

## Size and bag limits Fresh waters

The legal limits in this brochure apply to fish taken in Queensland waters. A bag limit (take and possession limit) is the total number of fish that one person can legally take and keep at any one time.

These size and bag limits are part of the *Queensland recreational boating and fishing guide*. To get your copy, call 13 25 23, ask at your local bait and tackle shop or download a copy at [www.fisheries.qld.gov.au](http://www.fisheries.qld.gov.au)

Fishers should consult the *Fisheries Regulation 2008* or [www.fisheries.qld.gov.au](http://www.fisheries.qld.gov.au) for updates.

### The following freshwater species have a bag limit of 20:

Agassiz's glassfish (perchlet)	Marjorie's hardyhead
Aru gudgeon	Midgley's carp gudgeon
Australian smelt	Mueller's glassfish
Banded grunter (barred grunter)	Mulgrave goby
Blackmast (strawman)	Northern purplespotted gudgeon (trout gudgeon)
Blue catfish (lesser salmon catfish)	Obbes' catfish
Bony bream	Ornate rainbowfish
Boofhead catfish (triangular shield catfish)	Pacific blue eye
Cairns rainbowfish	Penny fish
Celebes flathead goby	Poreless gudgeon
Coal grunter	Rendahl's catfish
Concave flathead goby	Roman nose goby
Delicate blue eye	Sailfin glassfish (sailfin perchlet)
Desert goby	Scaleless goby
Elongate glassfish (yellowfin perchlet)	Sevenspot archer fish (common archer fish)
Empire gudgeon	Silver catfish (silver tandan)
Fimbriate gudgeon	Silver cobbler (shovel nosed catfish)
Firetail gudgeon	Sleepy cod
Flagtail glassfish (flagtail perchlet)	Small headed grunter
Flathead gudgeon (bigheaded gudgeon)	Snakehead gudgeon
Flyspecked hardyhead	Southern purplespotted gudgeon
Freshwater longtom	Spangled perch
Gilbert's grunter	Speckled goby
Golden flathead goby	Spotted blue eye
Golden goby (dwarf goby)	Square blotch goby
Highfin catfish (Berney's catfish)	Striped gudgeon
Lake's carp gudgeon	Tank goby (flathead goby)
Leathery grunter	Threadfin rainbowfish
Lorentz's grunter	Western carp gudgeon
Macleay's glassfish (reticulated perchlet)	

### No-take species

Australian lungfish	Bloomfield River cod
Freshwater sawfish	Mary River cod <sup>†</sup>
River blackfish	Spiny crayfish

<sup>†</sup> Except upstream of some dams—see 'Cod' section

## Size and bag limits Fresh waters

Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
Australian bass*	30 min	2
Australian lungfish		No take
Barramundi*		
East coast	58 min 120 max (1 greater than 120 cm from some dams)	5 (1 during closed season for some dams)
Gulf of Carpentaria <sup>^</sup>	60 min 120 max (1 greater than 120 cm from some dams)	5 (1 during closed season for some dams)
Cherabins	No limit	Combined limit of 10 in total of both species: <i>Macrobrachium lar</i> and <i>M. rosenbergii</i>
Cod		
Bloomfield River cod		No take
Mary River cod—upstream of the walls of Cressbrook, Hinze, Maroon, Moogerah, North Pine, Somerset and Wivenhoe dams, and lakes Dyer (Bill Gunn Dam) and Clarendon	50 min	1
Mary River cod—elsewhere in Queensland		No take
Murray cod** (Queensland part of Murray-Darling Drainage Division)	60 min 110 max	2
Eels		
Longfin	30 min	Combined limit of 10 in total of all species
Pacific shortfin (south Pacific)	30 min	
Southern shortfin	30 min	

\*A closed season applies to these species. Please refer to the *Queensland recreational boating and fishing guide* or [www.fisheries.qld.gov.au](http://www.fisheries.qld.gov.au) for more information.

\*\*Murray cod cannot be taken from the Barwon, Macintyre or Dumaresq Rivers from 1 September to 30 November.

