIONS/EXPLANATIONS/FEEES</u>
License	TX	Seine or Net (except commercial shrimp trawl) - \$2.00

One metal tag is required for, and must be firmly attached to, each 100' of length, or fraction thereof, of each net or seine used

in taking any edible aquatic products from the waters of the state for pay, barter, sale or exchange. No tags will be issued for seines or nets longer than 1800' or with less than 3" square mesh.

Restrictions

Gill nets, trammel nets and drag seines of 3" square mesh or larger and up to 1800' in length may be used where permitted. It is unlawful to use a gill or trammel net in or on the waters of the Gulf of Mexico within the jurisdiction of the state. Seines, strike nets, gill nets and trammel nets used in tidal waters must be equipped with floats every 6' or less, buoyant enough to keep the device in an upright position in the water. Trammel nets are nets consisting of three walls of webbing with the two outer walls having no more than 8" square mesh and the center wall having one 3" square mesh.

Some areas are totally closed to netting - check with local enforcement personnel for details.

SEAFOOD BUSINESS LICENSES

AL	Processor - \$50.00
	Wholesale Fish - \$25.00
	Shrimp/Oyster Shipper - \$15.00
	Raw Oyster House - \$5.00
	Oyster Retail - \$1.00
	Retail Fish - \$5.00
FL	Resident Retail Seafood Dealer
	Primary Location - \$25.00
	Secondary Location - \$10.00
	Non-resident Retail Seafood Dealer
	Primary Location - \$200.00
	Secondary Location - \$25.00

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

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

LA Resident Wholesale/Retail Dealer - \$105.00
Non-resident Wholesale/Retail Dealer
- \$405.00
Resident and Non-resident Transport License
- \$30.00

Note: Transport licenses can only be purchased by licensed commercial fishermen and wholesale/retail dealers. Persons operating under a transport license are prohibited from buying and selling, by any means whatsoever, any species of fish.

MS Resident Seafood Dealer - \$100.00
Non-resident Seafood Dealer - \$100.00*
Resident Seafood Processor - \$200.00
Non-resident Seafood Processor - \$200.00

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

TX Wholesale Fish Dealer - \$400.00
Wholesale Fish Dealer Truck - \$250.00
Retail Fish Dealer Truck - \$50.00
Fish Farm - \$10.00
Fish Farm Vehicle - \$10.00
Shrimp House Operator - \$300.00