





























2018 Recreational Fishing Season Calendar

Species	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Minimum Size	Bag Limit	
Snapper															
 Red Snapper ★	Closed					Federally permitted for-hire season: Open June 1-July 21. Private recreational season: Determined by each Gulf state.		Closed					16 inches TL	2/pp	
 Gray (Mangrove) Snapper	Closed												12 inches TL		10 Snapper combined total
 Mutton Snapper	Closed												16 inches TL*		
*Increase to size of 18" and bag limit to 5/pp pending approval and implementation															
 Yellowtail Snapper	Closed												12 inches TL		
 Cubera Snapper	Closed												12 inches TL		
 Queen Snapper	Closed												none		
 Blackfin Snapper	Closed												none		

 Wenchman					none		10 Snapper combined total	
 Silk Snapper					none			
 Vermillion Snapper ★					10 inches TL	10/pp	20 reef fish combined total	
 Lane Snapper					8 inches TL			
Other Reef Fish								
 Gray Triggerfish ★	Open Jan 1-15	Closed Jan 16-Feb 28		Closed June-July Quota Closure Effective 12:01 am on August 17		15 inches FL		1/pp
 Almaco Jack					none		20 reef fish combined total	
 Golden Tilefish					none			
 Goldface Tilefish					none			

 Blueline Tilefish					none		20 reef fish combined total	
 Hogfish					14 inches FL	5/pp		
 Greater Amberjack ★	Closed*		Closed*		Closed*	34 inches FL	1/pp	
*The greater amberjack recreational fishing year will be August 1 through July 31								
 Lesser Amberjack					14-22 inches FL		5 fish combined total	
 Banded Rudderfish					14-22 inches FL			
Grouper								
 Gag Grouper ★	Closed				24 inches TL	2/pp	4 grouper combined total	
 Red Gouper ★		Closed when fishing beyond 20 fathom break			20 inches TL	2/pp		
 Black Grouper					24 inches TL			

 Scamp		Closed when fishing beyond 20 fathom break		16 inches TL		4 grouper combined total
 Yellowfin Grouper				20 inches TL		
 Yellowmouth Grouper				none		
 Yellowedge Grouper				none		
 Snowy Grouper				none		
 Speckled Hind				none	1 per vessel	
 Warsaw Grouper				none	1 per vessel	
 Goliath Grouper	Closed			Harvest Prohibited		
 Nassau Grouper	Closed			Harvest Prohibited		

Coastal Migratory Pelagics						
 Cobia				33 inches FL	2/pp	
 Spanish Mackerel				12 inches FL	15/pp	
 King Mackerel				24 inches FL	3/pp	
Shellfish						
 Spiny Lobster		Closed April 1 - August 5 with a 2 day mini-season the last consecutive Wednesday and Thursday in July.		3 inches minimum carapace	6/pp	
Other						
 Red Drum	Closed					
★ Subject to in-season closure if annual catch limit is projected to be met.						