<sup>^</sup> Fishers should note that a regulatory impact statement was recently released in which it was proposed that the size and/or bag limit for this species be changed. Fishers should consult the Fisheries Regulations 2008 or visit [www.fisheries.qld.gov.au](http://www.fisheries.qld.gov.au) for updates.

## Size and bag limits Tidal waters

The legal limits in this brochure apply to fish taken in Queensland waters. A bag limit (take and possession limit) is the total number of fish that one person can legally take and keep at any one time.

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### No-take species

Barramundi cod	Chinaman fish
Humphead Maori wrasse	Paddletail
Potato rockcod	Queensland grouper
Red bass	

### Other no-take species include:

Female mud and blue swimmer crabs
Egg-bearing spanner crabs, three-spot crabs, slipper lobsters and tropical rock lobsters
Tropical rock lobsters with tar spots attached (tar spots are sperm packets)
All sawfish
Great white sharks, grey nurse sharks and spartooth sharks
Clams in the family Tridacnidae, helmet shells and trumpet shells
Black teatfish

**Note:** Whales, porpoises, dugongs, turtles and dolphins are all protected under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

Department of **Employment, Economic Development and Innovation**  
**Fisheries Queensland**  
Call: 13 25 23  
Visit: [www.fisheries.qld.gov.au](http://www.fisheries.qld.gov.au)

## Recreational fishing size and bag limits for Queensland

1 September 2011

Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
Freshwater catfish (eel-tailed catfish) ( <i>Tandanus tandanus</i> )	35 min	Combined limit of 5 in total of fish in the genera <i>Neosilurus</i> , <i>Tandanus</i> and <i>Neosiluroides</i> (e.g. black, Cooper Creek, eel-tailed, false spine, short-finned catfish and Hyrtl's tandan)
Freshwater sawfish		No take
Garfish	No limit	50
Mangrove jack	35 min	5
Molluscs any—excluding oysters	No limit	50
Perch and grunter		
Golden perch (yellowbelly)	30 min	10
Jungle perch	35 max	Combined limit of 1 in total of jungle perch and spotted flagtail
Spotted flagtail (northern jungle perch)	35 max	Combined limit of 1 in total of jungle perch and spotted flagtail
Silver perch	30 min	Combined limit of 5 in total of silver perch, Welch's grunter and Barcoo grunter Silver perch in Paroo and Warrego River basins are catch and release only
Barcoo grunter	30 min	Combined limit of 5 in total of silver perch, Welch's grunter and Barcoo grunter
Welch's grunter	30 min	Combined limit of 5 in total of silver perch, Welch's grunter and Barcoo grunter

Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
Perch and grunter (continued)		
Sooty grunter	28 min	Combined limit of 10 in total for sooty grunter and khaki grunter
Khaki grunter (khaki bream)	No limit	Combined limit of 10 in total for sooty grunter and khaki grunter
Rainbowfish ( <i>Melanotaenia</i> sp.)	No limit	Combined limit of 50 (banded, blackbanded, chequered, crimsonspotted, desert, eastern, Lake Eacham, McCulloch's and Murray River rainbowfish)
Redclaw (redclaw crayfish) in its natural range		
Gulf of Carpentaria Drainage Division and from the Jacky Jacky River basin south to the Normanby River basin on the east coast of Queensland	No limit	40 (females carrying eggs or young must be returned to the water within their natural range)
River blackfish		No take
Saratoga		
Northern	50 min	Combined limit of 1 in total of northern and southern saratoga
Southern	50 min	Combined limit of 1 in total of northern and southern saratoga
Sea mullet	30 min	20
Spiny crayfish		No take
Yabby (freshwater blueclaw crayfish)	No limit	100 (females carrying eggs or young must be returned to the water within their natural range)

