

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2025 Private Recreational and State Charter Red Snapper
Season
March 6, 2025

Under the provisions of state management, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries has delegated season and bag limit authority and an allocated quota to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for the management of private recreational and state charter harvest of red snapper. Louisiana's private recreational and state charter season for the harvest of red snapper in Louisiana and federal waters is currently scheduled to open on Friday, May 23, 2025, on weekends only (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday), including Memorial Day, Labor Day, and July 4. In order to maximize opportunity for Louisiana anglers to harvest the allotted portion of the private recreational and state charter red snapper quota, the department is modifying the 2025 red snapper season to allow for daily harvest beginning on May 1, 2025, with a bag limit of four fish at the current 16 inch minimum total length limit.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:962, which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency rules to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3, which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, the commission hereby declares:

The season for the private recreational and state charter harvest of red snapper in state waters and federal waters off the coast of Louisiana shall be open daily beginning on Thursday, May 1, 2025. The bag and possession limit for private recreational and state charter anglers harvesting red snapper shall be four fish per day per person. Size limits shall remain at the currently established minimum size limit in LAC 76:VII.335 of 16 inches total length. The season shall remain open as described until further notice or December 31, 2025, at which time it shall close. This modification does not apply to federally permitted charter boats operating under federal law during federally established seasons and under federally established rules for those vessels.

The commission further authorizes the secretary of the department to modify the recreational season for the harvest of red snapper when monitoring data warrant a modification to ensure compliance with the allocation of red snapper for Louisiana or as necessary as authorized in LAC 76:VII.335(G)(5).

Kevin Sagrera,
Chairman