



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES,  
MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION

# MARINE INFORMATION CALENDAR 2026



Yearly Tide Calendar | Moon Phases  
Sunrise & Sunset Times | Fishing Regulations  
State Record Fish | Boating Access Maps  
License Fees & Information | Fish Creel Limits  
Contact Information







# ALABAMA MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION

**MOBILE COUNTY.....(251) 861-2882**  
**BALDWIN COUNTY.....(251) 968-7576**  
**24-HOUR ENFORCEMENT CONTACT.....(251) 476-1256**  
**MARINE.RESOURCES@DCNR.ALABAMA.GOV**

## Kevin Anson, Director

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The mission of the **Marine Resources Division (MRD)** is to manage the state's marine fishery resources through research, enforcement and education for the maximum benefit of the resources and the citizens of Alabama. **To accomplish the mission the Division is comprised of enforcement, fisheries and administrative sections.**

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, pregnancy, national origin, genetic information, veteran status, or disability in its hiring or employment practices nor in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities.

The **Enforcement Section** consists of 19 State Law Enforcement Officers primarily tasked with patrolling Alabama's shorelines, coastal waters and adjacent federal waters, enforcing state and federal laws and regulations relating to the conservation and protection of marine resources. Officers also enforce state laws relating to boating safety, hunting and freshwater fishing. They cooperate extensively with other federal and state agencies in the coordination of cooperative enforcement operations, investigative fisheries enforcement activities, training, public safety, search and rescue and other natural resource issues.

The **Fisheries Section** is responsible for making recommendations regarding fishery-related matters to managers. To meet this responsibility, fisheries staff conduct a variety of monitoring programs to gather data for many species of fish and invertebrates. These programs are divided into fishery-dependent and fishery-independent programs. Fisheries staff also work with other Gulf of America state and federal agencies, as well as the public, to collect data through various projects to describe Alabama's marine resources and supply information and recommendations for managing these resources at regional and national levels. Staff also oversee a mariculture program located at the Claude Petet Mariculture Center (CPMC). Various marine species have been spawned and/or reared at the CPMC to support stock enhancement projects, fish movement and growth studies and mariculture research.

The **Administrative Section** handles accounting, billing, payroll, license sales and public inquiries. The Division has two facilities, one on Dauphin Island and the other in Gulf Shores. Combined, the two facilities support approximately 70 employees.



BEN WILCOX



**ON THE COVER**

Photo by: Josh Leslie

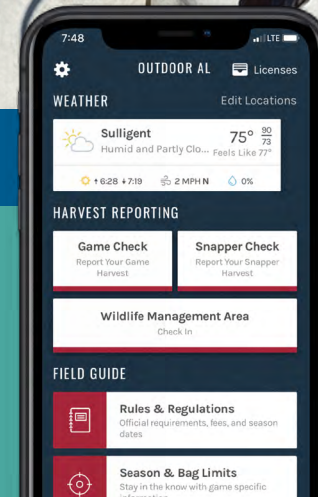


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# WHAT IS THE SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAM?



The Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) Program provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas fish and wildlife agencies for finfish research, boating access and aquatic education projects. The program is authorized by the Sport Fish Restoration Act (Dingell-Johnson) of 1950.

The SFR Program was created to restore and better manage America's declining finfish fishery resources and was modeled after the successful Wildlife Restoration Program. Through the purchases of fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels and import duties, the SFR Program is one of the most successful user pay, user benefit programs.

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

- Restoration and management of fish species of material value for sport fishing and recreation.
- Provide facilities that create or add to public access for recreational fishing.
- Provide aquatic education to the public to increase understanding of water resources and associated aquatic life.

## WHAT ARE ELIGIBLE PROJECTS?

- Projects restoring, conserving, managing and enhancing sport fish having material value for sport or recreation.
- Projects enhancing the public's understanding of water resources and aquatic life and assisting them in developing attitudes toward the aquatic environment.

## WHERE DO SFR FUNDS COME FROM?

Excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels, import duties and interest are collected and appropriated to states and territories from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. These funds are apportioned based on a formula which includes land area and number of paid recreational fishing license holders.



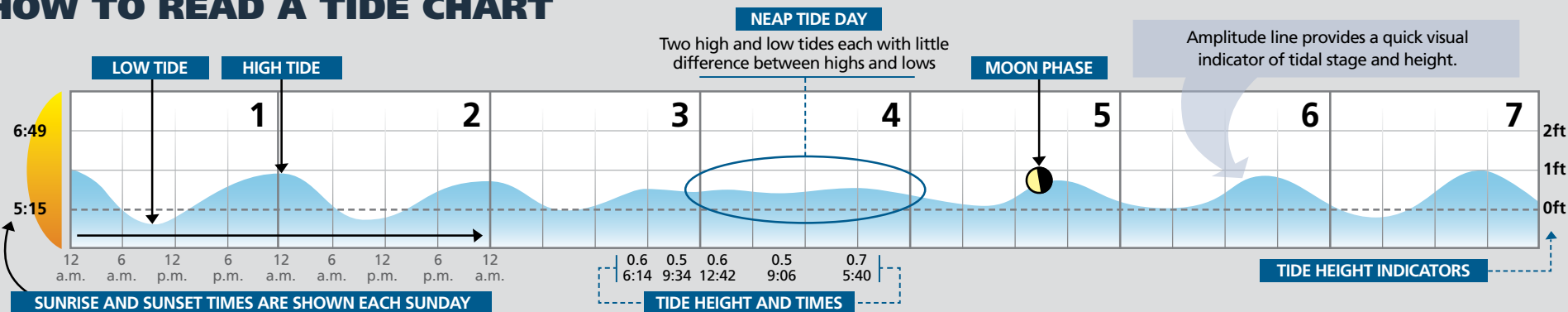
## EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

- » Educating the community on the importance of aquatic life and water resources.

## BOAT RAMP IMPROVEMENTS

- » Providing access through development of boat ramps funded with the help of the SFR Program.

## HOW TO READ A TIDE CHART



For the locations listed below, make the following adjustments:

**Fort Morgan:**  
add 00:05 - high  
add 00:17 - low

**Fowl River:**  
add 01:32 - high  
add 01:40 - low

**Bon Secour:**  
add 00:38 - high  
add 00:32 - low

**Point Clear:**  
add 00:48 - high  
add 00:52 - low

**Perdido Pass:**  
add 00:17 - high  
add 00:19 - low

**Mobile River:**  
add 01:48 - high  
add 01:48 - low

The tidal predictions provided in this calendar are for reference use only. Due to varying local conditions it should not be used for navigational purposes. Calculations account for Daylight Savings Time. High and low water predictions are provided by the National Ocean Service.





*Send. Share. Tag!*

Send us photos of your best catch and you just might be featured on any of Marine Resource Division's many publications or social media. Send high resolution images by email to [Marine.Resources@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Marine.Resources@dcnr.alabama.gov)

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!** .....



[facebook.com/AlabamaMarineResourcesDivision](https://facebook.com/AlabamaMarineResourcesDivision)



[@AlabamaMarineResources](https://www.instagram.com/AlabamaMarineResources)

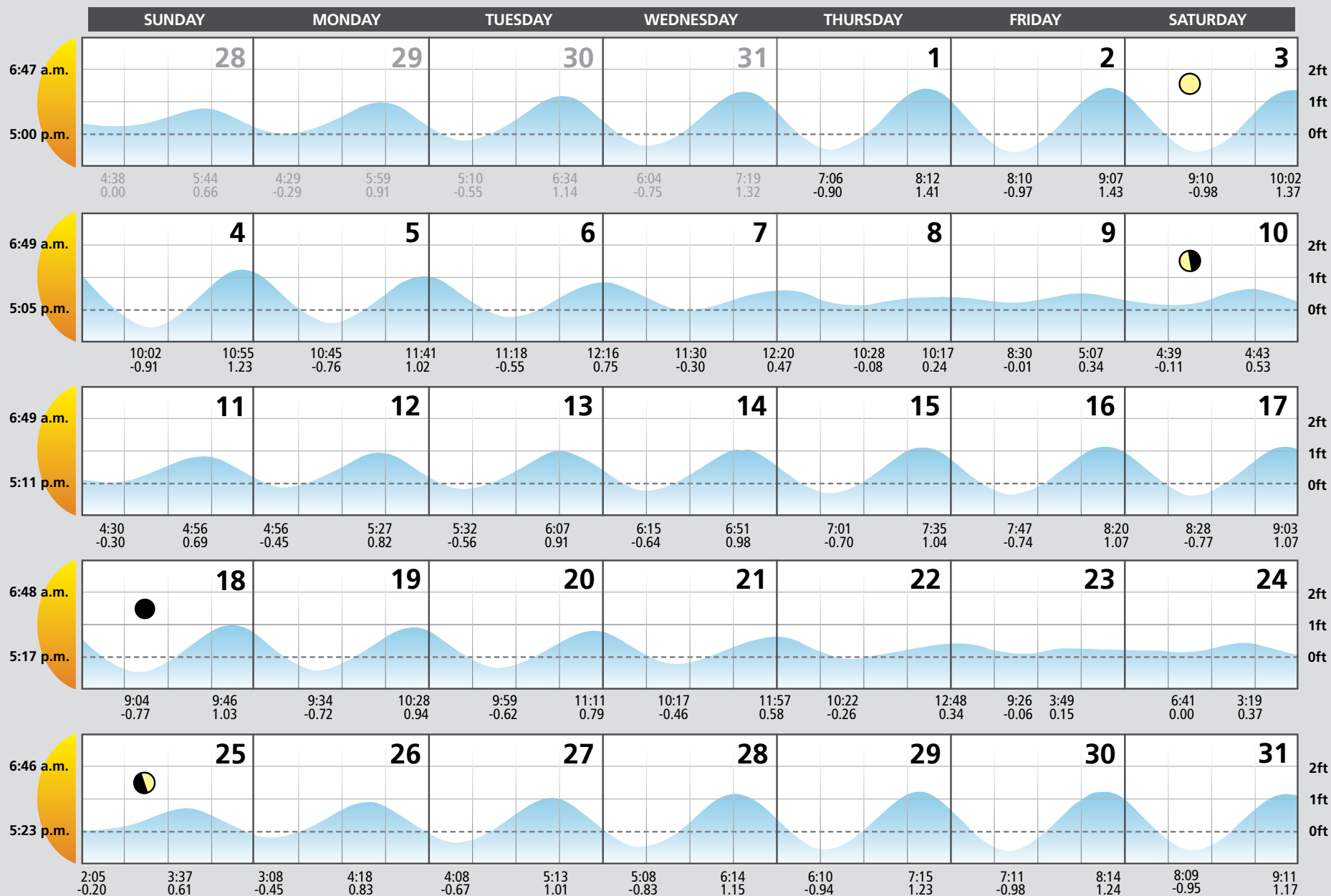
**#ALSPORTFISH**



● NEW MOON    ◐ FIRST QUARTER    ● FULL MOON    ◑ LAST QUARTER

# JANUARY 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes





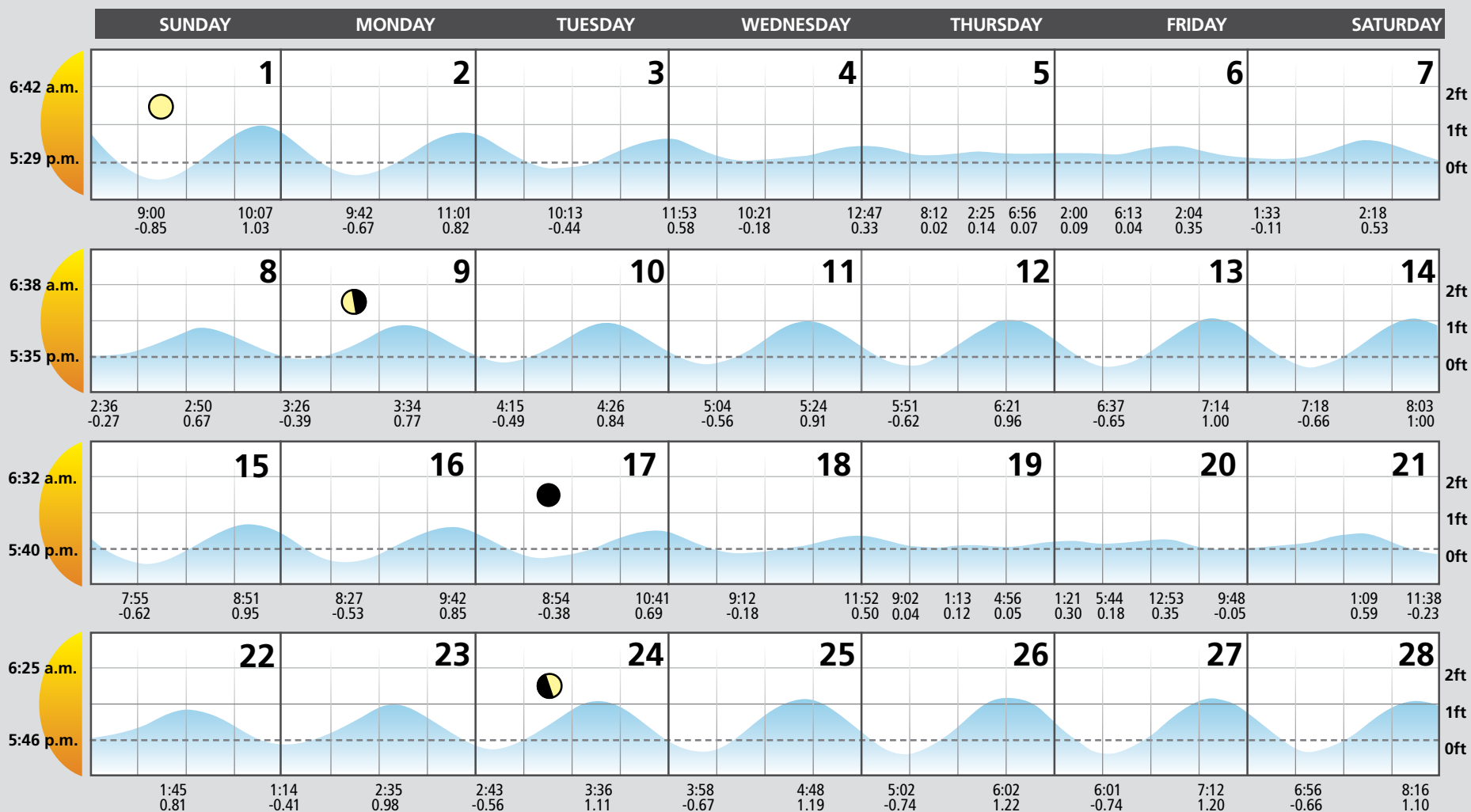




● NEW MOON    ● FIRST QUARTER    ● FULL MOON    ● LAST QUARTER

# FEBRUARY 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes







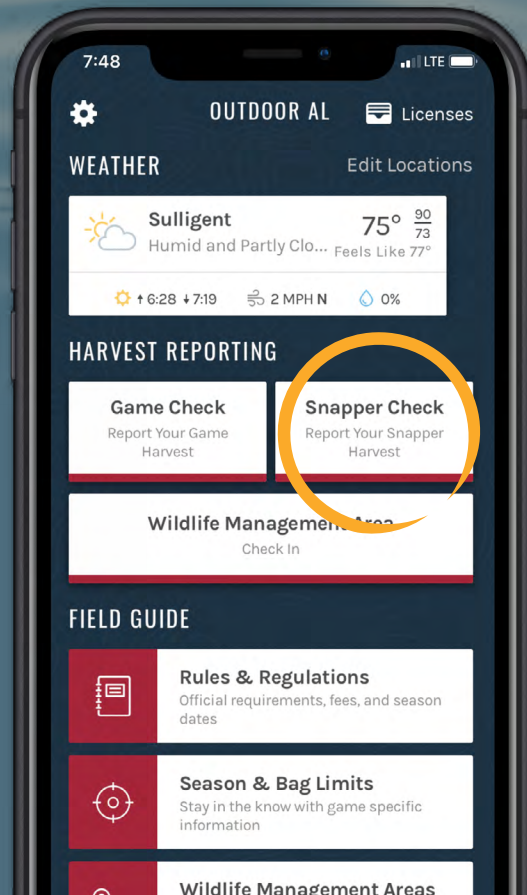
# MANDATORY REPORTING

Reporting is **REQUIRED** for Gray Triggerfish, Greater Amberjack, and Red Snapper landed in Alabama.