## Size and bag limits

# Tidal waters

Coral reef fin fish*		
Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
All cods and groupers	38 min	Combined limit of 5 in total of all cod and grouper species
<b>Cod and grouper <i>exceptions</i></b>		
Camouflage grouper	50 min 70 max	Combined limit of 5 in total of all cod and grouper species
Flowery rockcod	50 min 70 max	
Greasy rockcod	38 min 100 max	
Maori rockcod	45 min	
Barramundi cod		<b>No take</b>
Potato rockcod		<b>No take</b>
Queensland grouper		<b>No take</b>
All coral trout	38 min	Combined limit of 7 in total of all trout species
<b>Coral trout <i>exceptions</i></b>		
Blue spotted coral trout (Chinese footballer)	50 min 80 max	Combined limit of 7 in total of all trout species
All emperors	25 min	5 per species
<b>Emperor <i>exceptions</i></b>		
Redthroat emperor (sweetlip emperor)	38 min	8
Long nose emperor	38 min	5
Spangled emperor	45 min	5
All fusiliers	No limit	No limit
All parrotfishes	25 min	5 per species
All surgeonfishes	25 min	5 per species
All sweetlips	25 min	5 per species

\* Coral reef fin fish closures apply. Please refer to the *Queensland recreational boating and fishing guide* for more information.

Coral reef fin fish*		
Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
All tropical snappers and sea perches	25 min	5 per species
<b>Tropical snappers and sea perch <i>exceptions</i></b>		
Rosy snapper (jobfish) and lavender snapper (jobfish)	38 min	Combined limit of 8 in total of both species
Chinaman fish		<b>No take</b>
Crimson snapper (small mouth nannygai) and saddletail snapper (large mouth nannygai)	40 min	Combined limit of 9 in total of both species
Flame snapper	38 min	5
Goldband snapper	38 min	5
Hussar	25 min	10
Green jobfish	38 min	5
Paddletail		<b>No take</b>
Red bass		<b>No take</b>
Red emperor	55 min	5
Ruby snapper	38 min	5
Smalltooth jobfish	38 min	5
Miscellaneous jobfish	38 min	5 per species
All wrasse	25 min	5 per species
<b>Wrasse <i>exceptions</i></b>		
Humphead Maori		<b>No take</b>
Tuskfish (all species)	30 min	Combined limit of 6 in total of all tuskfish species

\* Coral reef fin fish closures apply. Please refer to the *Queensland recreational boating and fishing guide* for more information.

In addition to individual bag limits for each coral reef fin fish species listed, they all have a combined bag limit of 20. Please refer to the *Queensland recreational boating and fishing guide* for more information. For a complete list of coral reef species, download the Fisheries Regulation 2008 at [www.fisheries.qld.gov.au](http://www.fisheries.qld.gov.au)

Other tidal species		
Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
Amberjack	50 min	Combined limit of 2 in total of amberjack and samsonfish
Australian bass <sup>†</sup>	30 min	2
<b>Barramundi<sup>†</sup></b>		
East coast	58 min 120 max	5
Gulf of Carpentaria**	60 min 120 max	5
<b>Bêche de mer (sea cucumber)</b>	No limit	5
<b>Bêche de mer <i>exception</i></b>		
Black teatfish		<b>No take</b>
<b>Bream</b>		
Pikey	25 min	Combined limit of 30 in total of pikey and yellowfin bream, and tarwhine
Yellowfin		
Blacklip pearl oyster	9 min	No limit
Cobia (black kingfish)	75 min	2
<b>Cod and grouper</b>		
Blackspotted rockcod (estuary cod)	38 min 120 max	Combined limit of 5 in total of all cod and grouper species
Goldspotted rockcod (estuary cod)	38 min 120 max	
<b>Crab</b>		
Blue swimmer	11.5 min	No limit
Mud	15 min	10
Spanner <sup>†</sup>	10 min	20
Three-spot	10 min	No limit
<b>Eels</b>		
Longfin	30 min	Combined limit of 10 in total of all species
Pacific shortfin (south Pacific)	30 min	
Southern shortfin	30 min	
<b>Flathead</b>		
All flathead (except dusky flathead)	30 min	Combined limit of 5 in total of all species (except dusky flathead)
Dusky flathead (mud flathead)	40 min 75 max	5

<sup>†</sup> A closed season applies to these species. Please refer to the *Queensland recreational boating and fishing guide* for more information.

