



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES MARINE  
RESOURCES DIVISION



**MARINE RESOURCES OFFICIAL SALTWATER STATE RECORD APPLICATION** Rev 24.7

SPECIES:

\_\_\_\_\_ (Common and Scientific names)

Weight (**certified scale only**): \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ oz.

Location of scale and certification date: \_\_\_\_\_

Length and units, tip of snout to centerline or fork of tail: \_\_\_\_\_

Girth and units (measurement around largest part of body): \_\_\_\_\_

**Angler Information**

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (MI) (Last)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street or P.O. Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Port of departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Port of return: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of vessel (if on a charter): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of catch: \_\_\_\_\_

Was fish caught on a conventional rod and non-powered reel? Yes  No

I am legal to fish and possess fish in Alabama waters. Yes  No

I authorize Marine Resources to determine sex and extract age structure. This may result in some mutilation of a portion of the fish. Yes  No

My signature certifies that the information and permission given above is true and accurate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angler's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Names, addresses and phone numbers of two persons, besides the angler, who witnessed the weight of the fish:

1<sup>st</sup> Witness

Witness to Weight Signature

Printed Name

Address

Phone number

2<sup>nd</sup> Witness

Witness to Weight Signature

Printed Name

Address

Phone number

Fish may be brought to a Marine Resources Division office for verification of species. Application and photos may be emailed to: [marine.resources@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:marine.resources@dcnr.alabama.gov). To schedule Marine Resources Division species verification, call Mon-Fri 8am-5pm.. Dauphin Island: 251-861-2882 or Gulf Shores: 251-968-7576.

Photos to be attached.

- Whole fish on scale with recorded weight displayed
- Whole fish viewed from side
- Close ups of expanded fins
- Additional distinctive features
- Scale certification sticker
- Angler with fish, if a photo/video release is signed

MRD Staff Only

Fish ID Verification: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

(Date)

ID made by photos \_\_\_\_\_ or in person \_\_\_\_\_ Otoliths Y/N Sex M/F

## RULES FOR ESTABLISHING ALABAMA SALTWATER FISH RECORDS

1. Applicant must be legal to fish or possess fish in Alabama waters by complying with the following: possession of a valid saltwater license, Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement, age exemption, saltwater registry, NOAA Highly Migratory Species permit and/or any other legal requirement. An exception would be fishing from an appropriately licensed/permitted for-hire vessel.
2. Angler must have left and returned to an Alabama port without making landfall in another state, except in cases of emergencies involving safety of the boat or crew.
3. An official application must be submitted to the Marine Resources Division at [marine.resources@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:marine.resources@dcnr.alabama.gov) or at a Marine Resources office within 30 days of the catch. Marine Resources must verify the species prior to or during the submission of the application.
4. Application must include the following photos:
  - a. whole fish and the recorded weight of the fish while on the scale
  - b. whole fish viewed from the side
  - c. close ups of dorsal and anal fins extended
  - d. any distinct features such as large teeth, finlets, scutes, barbels etc.
  - e. scale certification sticker or placard
5. Weighing of fish must be witnessed and attested to by two persons not related to the angler and fish must be weighed on certified scales. Record and photograph the date scales were certified.
6. Fish must be caught using a conventional rod and a non-powered reel, as allowed by the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) rules, using natural or artificial bait.
7. Fish must be on list of accepted species established by the IGFA, unless otherwise certified by the State Record Fish Committee.
8. Size of fish must be representative of an adult species. The weight must fall into the top half of the maximum reported weight for the species. If a recognized weight is not available, then the top half of recognized length would be accepted. The minimum weight for any species considered for state record is one pound.
9. To replace a record for a fish weighing less than 25 pounds, the replacement fish must weigh at least 2 ounces more than the existing record. To replace a record for a fish weighing 25 pounds or more, the replacement fish must weigh at least one-half of 1 percent more than the existing record. Example: to surpass a 50-pound fish, the additional weight required would be 4 ounces.
10. Any fish which matches the weight of an existing record or exceeds the weight by less than the amount required to defeat the record would be considered a tie. In the case of a tie claim involving more than two fish, weights must be compared with the original record (first fish to be caught). There is no limit to the number of ties and the original record stands until a fish meeting the requirements for a new record is recorded.
11. Applications must be reviewed and approved by majority of the State Record Fish Committee. The Committee's decision is final.
12. The angler on the application is the only one allowed to fight the fish. Assistance in gaffing or netting the fish is allowed. Applicant must be in possession of the fish at the time of application submission.
13. It is recommended the fish be kept frozen for at least 15 days after submission. Should there be any question regarding identification or weight of the fish, an employee of Marine Resources may request the fish be returned for further inspection. If the fish is not available for verification the application may not be accepted.
14. For additional guidance, the IGFA rules will be referenced.



Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

# PHOTOGRAPHY / VIDEO RELEASE

I hereby grant the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Alabama Conservation and Natural Resources Foundation, Inc., and their employees, agents and assigns permission to use my likeness or the likeness of my dependent in a photograph and or video in any and all of its publications, advertising, promotional videos, including web sites, social media, without payment or any other consideration. I understand and agree that these materials will become the property of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and will not be returned.

I hereby irrevocably authorize the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish or distribute this photo or video for purposes of publicizing the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources's programs or for any other lawful purpose. In addition, I waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written or electronic copy, wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of the photograph or video.

I hereby hold harmless and release and forever discharge the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Alabama Conservation and Natural Resources Foundation, Inc., and their employees, agents and assigns of either of such entities, of from all claims, demands, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on my behalf or on behalf of my estate have or may have by reason of this authorization.

**I am at least 19 years of age and am competent to contract in my own name. I have read this release before signing below and I fully understand the contents, meaning, and impact of this release.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PLEASE PRINT NAME)

**Parent or Guardian Consent** — If the person being photographed or videoed is under age 19, there must be consent by a parent or guardian, as follows:

I hereby certify that I am the parent or guardian of

\_\_\_\_\_, named above, and do hereby give my consent without reservation to the foregoing on behalf of this person. (PLEASE PRINT NAME)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PARENT/GUARDIAN'S PRINTED NAME)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)