Information can be reported easily through any of the following methods:

- By smartphone using the **Outdoor AL** app
- Online at [research.dcnr.alabama.gov/snapper/](https://research.dcnr.alabama.gov/snapper/)

## HOW TO GET THE APP



The **Outdoor AL App** is free to the public and available on Apple and Android App Stores.

Search **Outdoor AL** in your app store to download the official app.

Reporting in the app takes less than a minute and works even without cellular service.

Scan the QR Code below to learn more and download the app today.



*Red Snapper*

*For Rules & Regulations*



**DOWNLOAD THE FISH RULES® APP**



*Greater Amberjack*



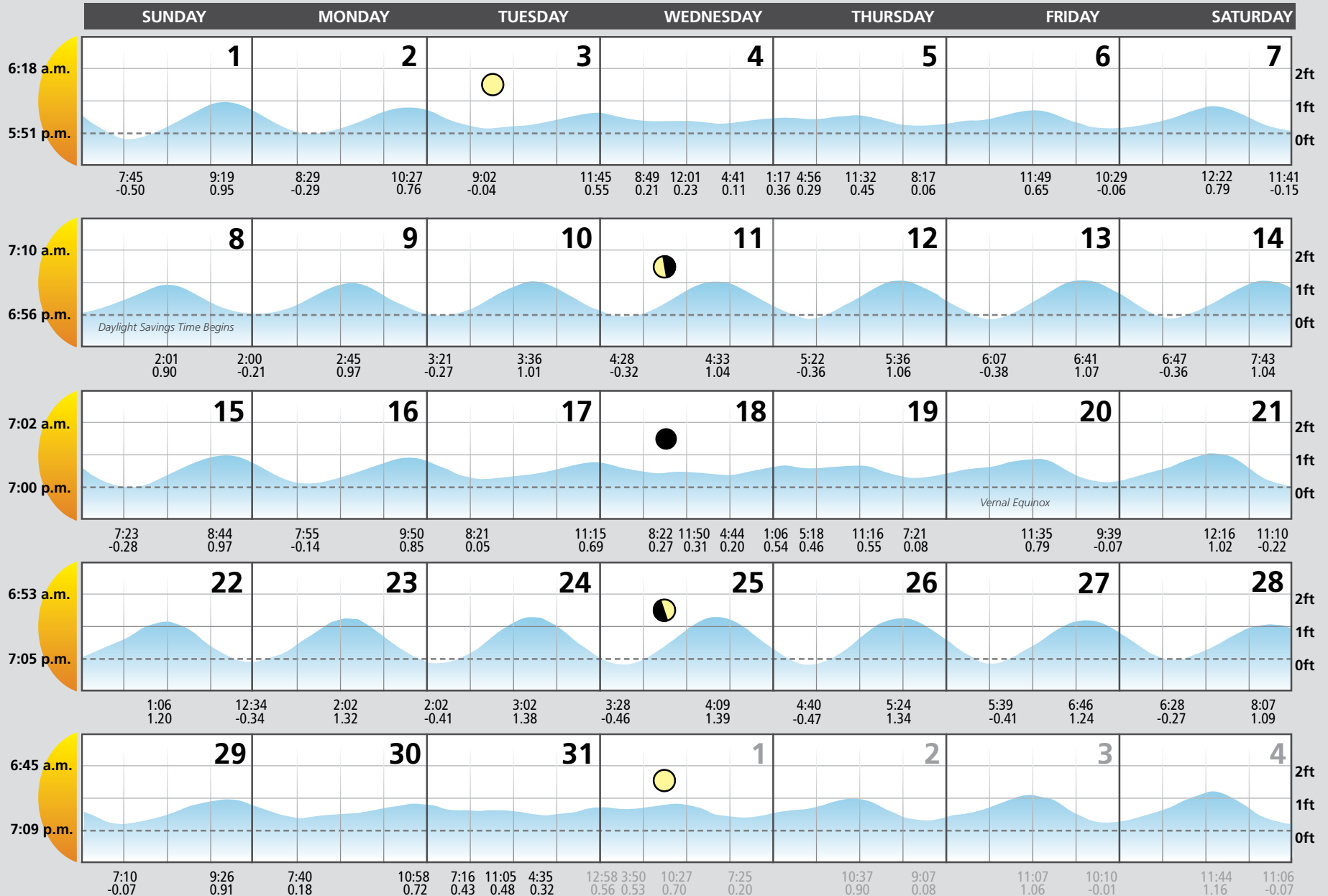
*Gray Triggerfish*

**VISIT [OUTDOORALABAMA.COM](https://outdooralabama.com) FOR SEASON DATES OF THESE SPECIES AS THEY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

● NEW MOON    ● FIRST QUARTER    ● FULL MOON    ● LAST QUARTER

# MARCH 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes





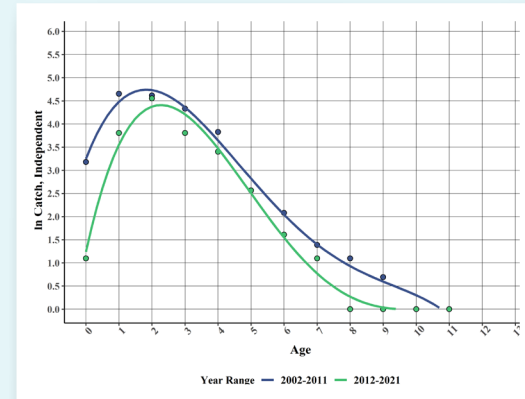
# FISHERIES ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING PROGRAM

You may have been approached by Marine Resources Division (MRD) fisheries staff after a day of fishing and been asked questions about the fishing trip and for access to landed fish to collect lengths and weights. This information is important to fisheries biologists as it provides information that is useful for determining the condition or health of the stock. However, this data often only provides data on a segment of the fish population as size limits exclude data collection for young or old fish and catch rates can be influenced by weather, fishing experience of the angler or other factors. Therefore, to collect information that is representative of the entire population of fish and invertebrates, fisheries biologists often use a variety of sampling gears. MRD has a sampling program that includes three gears: monitored gillnets, trawls, and seines. Each is designed to sample different habitats and depths for inshore species of finfish and invertebrates. These gears are deployed using consistent protocols to allow for statistical analysis of collected data. Water quality information such as temperature, salinity, and dissolved oxygen is also collected with each survey.

This year-round sampling program, known as the Fisheries Assessment and Monitoring Program (FAMP), was started in 1980 and is designed to monitor trends in relative abundance and population health.

Monitoring the proportions of ages in fish is important to fisheries managers as it is a signal when management is needed or confirms positive effects of management. Age of a fish is determined primarily by examining otoliths which are small, calcified structures located behind the eyes of most finfish (see image). When cut, otoliths reveal alternating translucent and opaque growth rings, much like the rings of a tree, and opaque rings are called annuli. Each annuli represents one year of growth, and scientific studies have confirmed annuli accurately reflect annual growth cycles in many species. For example, the accompanying chart depicts the normalized catch of sheephead by age within two 10-year periods (2002-2011 and 2012-2021). During the 2012-2021 period (green line) fewer numbers of sheephead across all ages were caught compared to the previous 10-year period and suggests the population of sheephead was not surviving to older ages in the more recent period.

The FAMP data, in addition to other data, provides insight into the trends in abundance and relative health for many key marine finfish populations and assists fisheries managers with decisions that are needed to sustain healthy fish populations and ensure long term access to Alabama's marine resources.

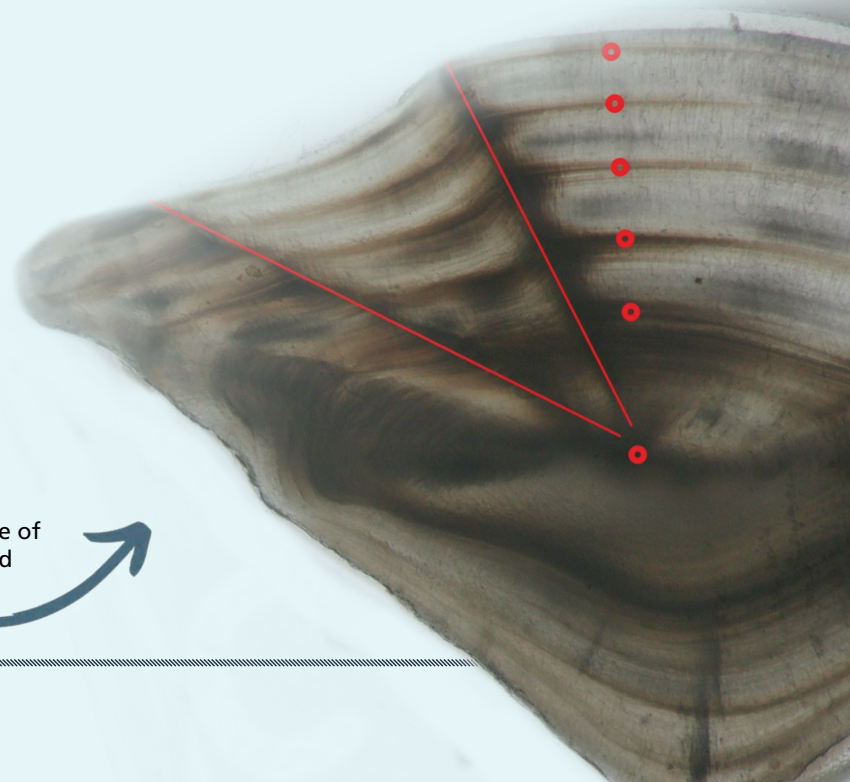


Normalized catch of sheephead by age group in years 2002-2011 to 2012-2021. The comparison suggests a reduced population of sheephead in the most recent 10-year period.

## HOW ARE FISH AGED?

The V-shaped sulcal groove indicates the true core of the otolith, ideal for aging. Dots mark annuli used to determine the fish's age.

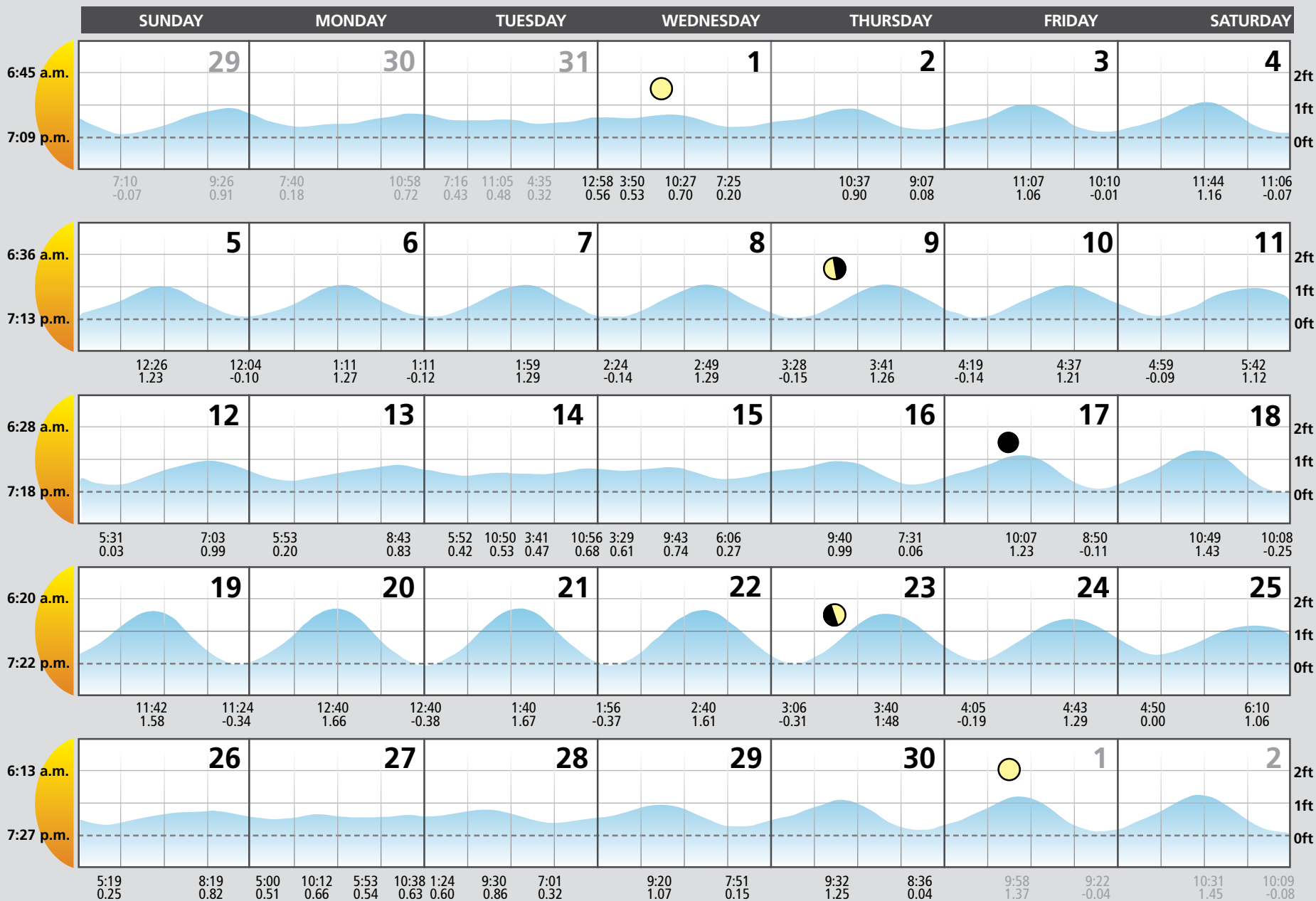
For more information on specific FAMP sampling programs scan the QR code