Other tidal species		
Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
Garfish	No limit	50
<b>Giant queenfish</b>		
East coast	50 min	5
Gulf of Carpentaria**	50 min	No limit
<b>Golden snapper (fingermark)</b>		
East coast	35 min	5
Gulf of Carpentaria**	35 min	10
Goldlip pearl oyster	13 min 23 max	No limit
Grass emperor (sweetlip)	30 min	10
<b>Javelin</b>		
Barred (spotted grunter) East coast	40 min	10
Barred (spotted grunter) Gulf of Carpentaria**	40 min	10 whole fish or 20 fillets
Silver (small spotted grunter)	30 min	10
<b>Jewfish</b>		
Black (east coast)	75 min	2
Black (Gulf of Carpentaria**)	60 min 120 max	5 with no more than 2 over 100 cm
Scaly jewfish (jewel fish)	45 min	No limit
Luderick	30 min	10
<b>Mackerel</b>		
Grey	60 min	5
Spanish	75 min	3
School	50 min	10
Shark	50 min	10
Spotted	60 min	5
<b>Mahi mahi (dolphin fish)</b>	50 min	5
<b>Mangrove jack</b>	35 min	5
<b>Mullet</b>		
Diamondscale	30 min	20
Sea	30 min	20

Other tidal species		
Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
<b>Bivalve molluscs and gastropods</b> (including pipis, mud whelks and cockles)—excluding oysters	No limit	50
<b>Mulloway</b>	75 min	2
<b>Pearl perch</b>	35 min	5
<b>Prawns</b>	No limit	10 litres <sup>‡</sup>
<b>Samsonfish</b>	50 min	Combined limit of 2 in total of amberjack and samsonfish
<b>Sharks and rays</b>	1.5 m max	1
<b>Sharks and rays <i>exceptions</i></b>		
Great white sharks Grey nurse sharks Sawfish Speartooth sharks		<b>No take</b>
<b>Snapper</b>	35 min	4 with no more than 1 over 70 cm
<b>Swallowtail dart</b>	30 min	30
<b>Tailor</b>	35 min	20
<b>Tarwhine</b>	25 min	Combined limit of 30 in total of pikey and yellowfin bream, and tarwhine
<b>Teraglin</b>	38 min	5
<b>Threadfin (salmon)</b>		
King	60 min	5
Blue (east coast)	40 min	10
Blue (Gulf of Carpentaria)	40 min	20
<b>Trevally</b>	No limit	20

<sup>‡</sup> A person must not possess prawns with the heads or any other part removed, unless the removal was to process the prawns for immediate consumption.

Other tidal species		
Species	Size limit (cm)	Bag limit
<b>Trochus</b>	8 min 12.5 max	50
<b>Tropical rock lobster<sup>‡</sup></b>	No limit	Above 14° south latitude and in Gulf waters: combined limit of 3 per person/6 per boat in total of all species Below 14° south latitude: combined limit of 5 per person/10 per boat in total of all species
<b>Tropical rock lobster <i>exceptions</i></b>		
Painted crayfish <sup>†‡</sup> ( <i>Panulirus ornatus</i> )	11.5 tail min 9 carapace min	As above
<b>Wahoo</b>	75 min	2
<b>Whiting</b>		
Summer/sand, goldline and northern whiting	23 min	Combined limit of 30 in total of these whiting species
Trumpeter (winter whiting)	No limit	50
<b>Wolf herring</b>	No limit	10
<b>Worms (including part thereof)</b>		
Beach	No limit	30
Blood (all worms of the family <i>Eunicidae</i> )	No limit	50
<b>Yellowtail kingfish</b>	60 min	2

<sup>†</sup> A closed season applies to these species. Please refer to the *Queensland recreational boating and fishing guide* for more information.

<sup>‡</sup> Recreational fishers must not possess live tropical rock lobsters.

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