● NEW MOON    ● FIRST QUARTER    ● FULL MOON    ● LAST QUARTER

# APRIL 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes





## Atlantic Tarpon

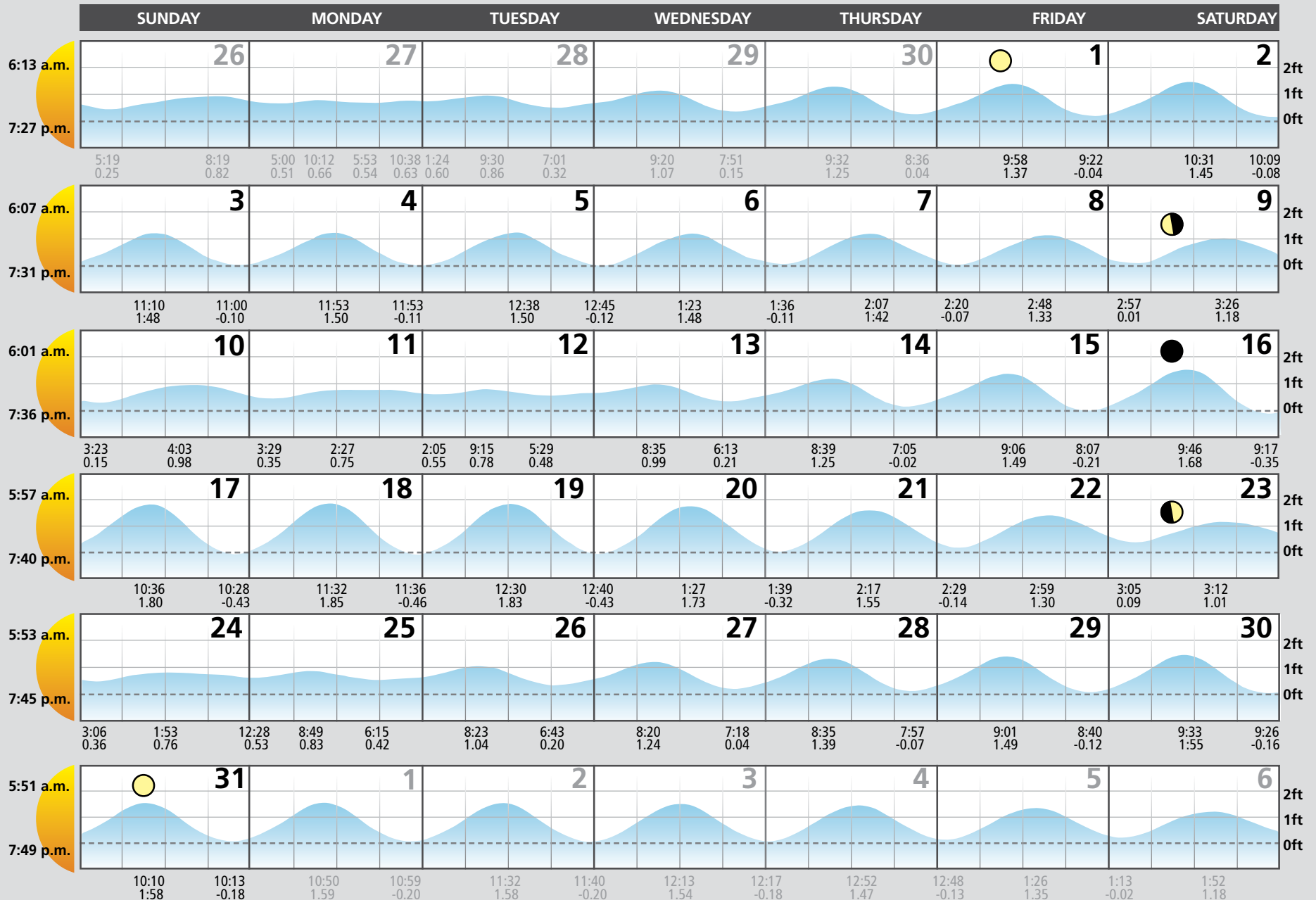
Sam Chambers



NEW MOON FIRST QUARTER FULL MOON LAST QUARTER

# MAY 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
Low tide: add 19 minutes





**Dolphinfish (Mahi Mahi)**

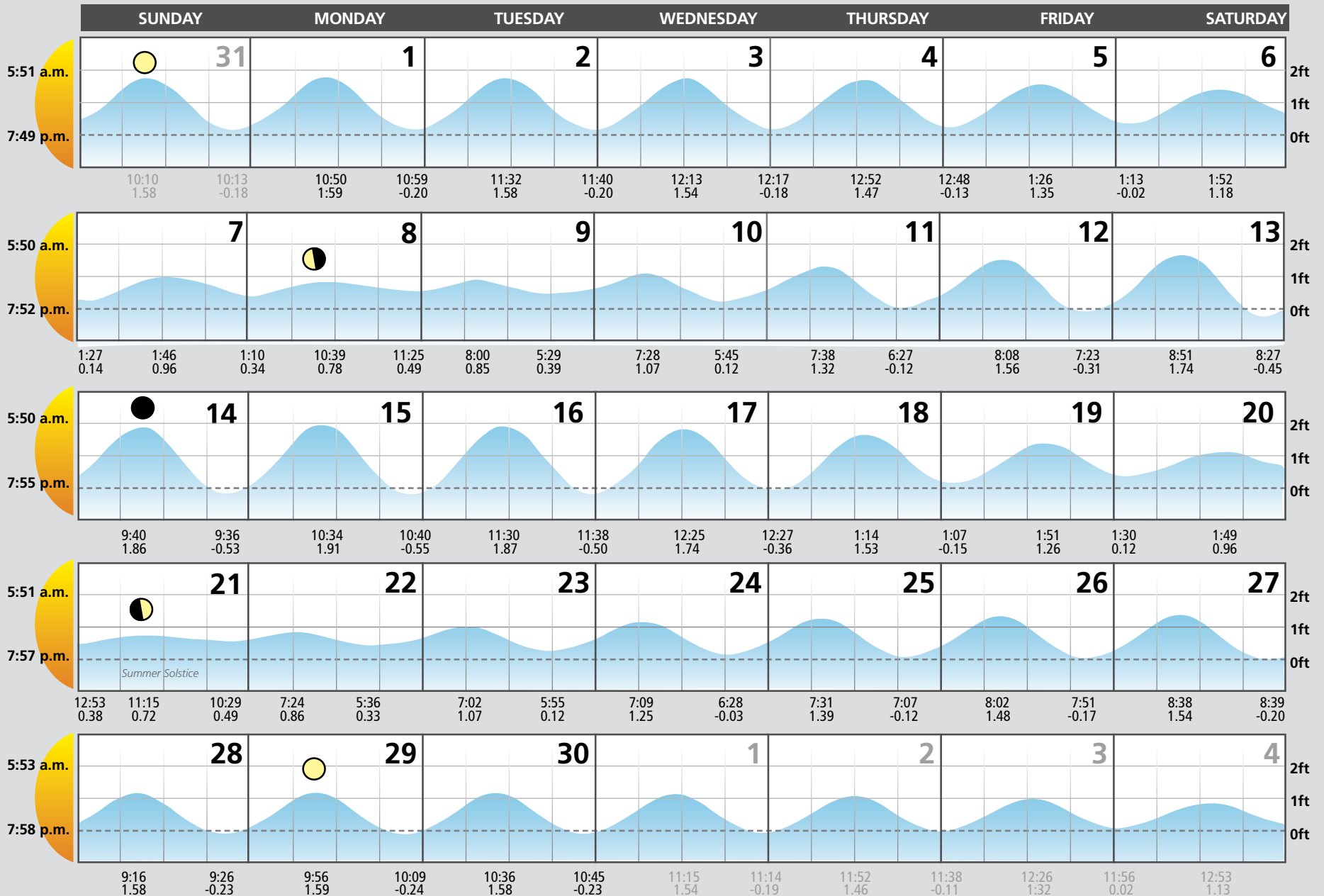
Renee Slay



● NEW MOON    ● FIRST QUARTER    ● FULL MOON    ● LAST QUARTER

# JUNE 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes

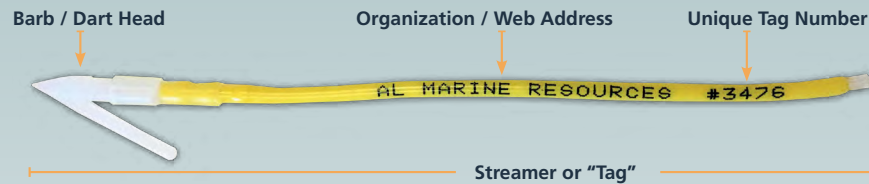




# SALTWATER TAGGING PROGRAM

MRD is studying reef fish caught and released during for-hire charter trips to better understand their survival rates and how they are affected by barotrauma. As part of this effort, staff are tagging a variety of popular reef fish species, including snapper, grouper, triggerfish, and jacks. Each fish has a small yellow streamer tag located just below the top fin on the left side, often called the "shoulder." The tag is printed with "AL MARINE RESOURCES" and a unique 4-digit identification number.

## Example of an MRD Fish Tag



## CAUGHT A TAGGED FISH?

REPORT ONLINE AT [WWW.OUTDOORALABAMA.COM/SWTAGS](http://WWW.OUTDOORALABAMA.COM/SWTAGS)  
OR SCAN THIS QR CODE TO LEARN WHAT TO DO!



## Return 'Em Right, Earn another fight!

Our mission is to improve reef fish survival by equipping anglers with the knowledge and gear to confidently and successfully release reef fish.

This angler-driven program provides training and release gear to Gulf reef fish anglers that are committed to using best release practices

and helping the future of the fishery. Join the community and take the training today!

**NOTE: Regulations require anglers to possess either a venting tool or a descending device rigged and ready to use when fishing for reef fish in federal waters of the Gulf of America.**



To learn more, visit  
**[ReturnemRight.org](http://ReturnemRight.org)**  
or scan this QR code



# ALABAMA SALTWATER RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSES

A saltwater fishing license is required for all persons fishing or possessing fish in saltwater areas of Alabama. Residents and nonresidents under the age of 16 are exempt. Residents age 65 and over are exempt. Residents may fish from a licensed public fishing pier in the inside waters without purchasing a fishing license.

- Annual and seven-day trip licenses are available for residents and non-residents.
- **Note:** Annual licenses expire August 31st of each year.
- Seven-day trip licenses are effective for 168 consecutive hours from the date and time of purchase.
- The saltwater fishing license is required for angling with rod and reel, artificial bait, lure, gig, cast net, bow, recreational crab traps and spearfishing.
- Alabama residents 65 and older, lifetime saltwater license holders, and those fishing from licensed public fishing piers must be registered with the Alabama Saltwater Angler Registry ([www.outdooralabama.com/saltwater-registry](http://www.outdooralabama.com/saltwater-registry)). **This registry is FREE.**
- **Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement** will be required for any person possessing, taking or attempting to take any gulf reef fish species listed in Rule 220-3-.46. This endorsement is required for all resident and non-resident anglers 16 years of age and older, and includes: disabled, veterans appreciation, 65 and older, lifetime license holders, pier licenses, annual saltwater licenses, trip licenses, commercial fisherman, and charter boats.

## 2026 SALTWATER LICENSE FEES

Licenses & Endorsements	ALABAMA	LOUISIANA	FLORIDA	ALL OTHERS
Annual	\$30.05	\$129.20	\$48.20	\$64.90
Trip	\$12.35	\$33.75	\$30.20	\$35.65
Pier	\$7.65	\$14.15	\$14.15	\$14.15
Spearfishing	\$6.00	\$8.50	\$8.50	\$8.50
Disabled	\$3.50	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled Veterans (20%)	\$3.60	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
LIFETIME GULF REEF FISH ENDORSEMENT	\$220.00	\$220.00	\$220.00	\$220.00

All fees include the issuance fee

**Purchase A Fishing License Online at**  
**[www.outdooralabama.com](http://www.outdooralabama.com)**

## All-Access License Packages

**It's more than a license, it's how memories are made.**

To help take the guesswork out of planning your next hunting or fishing adventure, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) now offers packages that cover all of the necessary license requirements needed when pursuing white-tailed deer, wild turkey or fishing the state's abundant opportunities for freshwater and saltwater species.

Each of the license packages are also available as a collectible hard card for an additional \$5 added to the purchase price. The hard cards feature a series of wildlife and nature scenes that are updated annually. Purchase your license package today and start planning your next outdoor adventure!



Visit **[OutdoorAlabama.com/license-packages](http://OutdoorAlabama.com/license-packages)** to learn more and browse available packages today!

**Add a collectible hard card to your license purchase!**





# Commonly Caught Alabama Offshore Fish



## RED SNAPPER

The Gulf is the center of abundance for northern red snapper. This is one of the Gulf's most important fish species; about 13 million pounds are taken in United States waters annually. Its esteemed reputation as one of the finest food fishes in the world is well deserved.



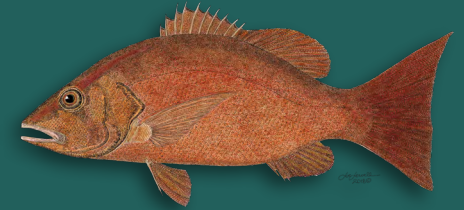
## VERMILION SNAPPER (BEELINER)

This snapper favors rocky reefs in moderate to deep shelf areas. Groups amass on flatter tops of reefs or along gentler sloping reefs, avoiding steep drop-offs and ledges.



## LANE SNAPPER

The color of the lane snapper is the quick way to distinguish it from other snappers. It is a rich red color with 8-10 yellow-gold parallel horizontal stripes along the side, and a large black diffuse spot under the dorsal fin.



## GRAY SNAPPER (BLACK/MANGROVE)

This is one of the few snappers found in shallow estuarine waters. Individuals may mingle with aggregates of pinfish or pigfish around wharfs.



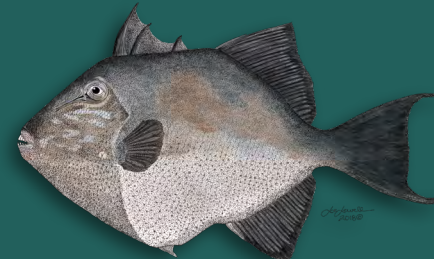
## GAG GROUPER

Most "black grouper" from the Gulf are really gags. The placement of artificial reefs in shallow shelf waters of the Gulf in recent years has greatly enhanced the gag grouper fishery.



## DOLPHINFISH (MAHI MAHI)

Dolphinfish are usually found offshore near sargassum weeds looking for squid, flying fish, and other small fish to eat. They are extremely fast swimmers and one of the fastest growing fish in the ocean. They're bright colors of purples, blues and yellow make them an attractive fish to catch and eat!



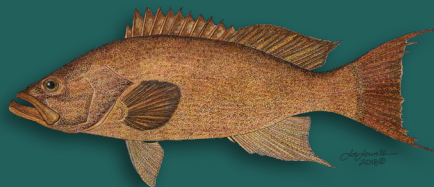
## GRAY TRIGGERFISH

The gray triggerfish is a wide-ranging fish in the western Atlantic. It is a very fine food fish, and is also a valuable commercial species.



## ATLANTIC SPADEFISH

Spadefish are superb eating, and when the right spot is found along with a school in the right mood, a nice catch of pound-weight spadefish is a real possibility.



## SCAMP

There is no doubt that scamp is one of the most highly esteemed food fishes in the Gulf. When served at the finest seafood restaurants, it commands a price comparable to red snapper or pompano.



## WAHOO

Wahoo are slender bodied with a dark-bluish green back and silvery sides. They are found offshore cruising the blue water looking for squid or other fish to eat and can quickly switch directions if need be.



## GREATER AMBERJACK

There are four varieties of amberjack: greater amberjack, lesser amberjack, Almaco jack, and banded rudderfish. Federal and state minimum sizes on amberjacks make it imperative that you release any little jacks of whose identification you're not absolutely certain.

# Commonly Caught Inshore and Coastal Fish



## KING MACKEREL

The largest of the mackerels in our region, reaching 6 feet in length and up to 80 pounds. Throughout most of the Gulf, the king is a favorite offshore game fish.



## FLORIDA POMPAÑO

The Florida pompano typically commands the highest price per pound of any marine food fish in the continental U.S. Favorite foods are small shelled animals living in the upper layers of sandy bottoms.



## COBIA (LING)

Cobia are attracted to large objects, including buoys, ships, sharks, turtles, and giant rays. This fish has many common names including cobia, cabio, ling, lemon fish and crabeater.



## SHEEPSHEAD

One of the largest members of the porgy family, sometimes exceeding 2 feet and 10 pounds. Though difficult to clean, its mild flavor rates high on the list of Gulf fishes. The gray-black vertical bars on its side make it easy to identify.



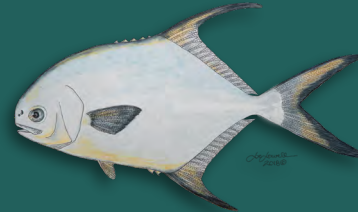
## SAND & SILVER SEATROUT (WHITE TROUT)

Small for sportfish, usually topping out at about 14 to 16 inches, and a couple of pounds, they are highly regarded for their sporting nature and flesh quality. Lumped together, they are known locally as "white trout."



## TRIPLETAIL (BLACKFISH)

One way to catch is by using long cane poles and live bait, lowering the bait within a perimeter of pilings, buoys or other obstructions. If nothing strikes in a few minutes, it's on the next spot.



## PERMIT

These fish can be found offshore near structures, inshore over seagrass beds or over sandy bottom near inlets in search of small crabs or shrimp to eat.



## SPANISH MACKEREL

Spanish mackerel are fast-moving, voracious predators favoring shallow shelf waters. Sardines, especially anchovies, are their main staple, and their presence and abundance is often reflected by that of the anchovy schools.



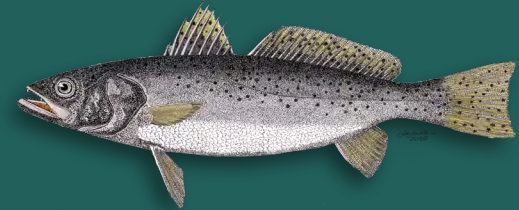
## RED DRUM (REDFISH)

One of the largest drums, often exceeding a yard in length and 30-40 pounds. Big "bull" reds prefer offshore waters or deeper waters of estuaries, but younger "rat" reds frequent the shallows near piers and jetties. They prefer shellfish, but will not pass up a good chunk of fish if offered.



## FLOUNDER

Flounder are bottom-dwelling fish that thrive in sandy or muddy bottoms near rocky reefs waiting to ambush any small fish or crustaceans that pass by their mouths. They are also very good to eat especially grilled whole and stuffed with crab meat.



## SPOTTED SEATROUT (SPECKLED TROUT)

Spotted seatrout feed primarily on fishes and larger shellfish. Because they rely on vicious rapid first strikes to dismember their prey, they are noted as heavy hitters on artificial lures.



# RECREATIONAL SIZE & CREEL LIMITS FOR ALABAMA STATE WATERS

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
SHEEPSHEAD	12" min (FL)	8 per person
SPOTTED SEATROUT	15" min (TL)	6 per person
	22" max (TL)	1 oversized fish allowed
RED DRUM (REDFISH)	16" min (TL)	3 per person
	26" max (TL)	No oversized fish allowed
COBIA (LING)	36" min (FL)	1 per person (not to exceed 2 per vessel)
KING MACKEREL	24" min (FL)	3 per person
SPANISH MACKEREL	none	15 per person
FLORIDA POMPAÑO	12" min (TL)	3 per person
TRIPLETAIL (BLACKFISH)	18" min (TL)	3 per person
FLOUNDER <sup>1</sup>	14" min (TL)	5 per person
STRIPED BASS <sup>2</sup>	16" min (TL)	2 per person <sup>2</sup>
GREATER AMBERJACK <sup>3</sup>	34" min (FL)	1 per person
LESSER AMBERJACK	14" - 22" (FL)	<sup>4</sup>
BANDED RUDDERFISH	14" - 22" (FL)	<sup>4</sup>
YELLOWFIN TUNA	27" min (CFL)	3 per person
BIGEYE TUNA	27" min (CFL)	no creel limit
GAG GROUPER <sup>3,5</sup>	24" min (TL)	2 per person <sup>5</sup>

SPECIES	SIZE LIMIT	DAILY CREEL LIMIT
RED GROUPER <sup>3,5</sup>	20" min (TL)	2 per person <sup>5</sup>
BLACK GROUPER <sup>3,5</sup>	24" min (TL)	4 per person <sup>5</sup>
YELLOWFIN GROUPER <sup>3,5</sup>	20" min (TL)	4 per person <sup>5</sup>
SCAMP <sup>3,5</sup>	16" min (TL)	4 per person <sup>5</sup>
SNAPPERS <sup>3</sup>		
RED	16" min (TL)	2 per person
GRAY (MANGROVE, BLACK)	12" min (TL)	10 per person
VERMILION (BEELINER)	10" min (TL)	10 per person
LANE	10" min (TL)	<sup>4</sup>
GRAY TRIGGERFISH <sup>3</sup>	15" min (FL)	1 per person <sup>4</sup>
TARPON	60" min (TL)	\$67 tag required
MULLET	none	<sup>6</sup>
SNOOK	28" min (TL)	1 per person
SHARKS		
SHARPNOSE, BONNETHEAD	none	1 per person per day
HAMMERHEAD, GREAT	78" min (FL)	1 per person per day
HAMMERHEAD, SMOOTH	78" min (FL)	1 per person per day
HAMMERHEAD, SCALLOPED	78" min (FL)	1 per person per day
ALL OTHER SHARK SPECIES	54" (FL)	1 per person per day

## FISH RULES® APP

Fish Rules is a FREE and innovative way to understand recreational saltwater fishing regulations for state and federal waters available directly on your phone.

## VISIT

app.fishrulesapp.com to learn more and download today!



Scan with your smartphone



## ALL FISH Must Be Landed with The Head and Fins Intact

- <sup>1</sup> The taking or possession of flounder from Nov. 1 - 30 is prohibited.
- <sup>2</sup> Only two Striped Bass are allowed within Marine Resources Division jurisdiction.
- <sup>3</sup> Alabama state waters open and close along with federal regulations.
- <sup>4</sup> There is a twenty (20) fish aggregate creel limit for reef fish species for which there is no other creel limit.
- <sup>5</sup> Mixed species grouper aggregate creel limit: 4 per person (No more than 2 red grouper and no more than 2 gag grouper included in aggregate).
- <sup>6</sup> 25 mullet per person from the shoreline or 25 per boat, Oct. 24 - Dec. 31. No mullet by cast net or snagging in Theodore Industrial Canal, Dog River, Fowl River and their tributaries.

**PROHIBITED SPECIES:** Prohibited Species: Goliath Grouper (Jewfish), Nassau Grouper, Atlantic Angel Shark, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Thresher Shark, Bignose Shark, Caribbean Reef Shark, Caribbean Sharpnose Shark, Galapagos Shark, Narrowtooth Shark, Night Shark, Sevengill Shark, Bigeye Sixgill Shark, Dusky Shark, Longfin Mako Shark, Shortfin Mako, Sand Tiger Shark, Basking Shark, Whale Shark, White Shark, Smalltail Shark, Smalltooth Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, Spotted Eagle Ray, Atlantic Manta, Sixgill Shark, Sandbar Shark (unless the fisherman possesses a NOAA Fisheries sandbar shark research permit).

[www.fisheries.noaa.gov/rules-and-announcements/bulletins](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/rules-and-announcements/bulletins)

## FISH MEASUREMENT

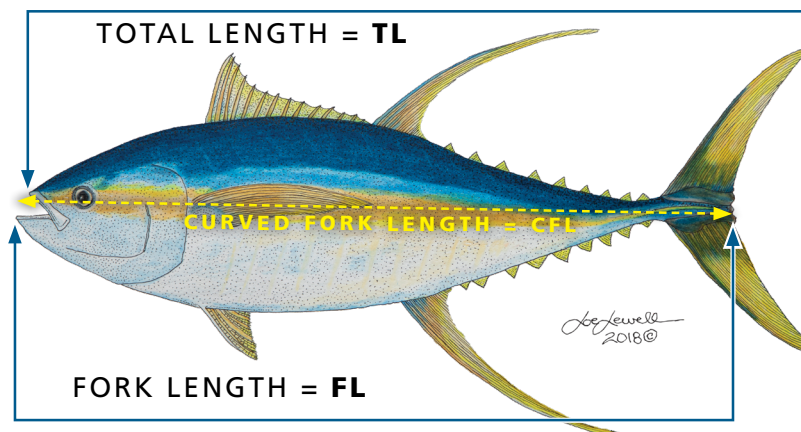
**TL = TOTAL LENGTH**

**FL = FORK LENGTH**

**CFL = CURVED FORK LENGTH**

**USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE THE LENGTH OF A FISH:**

- For total length (TL) place the fish on a flat surface with jaw closed. Squeeze tail together and turn it in such a way to obtain maximum total length.
- For fork length (FL) measure in a straight line from the tip of snout to deepest notch in tail.
- For curved fork length (CFL - tunas only) measure using flexible ruler from tip of upper jaw to deepest notch in tail.



## REGULATIONS

All fishing regulations are subject to change so before going fishing check with the Marine Resources Division for any changes:

Gulf Shores ..... (251) 968-7576

Dauphin Island ..... (251) 861-2882

[www.outdooralabama.com](http://www.outdooralabama.com)

## REPORT VIOLATIONS

MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION ..... (251) 476-1256

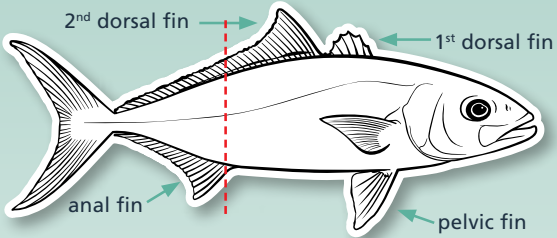
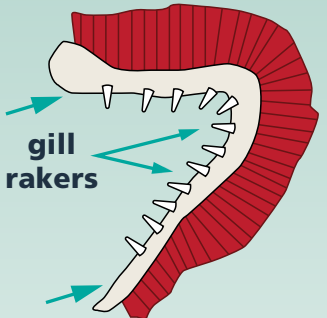
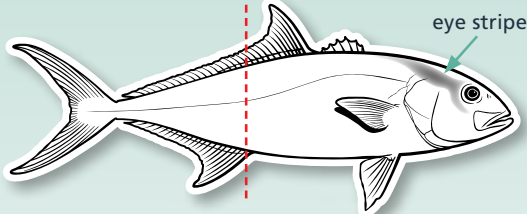
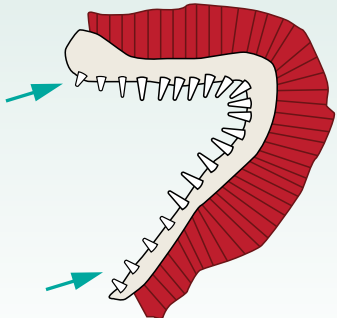
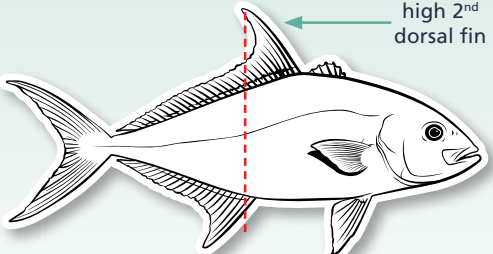
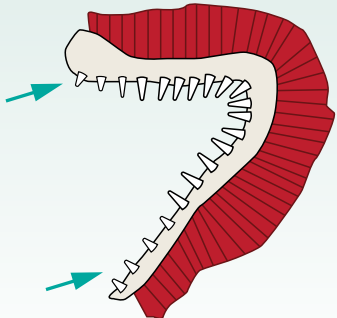
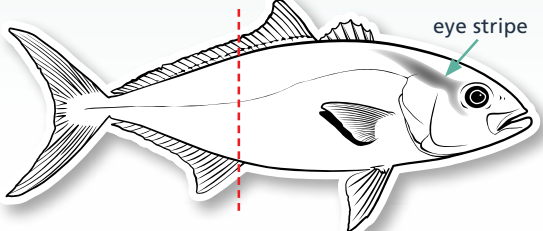






# HOW TO IDENTIFY JACKS

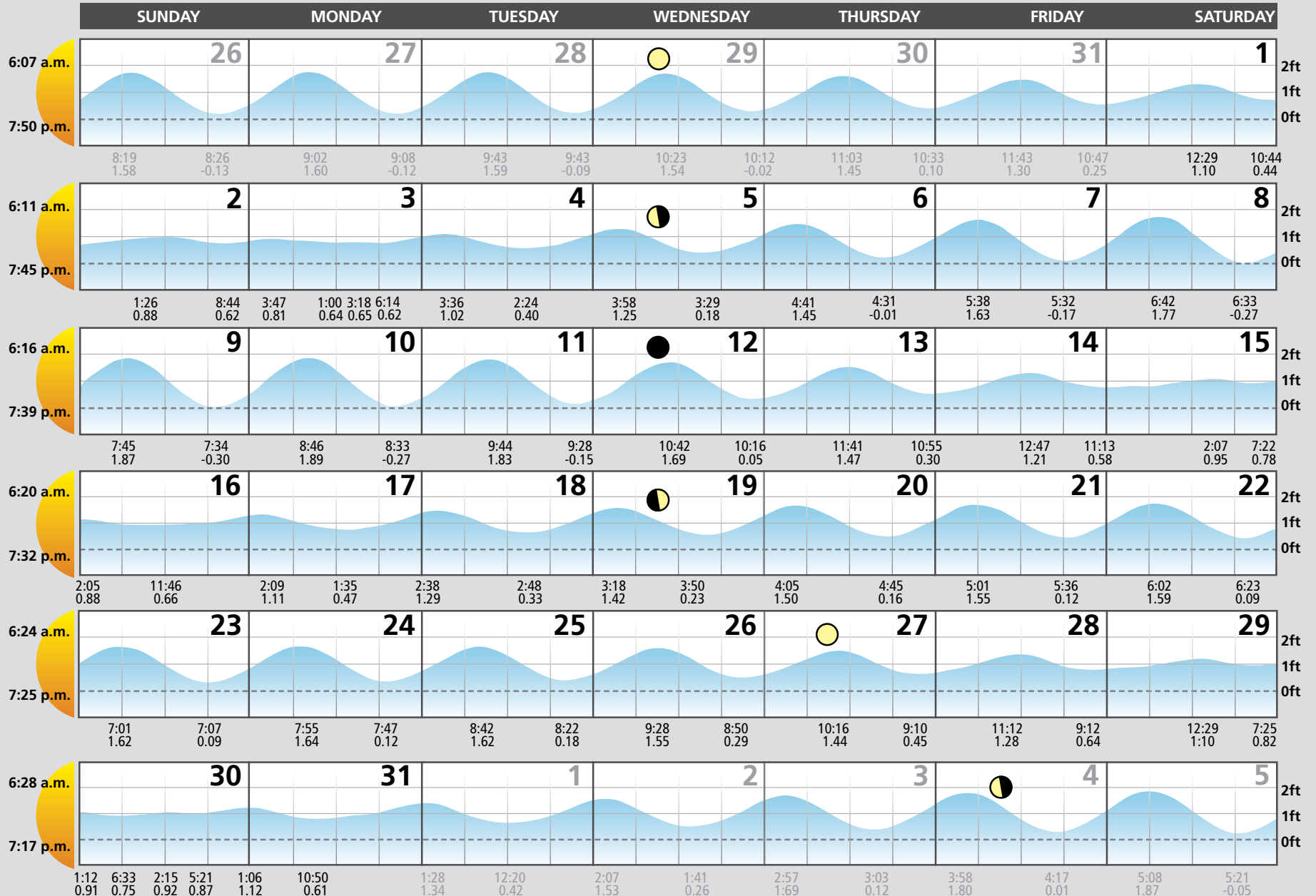
Always check regulations for current size and bag limits

Fish Species	Anal Fin Length	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dorsal Fin Lobe Length	Gill Raker Count*	Most Reliable Characteristics
 <p><b>BANDED RUDDERFISH</b></p>	<p><b>SHORT</b> 1/2 as long as 2<sup>nd</sup> dorsal fin</p>	<p><b>SHORT</b> Shorter than pelvic fin</p>	<p><b>12-16</b></p>  <p><b>Gill rakers DO NOT extend to point of attachment</b></p> <p><b>11-19</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Short anal fin</li> <li>2. Barred pattern on body in fishes up to 14 in.</li> <li>3. Slender body - not as deep as other jacks</li> <li>4. Low number of gill rakers</li> <li>5. Size: To 24 in. total length</li> </ol>
 <p><b>GREATER AMBERJACK</b></p>	<p><b>LONG</b> 2/3 as long as 2<sup>nd</sup> dorsal fin</p>	<p><b>SHORT</b> Shorter than pelvic fin</p>	<p><b>21-26</b></p>  <p><b>Gill rakers extend to point of attachment</b></p> <p><b>21-24</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Most common species</li> <li>2. Grows much larger than others</li> <li>3. Often has a dark band from snout through eye into 1<sup>st</sup> dorsal fin</li> <li>4. Low number of gill rakers</li> <li>5. Size: To 5 ft. total length</li> </ol>
 <p><b>ALMACO JACK</b></p>		<p><b>LONG</b> Longer than pelvic fin</p>	<p><b>21-26</b></p>  <p><b>Gill rakers extend to point of attachment</b></p> <p><b>21-24</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very high 2<sup>nd</sup> dorsal fin</li> <li>2. Darker in color - more olive or grey in color</li> <li>3. High number of gill rakers</li> <li>4. Deep body</li> <li>5. Size: To 32 in. total length</li> </ol>
 <p><b>LESSER AMBERJACK</b></p>		<p><b>SHORT</b> Shorter than pelvic fin</p>	<p><b>Gill rakers extend to point of attachment</b></p> <p><b>21-24</b></p> <p><small>*Gill Raker Count refers to the total number of gill rakers on the first gill arch.</small></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Large eye - diameter more than half the snout length</li> <li>2. Often with dark band from eye to first dorsal fin</li> <li>3. High number of gill rakers</li> <li>4. Rare in northern Gulf of America</li> <li>5. Size: To 22 in. total length</li> </ol>

● NEW MOON    ● FIRST QUARTER    ● FULL MOON    ● LAST QUARTER

# AUGUST 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes







# HOW TO IDENTIFY MACKEREL

Both young **King Mackerel** and **Spanish Mackerel** have a similar shape and coloration. Because these fish often school together and feed on similar prey, anglers should know how to identify each species because size and creel limits vary.

Anglers usually rely too much on the presence of spots to identify Spanish and King Mackerels. Because of this mistake, the following are common violations:

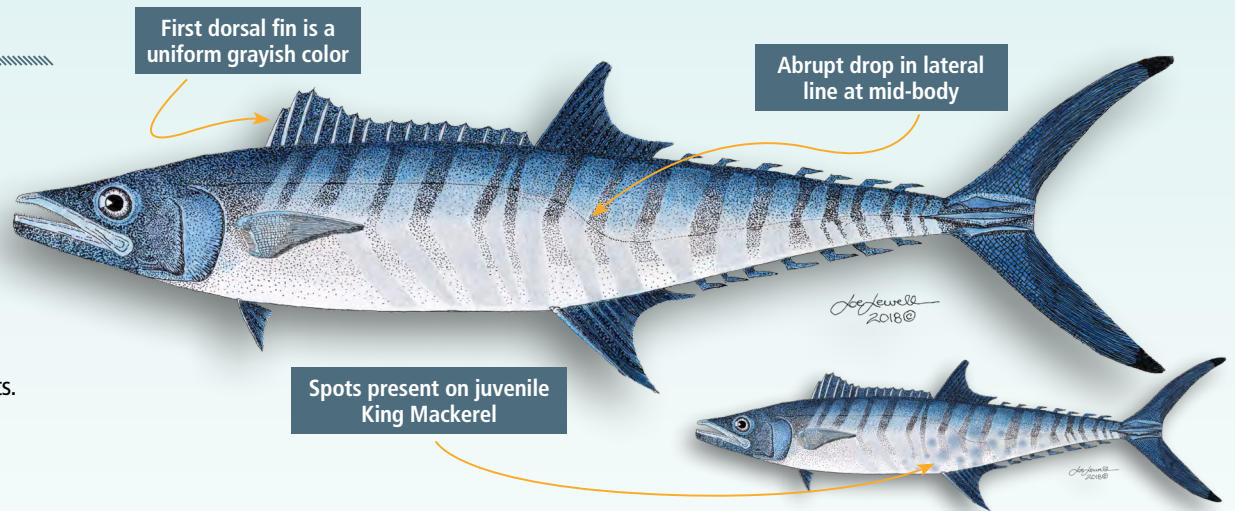
- Possession of undersized King Mackerel
- Possession of more than three kings per angler

## KING MACKEREL

**Size Limit:** Minimum 24-inch fork length

**Creel Limit:** 3 per person

- Lateral line takes an abrupt drop at mid-body.
- First (spiny) dorsal fin is a uniform grayish color. As both species usually keep this fin folded back in a groove, this difference is not always apparent.
- Fish up to 30 inches have brassy or greenish colored spots.

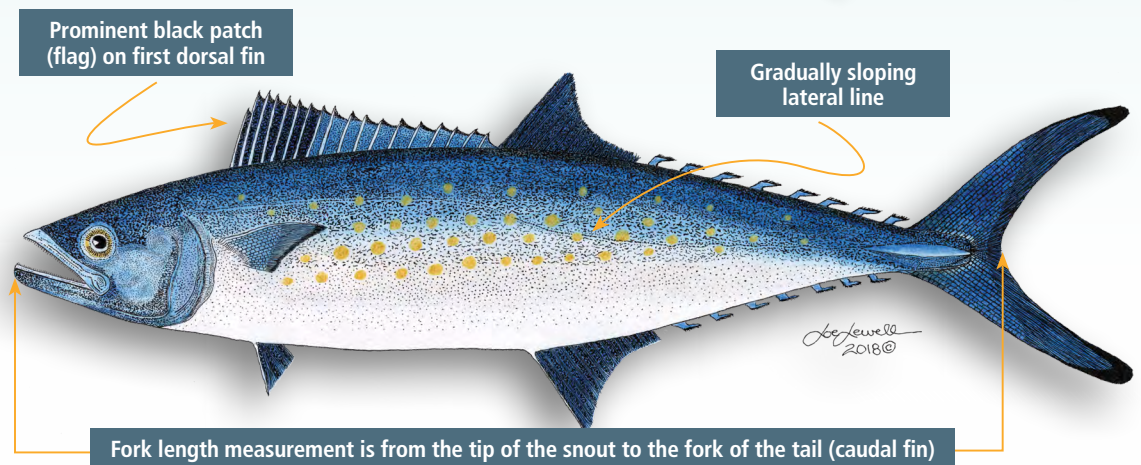


## SPANISH MACKEREL

**Size Limit:** None in Alabama waters; minimum 12-inch fork length in federal waters.

**Creel Limit:** 15 fish per person; same for Alabama and federal waters.

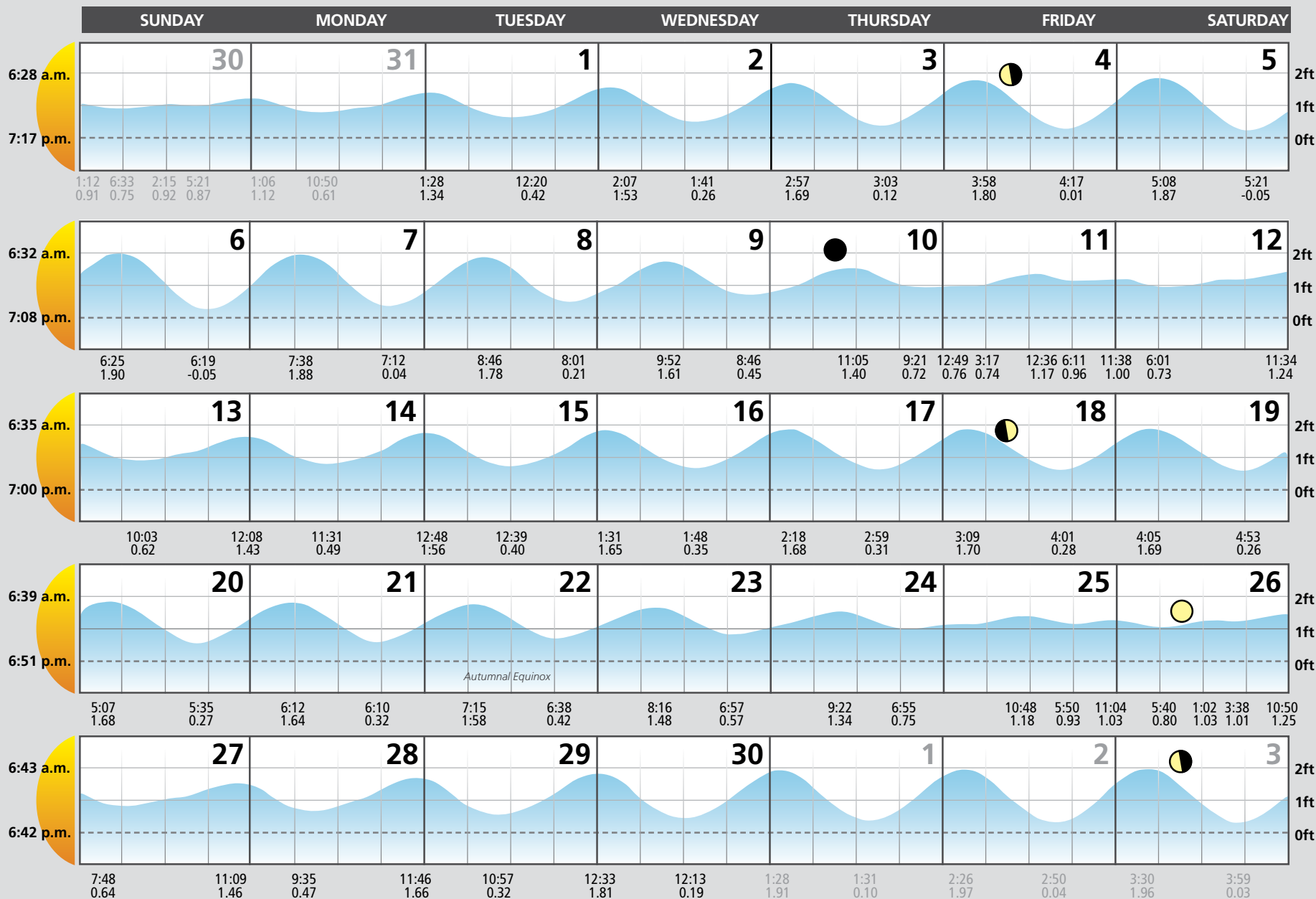
- Lateral line gradually slopes from the top edge of gill to the tail.
- First (spiny) dorsal fin has a prominent black patch.
- All sizes have distinct yellow spots along the body.
- Fork length measurement is from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail (caudal fin).



NEW MOON  
 FIRST QUARTER  
 FULL MOON  
 LAST QUARTER

# SEPTEMBER 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes





# New ALABAMA STATE RECORD Fish

*Catch A State  
Record Fish?*

Scan the QR Code to access the state record fish application form. Complete the form and email us photos of your catch at [Marine.Resources@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Marine.Resources@dcnr.alabama.gov)



AUSTIN POWELL  
Sand Tilefish  
2 lbs. 14 oz.



CHARLES AUSTIN ROBINSON  
Ocean Triggerfish  
10 lbs. 10.4 oz.



TAYLOR J. GUIDRY  
Escalar  
161 lbs. 2 oz.



BRANDEN R. COLLIER  
Graysby  
2 lbs. 11.6 oz.



NEAL FOSTER  
Marbled Grouper  
51 lbs. 0 oz.



AMANDA L. HARTLEROAD  
Short Bigeye  
1 lbs. 12.32 oz.



WILLIAM MATHIS  
Yellowedge Grouper  
51 lbs. 0 oz.



DONALD R. RHODES  
Yellowfin Tuna  
237 lbs. 1.6 oz.



ELLIS BLACKMON  
Rock Hind  
6 lbs. 1 oz.



ROBERT R. FRITZE  
Swordfish  
550 lbs. 3 oz.



RICHARD CLARK NELSON  
Bonnethead Shark  
12 lbs. 5 oz.



SADAT NICHOLS  
Bigscale Pomfret  
21 lbs. 10 oz.

**SCAN THE CODE QR  
TO LEARN MORE!**



**Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.**

**Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)**

**For Perdido Pass:.....High Tide: add 17 minutes**

**Low tide: add 19 minutes**





# MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION CONTACTS



## FISH KILLS

Alabama Marine Resources Division  
Dauphin Island ..... (251) 861-2882  
Gulf Shores ..... (251) 968-7576  
Email: Marine.Resources@dcnr.alabama.gov

### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Date and time fish kill was observed
- Location of fish kill
- Contact information of reporting party
- Species of fish involved
- Approximate number of fish



## DOLPHIN AND WHALE STRANDINGS

Alabama Marine Mammal Stranding Network  
Call (877) 942-5343

### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Contact information of reporting party
- Date and time of stranding
- Exact location of stranding
- Estimated size of the animal
- General description of the animal

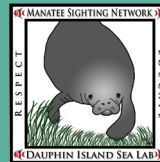


## TURTLE STRANDINGS

Alabama Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network  
Call (866) 732-8878

### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Contact information of reporting party
- Date and time of stranding
- Exact location of stranding
- Health of the animal (alive or dead)
- General description of the animal



## MANATEE SIGHTINGS

Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Manatee Sighting Network  
Call: (866) 493-5803  
Email: manatee@disl.edu  
Online: manatee.disl.edu



### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Date and time of sighting
- Location of sighting
- Contact information of reporting party
- Number of animals and approximate size
- Any distinguishing marks or scars
- What they were doing
- How they were spotted
- Volunteer photos (if taken)

## DID YOU KNOW?

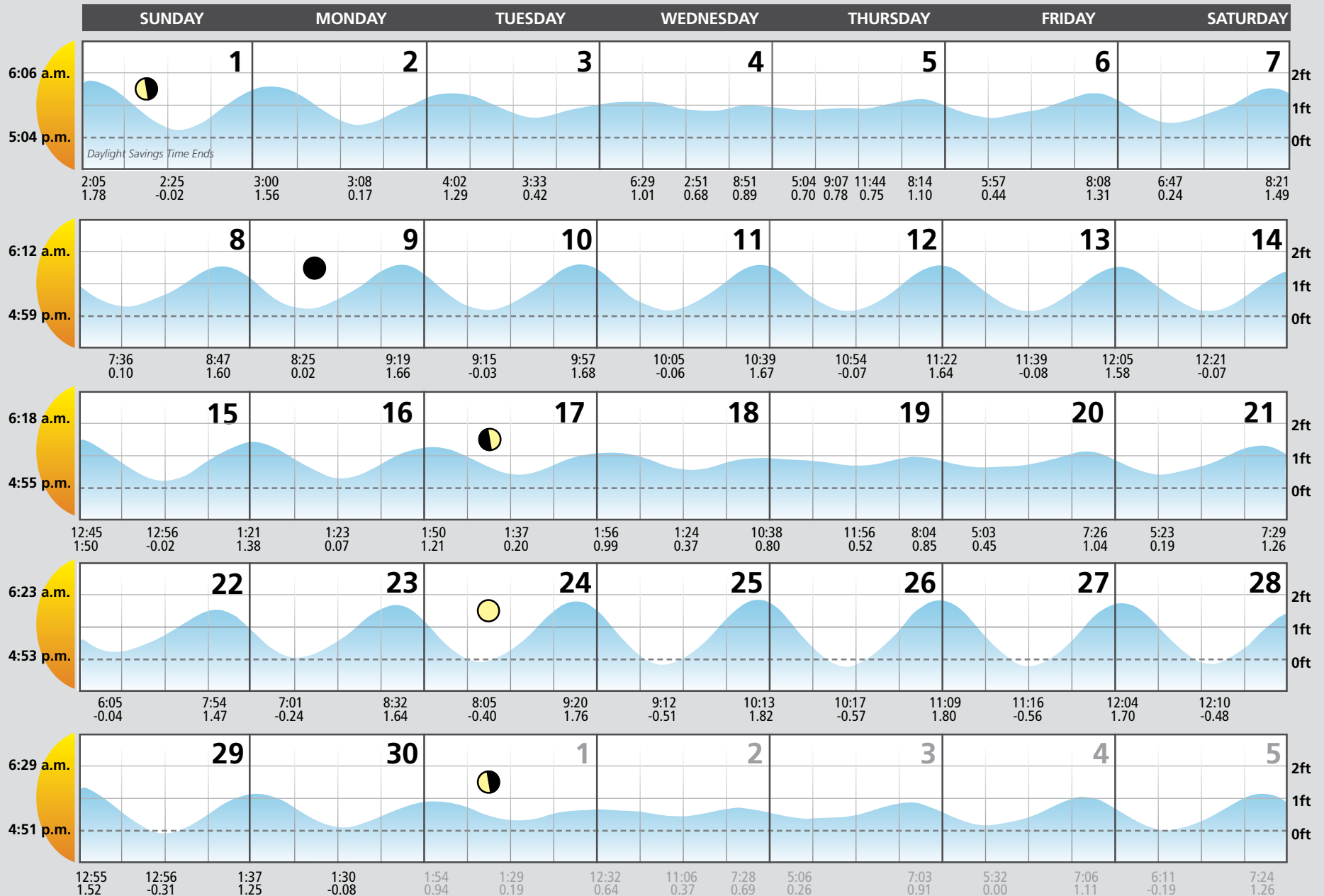
Dolphins are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The MMPA established a national policy to prevent marine mammal species and population stocks from declining beyond the point where they ceased to be significant functioning elements



● NEW MOON    ● FIRST QUARTER    ● FULL MOON    ● LAST QUARTER

# NOVEMBER 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes





# ALABAMA COASTAL SHORE FISHING ACCESS POINTS

For more information or to see  
detailed map, visit:  
[outdooralabama.com/CFAP](http://outdooralabama.com/CFAP)

## Facility Operated By:

- Municipal
- State
- County
- Private
- Boat Launch

\* Kayak Launch Only  
\*\* Fishing allowed greater  
than 100 ft from boat ramp

1. Arlington Park\*
2. Battleship Park
3. Helen Wood Park
4. McNally Park\*\*
5. Navco Park (Luscher Park)
6. Theo F. Middleton Landing
7. Bayfront Park
8. Cedar Point Pier
9. Delta Port\*\*
10. Pass Drury Park
11. Dauphin Island Public Beach
12. Blue Heron Park\*
13. East End Dauphin Island
14. Lightning Point
15. Little Billy Goat Hole\*\*
16. Billy Goat Hole\*\*
17. West End Of Dauphin Island
18. Daphne Bayfront Park
19. D'Olive Bay Boat Launch Access\*\*
20. May Day Park Pier\*
21. Fairhope Pier
22. Pier Street Public Access
23. Mullet Point
24. View Point Boat Launch\*\*
25. Mary Ann Nelson Park
26. Fish River\*\*
27. Ft. Morgan Fishing Pier
28. Gulf State Park Pier
29. The Pines Ramp\*\*
30. Perdido Pass Bridge  
(Florida Point)
31. Chocolatta Bay Boat Ramp
32. Tensaw Delta Public  
Boat Access Area
33. Josephine Park Public Access
34. Barbs Landing\*\*
35. State Street Park\*\*
36. Canal Park
37. Lagoon Pass Park
38. Boggy Point
39. Lillian Boat Launch\*\*
40. The Launch at CR 6\*/\*\*
41. Cotton Bayou
42. The Launch at ICW\*\*



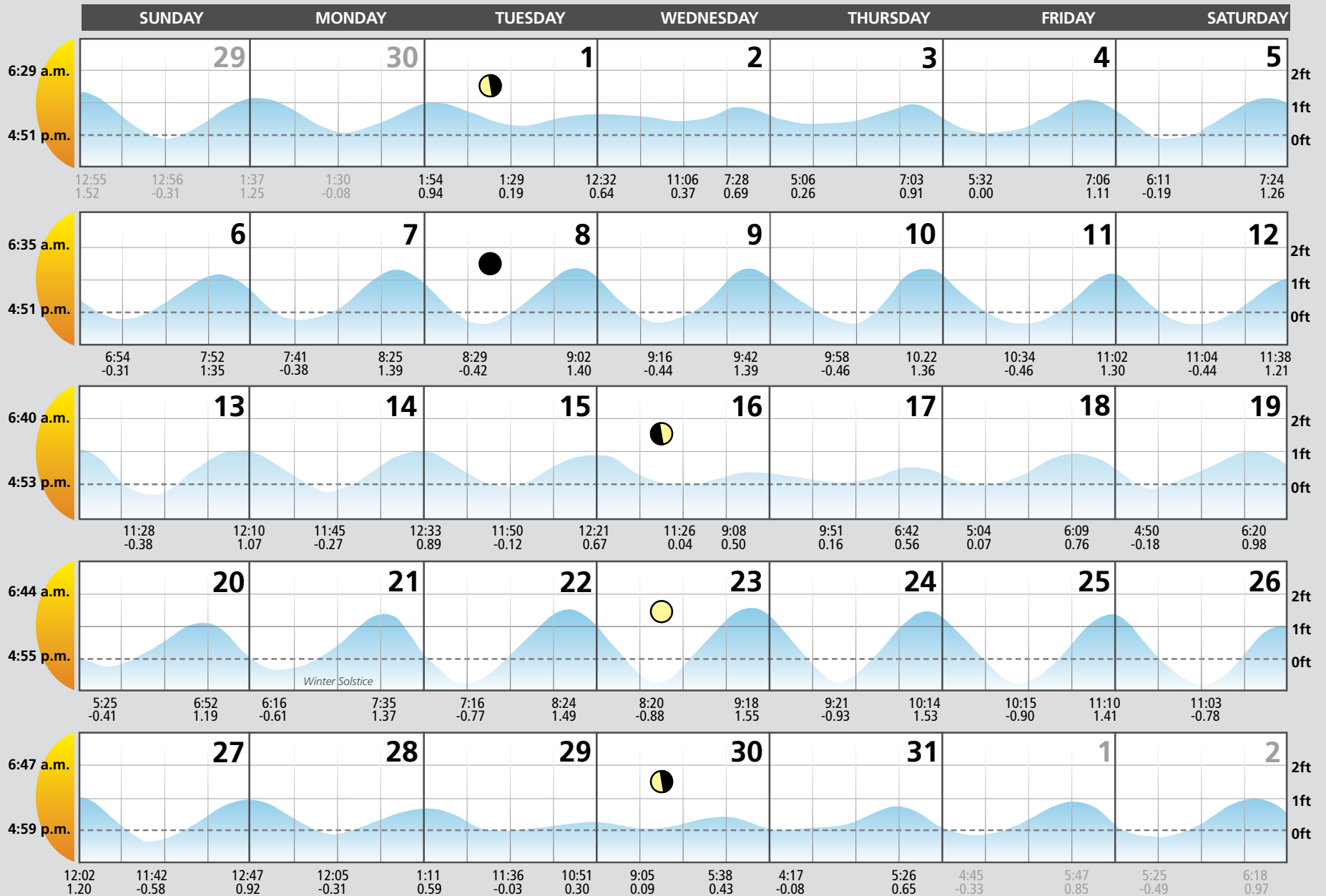
SCAN THE CODE TO  
VIEW MAP ONLINE



● NEW MOON    ● FIRST QUARTER    ● FULL MOON    ● LAST QUARTER

# DECEMBER 2026

Predictions are for Dauphin Island, AL at Fort Gaines.  
 Dauphin Island, AL ..... (30°14.5'N, 88°4.5'W)  
 For Perdido Pass: ..... High Tide: add 17 minutes  
 Low tide: add 19 minutes





# ALABAMA RECORD SALTWATER FISH

SPECIES	LOCAL NAME	ANGLER	HOMETOWN	DATE CAUGHT	WEIGHT
ALFONSINO	SAME	ERIC B. CRIGLER	DAPHNE, AL	7/23/22	10 lbs. 12.32 oz.
AMBERJACK, GREATER	AMBERJACK	BRIAN S. ANDREWS	CITRONELLE, AL	8/2/19	132 lbs. 12.8 oz.
AMBERJACK, LESSER	SAME	RYAN M. KRAMER	JEFFERSON, GA	5/10/23	2 lbs. 3.2 oz.
ANGELFISH, BLUE	SAME	LILLI COOPER	WAVERLY, IA	7/28/18	3 lbs. 9.28 oz.
BARRACUDA, GREAT	BARRACUDA	STEVEN HAWKINS	MOBILE, AL	7/15/05	52 lbs. 4 oz.
BARRELFISH	SAME	RICKIE DAVID POSEY	DEATSVILLE, AL	7/12/09	25 lbs. 6 oz.
BASS, LONGTAIL	SAME	DAYNA BOWLES	DUNCAN, OK	3/19/10	5 lbs. 14 oz.
BASS, STRIPED	STRIPER	BILLY HENDERSON	FAIRFIELD, AL	6/22/76	55 lbs. 0 oz.
BIGEYE	BIGEYE SNAPPER	YANO FRANCIS SERRA	CODEN, AL	6/28/06	3 lbs. 2 oz.
BIGEYE, SHORT	SAME	AMANDA L. HARTLEROAD	FOLEY, AL	1/28/25	1 lbs. 12.32 oz.
BLUEFISH	SAME	RUSTIN J. MUSGROVE	ORANGE BEACH, AL	1/26/24	17 lbs. 8 oz.
BONITO, ATLANTIC	SAME	JOE ZOLCZYNSKI	FAIRHOPE, AL	12/31/94	5 lbs. 5 oz.
BROTULA, BEARDED	SAME	MICHAEL T. DOWDY	MOBILE, AL	8/9/97	19 lbs. 8 oz.
CATFISH, GAFFTOPSAIL	GAFFTOP	CHRISTIAN E. BUTTS	PACE, FL	10/30/15	12 lbs. 7.4 oz.
CATFISH, HARDHEAD	SEACAT	COLE REED KLEFFMAN	SEYMOUR, IN	10/9/18	3 lbs. 3 oz.
CHUB, BERMUDA	SAME	SHERMAN SMITH	SILVERHILL, AL	6/17/06	10 lbs. 5 oz.
CHUB, YELLOW	SAME	THOMAS D. JONES	DAPHNE, AL	10/22/03	7 lbs. 4 oz.
COBIA	LING	BENJAMIN ELBERRY FAIREY	PENSACOLA, FL	4/18/95	117 lbs. 7 oz.
CORNETFISH, RED	SAME	WAYNE AKINS	JASPER, AL	6/7/22	2 lbs. 5.4 oz.
CREOLEFISH, ATLANTIC	CREOLEFISH	ROBERT JORDAN BARNHILL	ROBERTSDALE, AL	7/7/18	3 lbs. 5 oz.
CROAKER, ATLANTIC	CROAKER	CARL N. BILLINGS	MOBILE, AL	8/26/00	5 lbs. 8 oz.
CUTLASSFISH, ATLANTIC	RIBBONFISH	JOHN ROBERT FRAIN	CUMMING, GA	6/5/15	3 lbs. 5 oz.
CUBBYU	SAME	CAROLINE ANN ENNIS	GULF BREEZE, FL	7/13/13	2 lbs. 3.7 oz.
DOCTORFISH	SAME	PAVEL MALANCEA	ROBERTSDALE, AL	9/13/07	1 lb. 4 oz.
DOGFISH, SMOOTH	SAME	DICK PAUL	GULF SHORES, AL	5/24/16	17 lbs. 11.20 oz.
DOLPHINFISH	DOLPHIN/MAHI MAHI	ASHTON TROY MABIRE	PENSACOLA, FL	5/26/07	65 lbs. 8 oz.
DOLPHINFISH, POMPAÑO	SAME	TYLER M. KENNEDY	MOBILE, AL	6/30/12	4 lbs. 2 oz.
DORY, SILVERY JOHN	SAME	CONNER ALAN LANCASTER	ELBERTA, AL	3/30/24	5 lbs. 6.24 oz.
DRUM, BLACK	BLACK DRUM	ROBERT DEAN DISNEY	IRVINGTON, AL	4/20/02	61 lbs. 0 oz.
DRUM, RED	REDFISH	AL MEAD	THEODORE, AL	7/19/13	45 lbs. 9 oz.
EEL, SPOTTED SPOON-NOSE	SAME	BRAD ANDRE'	SPANISH FORT, AL	7/12/08	1 lb. 4 oz.
ESCOLAR	SAME	TAYLOR R. GUIDRY	DESTIN, FL	8/3/25	161 lbs. 2 oz.
FANFISH, ATLANTIC	SAME	SHANE R. TOOLE	PENSACOLA, FL	5/31/24	3 lbs. 5.44 oz.
FILEFISH, UNICORN	SAME	WILLIE LEE BROWN SR.	BIRMINGHAM, AL	10/12/91	8 lbs. 8 oz.
FLOUNDER, GULF	SAME	THOMAS C. JOHNSON, JR.	DAWSONVILLE, GA	9/23/21	5 lbs. 1.28 oz.
FLOUNDER, SOUTHERN	SAME	PETE C. MELECH	MOBILE, AL	10/15/75	13 lbs. 3 oz.
GRAYSBY	SAME	BRANDEN R. COLLIER	IRVINGTON, AL	8/20/25	2 lbs. 11.6 oz.
GROUPEr, BLACK	SAME	DAVID MARK POSSIEN	NORTHPORT, AL	8/11/12	106 lbs. 3.2 oz.
GROUPEr, GAG	GAG	JERE AUSTILL, JR.	MOBILE, AL	1963	74 lbs. 8 oz.
GROUPEr, MARBLED	SAME	NEAL FOSTER	MOBILE, AL	7/20/25	30 lbs. 12 oz.
GROUPEr, RED	SAME	MICHAEL DALE SARGENT, JR.	FULTON, MO	3/23/02	34 lbs. 9.6 oz.
GROUPEr, SCAMP	SCAMP	ROBERT ANDREW CONKLIN	MOBILE, AL	7/22/00	29 lbs. 10 oz.
GROUPEr, SNOWY	SAME	TYLER M. KENNEDY	MOBILE, AL	3/1/14	68 lbs. 7 oz.
GROUPEr, WARSAW	WARSAW	MICHAEL J. DRIVER	PENSACOLA, FL	7/18/81	226 lbs. 0 oz.
GROUPEr, YELLOWEDGE	SAME	WILLIAM DANNY MATHIS	ORANGE BEACH, AL	10/26/24	51 lbs. 0 oz.
GROUPEr, YELLOWMOUTH	SAME	BRADLEY TINNEY	VESTAVIA, AL	4/27/19	12 lbs. 6.72 oz.

HAKE, GULF	SAME	DICK PAUL	GULF SHORES, AL	9/25/16	5 lbs. 13.6 oz.
HAKE, SOUTHERN	SAME	JACK L. GAINES II	DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL	4/23/06	3 lbs. 4.48 oz.
HIND, RED	SAME	WILLIAM HOLMES HILL	MOBILE, AL	7/17/87	2 lbs. 14 oz.
HIND, ROCK	SAME	ELLIS THORNELL BLACKMON	MOBILE, AL	9/26/25	6 lbs. 1 oz.
HIND, SPECKLED	SAME	BRAXTON BRION HARDIN	NORTHPORT, AL	5/28/11	39 lbs. 13 oz.
HOGFISH, SPANISH	SAME	GARRETT THOMAS AKRIDGE	MOBILE, AL	8/29/15	1 lb. 8.96 oz.
HOGFISH, SPOTFIN	SAME	BO KEOUGH	ORANGE BEACH, AL	2/16/18	1 lb. 1.2 oz.
JACK, ALMACO	SAME	TYLER LAURENS VAN'T HOFF	IRVINGTON, AL	7/9/21	52 lbs. 14 oz.
JACK, BLACK	SAME	DEREK N. ROGERS	CODEN, AL	9/24/24	17 lbs. 13 oz.
JACK, COTTONMOUTH	SAME	NOLAN L. BERREY	GULF SHORES, AL	10/1/22	1 lb. .05 oz.
JACK, CREVALLE	CAVALLA	JOSEPH CONDRY POPE IV	ALABASTER, AL	10/31/14	40 lbs. 2 oz.
JACK, HORSE-EYE	SAME	BENNIE RAY GOLDMAN, JR.	DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL	2/24/22	30 lbs. 4 oz.
KINGFISH, GULF/SOUTHERN	WHITING/GROUND MULLET	LAMONT RIGNEY	EIGHT MILE, AL	4/9/01	3 lbs. 0 oz.
LADYFISH	SKIPJACK	CLINTON A. COLLIER	CODEN, AL	9/26/14	4 lbs. 10.6 oz.
LIONFISH, RED	SAME	TRAVIS WAYNE PRESSOR	MULBERRY, TN	6/1/16	2 lbs. 13.76 oz.
LIZARDFISH, INSHORE	SAME	JOHN NELSON WINGO, SR.	GULF SHORES, AL	9/4/22	1 lb. 11.2 oz.
LOOKDOWN	SAME	TERRELL KEITH SMITH	MOBILE, AL	8/24/97	2 lbs. 2 oz.
MACKEREL, KING	SAME	JEREMY ALAN GOLDMAN	DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL	7/20/14	69 lbs. 15.84 oz.
MACKEREL, SPANISH	SAME	LINTON LARRY MATTHEWS	MOBILE, AL	10/19/93	8 lbs. 12 oz.
MARGATE, WHITE	SAME	CHRIS C. THERRELL	GULF SHORES, AL	7/5/24	11 lbs. 13.4 oz.
MARLIN, BLUE	SAME	SCOTT LEE ANDERSON, JR.	HOUSTON, TX	10/18/2023	1,145 lbs. 9 oz.
MARLIN, WHITE	SAME	JAMES ASHLEY WALTERS	SATSUMA, AL	5/24/97	98 lbs. 13 oz.
MOONFISH, ATLANTIC	MOONFISH	NATHAN GAGE SEDGEWAY	WILMER, AL	6/29/19	1 lbs. 8 oz.
MORAY, BLACKEDGE	SAME	HENRY W ARBONA IV	DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL	8/18/20	2 lbs. 2 oz.
MULLET, STRIPED	MULLET	MARLIN F. TILLMAN	DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL	11/10/21	2 lbs. 15.2 oz.
OILFISH	SAME	JAMES ALLEN COKER, JR.	MOBILE, AL	7/24/16	55 lbs. 2 oz.
PERMIT	SAME	GRIFFIN R. HAAS	FERDINAND, IN	10/17/22	8 lbs. 8.8 oz.
PIGFISH	SAME	JEFFREY EISEMANN	O'FALLOW, IL	7/5/16	2 lbs. 4.6 oz.
PINFISH	SAME	ROY "TOJO" WHITE	CODEN, AL	5/15/01	3 lbs. 2 oz.
POMFRET, BIGSCALE	SAME	SADAT NICHOLS	LITHONIA, GA	8/22/25	21 lbs. 1 oz.
POMFRET, KEELTAIL	SAME	WILLIAM TYLER CRUITT	GULF SHORES, AL	8/13/21	29 lbs. 7.04 oz.
POMPANO, AFRICAN	SAME	RODNEY MICHAEL DUTTON	MOBILE, AL	9/9/89	39 lbs. 7 oz.
POMPANO, FLORIDA	POMPANO	PATRICIA LYNN CLUCK	FOLEY, AL	4/28/10	6 lbs. 13 oz.
PORGY, JOLTHEAD	SAME	TREY TAYLOR	DAPHNE, AL	6/30/23	9 lbs. 5.2 oz.
PORGY, KNOBBED	SAME	JOHN K. NEISSER	SOUTHBURY, CT	8/19/20	3 lbs. 4 oz.
PORGY, RED	WHITE SNAPPER	JEREMY COLLINGS	THEODORE, AL	4/2/11	7 lbs. 10.6 oz.
PORGY, WHITEBONE	PORGY	TURNER RUTLEDGE	NASHVILLE, TN	11/29/19	8 lbs. .05 oz.
PUFFER, SMOOTH	SAME	BRETT L. RUSSELL, SR.	GULF SHORES, AL	4/2/13	10 lbs. 3 oz.
ROSEFISH, BLACKBELLY	SAME	NEAL FOSTER	MOBILE, AL	7/13/12	4 lbs. 1 oz.
ROUGHY, BIG	SAME	LANCE SMITH	LITHIA SPRINGS, GA	6/6/14	5 lbs. 0 oz.
RUNNER, BLUE	HARDTAIL	STACEY MICHELE MOIREN	MOBILE, AL	6/28/97	11 lbs. 2.4 oz.
RUNNER, RAINBOW	SAME	LAKEN NICOLE SULLIVAN	LYNN HAVEN, FL	9/10/06	19 lbs. 9 oz.
SAILFISH	SAME	R. L. MEADOR, JR.	BIRMINGHAM, AL	1974	81 lbs. 0 oz.
SCORPIONFISH, SPINY CHEEK	SAME	HARRY MAC BARNES	MONTGOMERY, AL	11/26/19	5 lbs. 13.12 oz.
SCORPIONFISH, SPOTTED	SAME	CURTIS NEAL FOSTER	MOBILE, AL	7/19/15	3 lbs. 14 oz.
SEA BASS, BLACK	SAME	STEVE W. EDWARDS	MARIANNA, AR	7/31/00	3 lbs. 2 oz.
SEAROBIN, BLACKWING	SEA ROBIN	CECILIA DANIELLE MUSSELWHITE	IRVINGTON, AL	4/24/05	1 lb. 13 oz.
SEATROUT, SAND/SILVER	WHITE TROUT	ANTHONY "RYAN" CONKLIN	CODEN, AL	7/12/97	6 lbs. 10.56 oz.
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	SPECK	WILLFORD DUCHERME	ORANGE BEACH, AL	5/6/80	12 lbs. 4 oz.



ALABAMA RECORD SALTWATER FISH

CONTINUED

SHARK, ATLANTIC SHARPNOSE	SAME	CRAIG MIRONCHUCK	BAUXITE, AR	5/12/06	16 lbs. 3 oz.
SHARK, BONNETHEAD	SAME	RICHARD CLARK NELSON	MOBILE, AL	8/2/25	12 lbs. 5 oz
SHARK, BULL	SAME	TOMMY J. BOWYER	FOLEY, AL	7/21/24	494 lbs. 8 oz.
SHARK, LEMON	SAME	TERRY L. SMITH	MOBILE, AL	7/21/95	278 lbs. 8 oz.
SHARK, SHORTFIN MAKO	SAME	LARRY A. JOHNSON	ORANGE BEACH, AL	8/20/78	737 lbs. 0 oz.
SHARK, TIGER	SAME	ROBERT BRETT RUTLEDGE	MOBILE, AL	7/21/23	1019 lbs. 0 oz.
SHARKSUCKER	SAME	RICHARD L. HAMLIN	CABOT, AR	9/21/18	9 lbs. 4.4 oz.
SHEEPSHEAD	SAME	KENDALE M. JEANS	ELBERTA, AL	3/18/22	16 lbs. 6.6 oz.
SNAPPER, CUBERA	SAME	LADON SWANN	CODEN, AL	8/14/15	94 lbs. 3 oz.
SNAPPER, DOG	SAME	MIKE E. NELSON	ORANGE BEACH, AL	7/22/18	16 lbs. 4 oz.
SNAPPER, GRAY	MANGROVE/BLACK	PAM WARD	FAIRHOPE, AL	5/16/07	18 lbs. 0 oz.
SNAPPER, LANE	SAME	SCOTT E. JORDAN	SARALAND, AL	7/15/11	8 lbs. 1 oz.
SNAPPER, MUTTON	SAME	MARCUS BRYANT	SEMMES, AL	6/25/06	20 lbs. 12 oz.
SNAPPER, QUEEN	SAME	CRAWFORD GRANT MANN	ORANGE BEACH, AL	6/26/23	11 lbs. 4.6 oz.
SNAPPER, RED	SAME	MELVIN E. DUNN, JR.	THEODORE, AL	6/1/02	44 lbs. 12 oz.
SNAPPER, SILK	SAME	ROBERT BRETT RUTLEDGE	MOBILE, AL	9/10/16	9 lbs. 0 oz.
SNAPPER, VERMILION	BEELINER	JOHN W. DOSS	THEODORE, AL	5/31/87	7 lbs. 3 oz.
SNAPPER, YELLOWTAIL	SAME	JOSHUA BOYD	FAIRHOPE, AL	11/11/19	9 lbs. 9.6 oz.
SNOOK, COMMON	SAME	GARDNER LOVE	PERDIDO BEACH, AL	5/14/24	7 lbs. 0.4 oz.
SPADEFISH, ATLANTIC	SPADEFISH	ASHLEY NICHOLE OSBURN	WILMER, AL	7/14/07	8 lbs. 8 oz.
SPEARFISH, LONGBILL	SPEARFISH	VALERIE P. JOHNSON	FAIRHOPE, AL	1976	53 lbs. 0 oz.
SQUIRRELFISH	SAME	JONATHAN WALLER	MCDONOUGH, GA	9/18/24	1 lbs. 5.4 oz.
STARGAZER, SOUTHERN	SAME	MICHAEL BRYANT	MOBILE, AL	4/13/06	6 lbs. 4.5 oz.
STINGRAY, ROUGHTAIL	SAME	DAN R. MIDGETTE	SEMMES, AL	8/6/00	160 lbs. 0 oz.
STINGRAY, SOUTHERN	SAME	GORDON GRADY MCGLAWN	ALICEVILLE, AL	7/26/07	151 lbs. 3.2 oz.
SWORDFISH	BROADBILL	ROBERT R. FRITZE	BIRMINGHAM, AL	8/15/25	550 lbs. 3 oz.
TARPON	SAME	BILLY WILDBERGER	MOBILE, AL	8/15/92	203 lbs. 0 oz.
TILEFISH	NORTHERN	DICK PAUL	PENSACOLA, FL	4/23/14	35 lbs. 5.6 oz.
TILEFISH, BLACKLINE	SAME	GAVIN LUKE DUNNAM	CHUNCHULA, AL	9/6/22	1 lb. 6.4 oz.
TILEFISH, BLUELINE	SAME	JOE FRESOLONE	MOBILE, AL	6/1/14	10 lbs. 14 oz.
TILEFISH, GOLDFACE	GOLDEN-EYED	JEFFREY M. DODD	TRENTON, TN	7/18/19	5 lbs. 7 oz.
TILEFISH, SAND	TILEFISH	AUSTIN C. POWELL	GAUTIER, MS	7/20/25	2 lbs. 14.2 oz.
TOADFISH, GULF	OYSTER FISH	ANDREW MONTGOMERY	MOBILE, AL	8/13/05	2 lbs. 8 oz.
TOADFISH, LEOPARD	SAME	JAMES MYRICK	SAND ROCK, AL	10/1/06	4 lbs. 3 oz.
TOMTATE	RUBY RED LIPS	LAUREN OGLE	MUNCIE, IN	8/1/14	1 lb. 4.8 oz.
TRIGGERFISH, GRAY	TRIGGERFISH	ROBBY MYERS	AXIS, AL	5/31/93	13 lbs. 8 oz.
TRIGGERFISH, OCEAN	SAME	CHARLES AUSTIN ROBINSON	PELL CITY, AL	5/22/25	10 lbs. 10.4 oz.
TRIGGERFISH, QUEEN	SAME	JAKE TAFFARO, JR.	ELBERTA, AL	7/6/99	7 lbs. 8 oz.
TRIPLETAIL	BLACKFISH	BOB BARNES	BAYOU LA BATRE, AL	1976	37 lbs. 5 oz.
TUNA, BIGEYE	SAME	BOBBY ABERNATHY	MERRYVILLE, LA	10/26/14	236 lbs. 0 oz.
TUNA, BLACKFIN	SAME	DAVID DENICOLA	COLTS NECK, NJ	4/11/14	43 lbs. 5.12 oz.
TUNA, BLUEFIN (TIE)	SAME	JOHN ENGQUIST	BATON ROUGE, LA	6/3/06	829 lbs. 6 oz.
TUNA, BLUEFIN (TIE)	SAME	DAVID GASTON	SYLACAUGA, AL	5/29/24	831 lbs. 6 oz.
TUNA, SKIPJACK	SAME	STROM SMITH	OCEAN SPRINGS, MS	8/31/13	32 lbs. 6.4 oz.
TUNA, YELLOWFIN	SAME	DONALD R. RHODES	DAUPHIN ISLAND, AL	1/25/25	237 lbs. 1.6 oz.
TUNNY, LITTLE	BONITA	KYLE EUGENE DAVIS	IRVINGTON, AL	7/17/21	22 lbs. 4 oz.
WAHOO	SAME	DAVID MATTHEW SUMRALL	MOBILE, AL	5/6/06	123 lbs. 6 oz.
WRECKFISH	SAME	DOUG MALLONEE	SEMMES, AL	5/30/06	68 lbs. 6 oz.

# MARINE RESOURCES CONSERVATION CONTACTS

## **ALABAMA DEPT. OF CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES**

[www.outdooralabama.com](http://www.outdooralabama.com)

## **COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

Christopher M. Blankenship, Commissioner  
Charlanna Skaggs, Deputy Commissioner  
(334) 242-3486

## **STATE LANDS DIVISION**

Patti McCurdy, Director  
(334) 242-3484

## **STATE PARKS DIVISION**

Matthew Capps, Director  
(334) 242-3334

## **WILDLIFE & FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION**

Chris Lewis, Director  
(334) 242-3465

## **WFF DIVISION DISTRICT 5 OFFICE**

Spanish Fort, AL  
(251) 626-5474

## **WEEKS BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE**

(251) 928-9792  
[www.weeksbayreserve.com](http://www.weeksbayreserve.com)

## **MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION**

Kevin Anson, Director  
(251) 968-7576  
[Marine.Resources@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Marine.Resources@dcnr.alabama.gov)

Major Jason Downey  
Law Enforcement Section Chief  
(251) 861-2882

## **ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY / MARINE PATROL SOUTHERN DIVISION**

Matt Brooks, Chief  
(888) 903-9248  
27557 Larry C Kelley Lane  
Orange Beach, AL 36561

## **ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRIES**

(334) 240-7171  
[www.agi.alabama.gov](http://www.agi.alabama.gov)

## **ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COASTAL OFFICE**

(251) 450-3400  
1615 South Broad Street  
Mobile, AL 36605  
[www.adem.alabama.gov](http://www.adem.alabama.gov)

## **ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

(800) 252-1818  
[www.alabamapublichealth.gov](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov)

## **ALABAMA BUREAU OF TOURISM & TRAVEL**

(800) ALABAMA  
[www.alabama.travel](http://www.alabama.travel)

## **GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ALABAMA & STATE OIL & GAS BOARD**

(205) 349-2852  
[www.gsa.state.al.us](http://www.gsa.state.al.us)

## **BON SECOUR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE**

(251) 540-7720  
[www.fws.gov/bonsecour](http://www.fws.gov/bonsecour)

## **PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS**

## **U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE DAPHNE FIELD OFFICE**

(251) 441-5181  
[www.fws.gov/daphne](http://www.fws.gov/daphne)

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY MOBILE DISTRICT-CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

Regulatory Branch (Permits) - (251) 690-2658  
Wetlands Permits - (251) 694-3776  
Map Sales - (251) 441-5631  
[www.sam.usace.army.mil](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil)

## **U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION IV**

(404) 562-9900  
[www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-epa-region-4-southeast](http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-epa-region-4-southeast)

## **NOAA FISHERIES SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE**

(727) 824-5301  
[www.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov)

## **NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

(334) 887-4500  
[www.al.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.al.nrcs.usda.gov)

## **FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES**

## **ALABAMA WILDLIFE FEDERATION**

(334) 285-4550  
[www.alabamawildlife.org](http://www.alabamawildlife.org)

## **ALABAMA WILDLIFE CENTER**

(205) 663-7930 (office)  
(205) 663-7930 ext. 2 (hotline)  
[www.alabamawildlifecenter.org](http://www.alabamawildlifecenter.org)

## **SOUTH ALABAMA LAND TRUST**

(251) 990-5004  
[www.southalabamalandtrust.org](http://www.southalabamalandtrust.org)

## **COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION - ALABAMA**

(251) 478-3474  
[www.ccaalabama.org](http://www.ccaalabama.org)

## **THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF ALABAMA**

(205) 251-1155  
[www.nature.org/alabama](http://www.nature.org/alabama)

## **MISSISSIPPI ALABAMA SEA GRANT CONSORTIUM**

(228) 818-8838  
[www.masgc.org](http://www.masgc.org)

## **MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM**

(251) 431-6409  
[www.mobilebaynep.com](http://www.mobilebaynep.com)

## **MOBILE BAYKEEPER**

(251) 433-4BAY  
[www.mobilebaykeeper.org](http://www.mobilebaykeeper.org)

## **ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL**

(205) 598-8862  
[www.aeconline.org](http://www.aeconline.org)

## **ALABAMA COASTAL FOUNDATION**

(251) 990-6002  
[www.joinacf.org](http://www.joinacf.org)

## **MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION**

### **United States Coast Guard – Sector Mobile**

PRIMARY PHONE: (251) 441-5720

EMERGENCY PHONE: (251) 441-6211

EMERGENCY RADIO: VHF 16

[navcen.uscg.gov/maritime-safety-information](http://navcen.uscg.gov/maritime-safety-information)

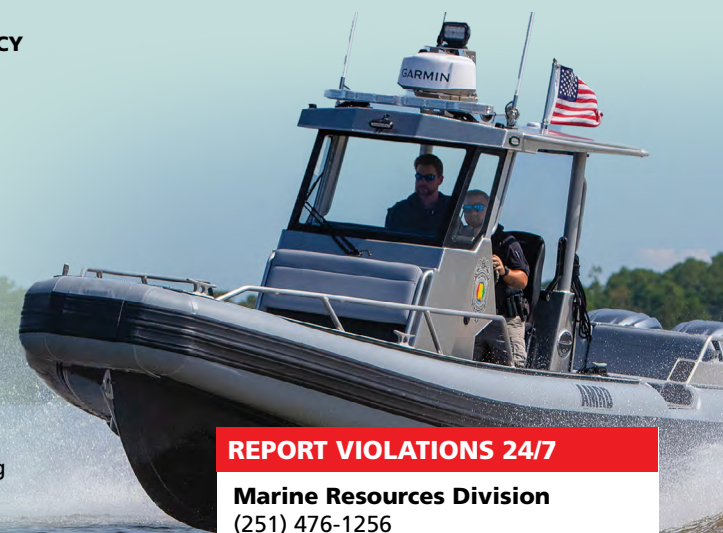
## **MARINE TOWING INFORMATION**

### **Sea Tow - Mobile**

(251) 973-0345

### **BoatUS Towing**

(800) 391-4869



## **REPORT VIOLATIONS 24/7**

**Marine Resources Division**  
(251) 476-1256



# Alabama's Offshore Artificial Reef Zones

Alabama's offshore waters have supported a world class red snapper fishery for decades. This fishery is both culturally and economically important to our coastal communities and it thrives thanks to two main factors: nutrient rich waters from Mobile Bay and an artificial reef program maintained by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division (MRD). Established in 1986, Alabama's artificial reef program is unique in the Gulf because it allows private individuals to build and deploy reefs after inspection by MRD staff. Without artificial reefs, Alabama's seafloor would remain mostly flat and sandy, offering little habitat for desirable reef fish.

Since the program began, thousands of reefs have been deployed by MRD and private reef builders (figure 1). The busiest year for deployments was 1996, but activity slowed after 2008 due to economic conditions and significant reductions in the federal recreational red snapper season length. Using funds from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, MRD expanded the reef network by deploying more than 1,500 concrete pyramid reefs which added over 800 new reef sites and enhanced nearly 100 others. During the same period, private reef builders have also added about 3,000 smaller reefs made primarily from repurposed chicken transport cages. Together, these reefs have helped to maintain red snapper populations and fishing opportunities.

Since 2011, MRD has funded research by the University of South Alabama to monitor reef fish on offshore artificial and natural reefs. Studies show the highest numbers of red snapper are on chicken transport cage reefs in waters deeper than 196 feet; however, the high numbers of red snapper on artificial reefs underscore the potential of Alabama's artificial reefs. Besides providing MRD information about the trends of use by fish the research also provides abundance estimates for several important reef fish which assists with management decisions. These studies have been funded using funds from the sale of the Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement which is required for anyone possessing reef fish in Alabama.

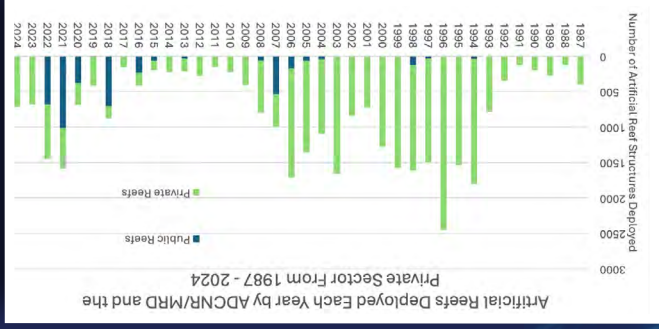


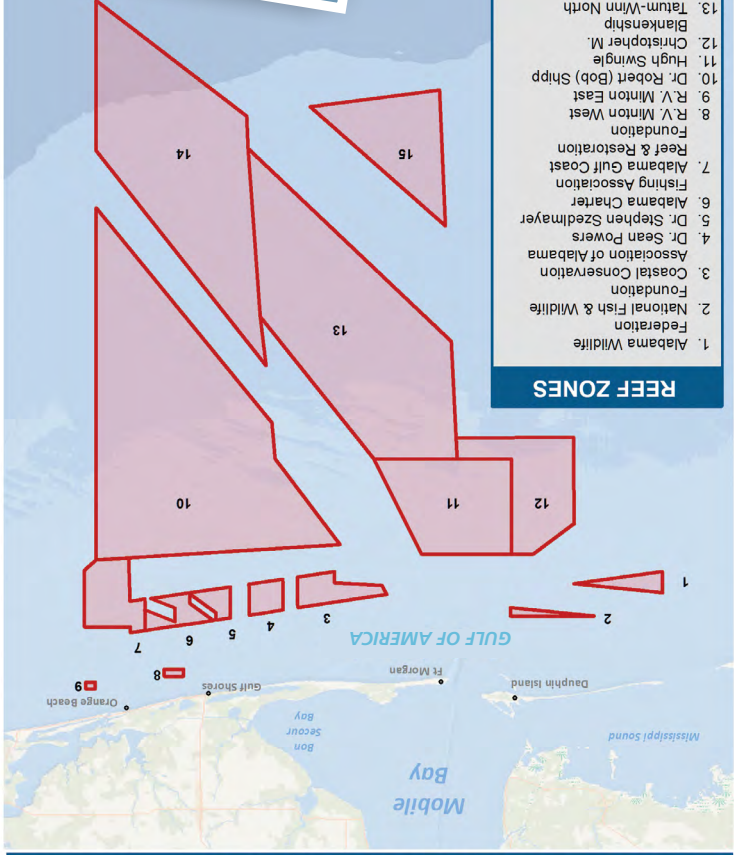
Figure 1

SCAN THE CODE TO  
LEARN MORE ABOUT  
ALABAMA'S OFFSHORE &  
NEARSHORE ARTIFICIAL  
REEF ZONES!



Saltwater Spearfishing  
Emily Phillips

- REEF ZONES**
1. Alabama Wildlife Federation
  2. National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
  3. Coastal Conservation Association of Alabama
  4. Dr. Sean Powers
  5. Dr. Stephen Szedlmayer
  6. Alabama Charter Fishing Association
  7. Alabama Gulf Coast Reef & Restoration Foundation
  8. R.V. Milton West
  9. R.V. Milton East
  10. Dr. Robert (Bob) Ship
  11. Hugh Swingle
  12. Christopher M. Biankuship
  13. Tatum-Winn North
  14. Don Kelley
  15. Tatum-Winn South



ALABAMA'S OFFSHORE ARTIFICIAL REEF ZONE - MAP

