

Marine Fisheries

RECREATIONAL HARVESTING INFORMATION FOR MARINE LIFE SPECIES

(Rule 68B-42, F.A.C.)

The following are the abbreviated recreational harvesting regulations for popular tropical-ornamental aquarium species.

License Requirement:

A recreational saltwater fishing license (resident or non-resident).

Bag Limit: Aggregate bag limit of 20 species (in any combination), of the species included in the Marine Life rule as listed below. Of those 20 species, no more than 5 may be angelfish, and no more than 6 may be colonies of octocorals (each colony or part thereof is included in the aggregate bag limit). The bag limit for plants listed in this rule is 1 gallon.

Size Limits:

NAME	MIN. SIZE LIMIT	MAX. SIZE LIMIT
Gray angelfish	None	8"
French angelfish	None	8"
Blue angelfish	None	8"
Queen angelfish	None	8"
Rock beauty	None	5"
Butterflyfishes	None	4"
Gobies	None	2"
Jawfishes	None	4"
Porkfish	1 ½"	None
Spanish hogfish	2"	8"
Cuban (spotfin) hogfish	3"	8"

Closed Seasons: None

Closed Areas: Harvest generally allowed wherever recreational fishing allowed. However the harvest of marine life may be limited or prohibited in state and federal parks, national wildlife refuges, and portions of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary; interested persons should contact those entities for further information.

Prohibited Species: All harvest is prohibited of the following species:

Live rock, Bahama starfish, longspine urchin, any sea fan of the species *Gorgonia flabellum* or of the species *Gorgonia ventalina*, any hard or stony coral (Order *Scleractinia*), any fire coral (Genus *Millepora*).

Allowable Harvesting Gear:

"Hand held net," means a landing or dip net as defined in Rule 68B

4.002(4), F.A.C., except that a portion of the bag may be constructed of clear plastic material, rather than mesh.

"Barrier net," also known as a "fence net," means a seine used beneath the surface of the water by a diver to enclose and concentrate tropical fish and which may be made of either nylon or monofilament.

"Drop net," means a small, usually circular, net with weights attached along the outer edge and a single float in the center, used by a diver to enclose and concentrate tropical fish.

"Slurp gun" means a self-contained, handheld device that captures tropical fish by rapidly drawing seawater containing such fish into a closed chamber.

Species included in this rule are as follows:

FISH

Moray eels - Any species of the Family *Muraenidae*.

Snake eels - Any species of the Genera *Myrichthys* and *Myrophis* of the Family *Ophichthidae*.

Toadfish - Any species of the Family *Batrachoididae*.

Frogfish - Any species of the Family *Antennariidae*.

Batfish - Any species of the Family *Ogcocephalidae*.

Clingfish - Any species of the Family *Gobiesocidae*.

Trumpetfish - Any species of the Family *Aulostomidae*.

Cornetfish - Any species of the Family *Fistulariidae*.

Pipefish/seahorses - Any species of the Family *Syngnathidae*.

Hamlet/seabass - Any species of the Family *Serranidae*, except groupers of the genera *Epinephalus* and *Mycteroperca*, and seabass of the genus *Centropristis*.

Basslets - Any species of the Family *Grammistidae*.

Cardinalfish - Any species of the Family *Apogonidae*.

Porkfish - *Anisotremus virginicus*.

High-hat, Jackknife-fish, Spotted drum, Cubbyu - Any species of the genus *Equetus* of the Family *Sciaenidae*.

Reef Croakers - Any of the species *Odontocion dentex*.

Sweepers - Any species of the Family *Pempheridae*.

Butterflyfish - Any species of the Family *Chaetodontidae*.

Angelfish - Any species of the Family *Pomacanthidae*.

Damselfish - Any species of the Family *Pomacentridae*.

Hawkfish - Any species of the Family *Cirrhitidae*.

Wrasse/hogfish/razorfish - Any species of the Family *Labridae*, except hogfish, *Lachnolaimus maximus*.

Parrotfish - Any species of the Family *Scaridae*.

Jawfish - Any species of the Family *Opistognathidae*.

Blennies - Any species of the Families *Clinidae* or *Blenniidae*.

Sleepers - Any species of the Family *Eleotrididae*.

Gobies - Any species of the Family *Gobiidae*.

Tangs and surgeonfish - Any species of the Family *Acanthuridae*.

Filefish/triggerfish - Any species of the Family *Balistidae*, except gray triggerfish, *Balistes caprisacus* and ocean triggerfish, *Canthidermis sufflamen*.

Trunkfish/cowfish - Any species of the Family *Ostraciidae*.

Balloonfish - *Diodon holocanthus*.

Sharpnose puffer - *Canthigaster rostrata*.

Striped burrfish - *Chilomycterus schoepfi*.

INVERTEBRATES

Sponges - Any species of the Class *Demospongia*, except sheepswool, yellow, grass, glove, finger, wire, reef, and velvet sponges, Order *Dictyoceratida*.

Upside-down jellyfish - Any species of the Genus *Cassiopeia*.

Siphonophores/hydroids - Any species of the Class *Hydrozoa*, except fire corals,
Order *Milleporina*.

Soft corals - Any species of the Subclass *Octocorallia*, except sea fans *Gorgonia flabellum* and *Gorgonia ventalina*.

Sea anemones - Any species of the Orders *Actinaria*, *Zoanthidea*, *Corallimorpharia*, and *Ceriantharia*.

Featherduster worms/calcareous tubeworms - Any species of the Families *Sabellidae* and *Serpulidae*.

Starsnails - Any of the species *Lithopoma americanum* or *Australium phoebium*.

Nudibranchs/sea slugs - Any species of the Subclass *Opisthobranchia*.

Fileclams - Any species of the Genus *Lima*.

Octopods - Any species of the Order *Octopoda*, except the common octopus, *Octopus vulgaris*.

Cleaner shrimp and peppermint shrimp - Any species of the Genera *Periclimenes* or *Lysmata*.

Coral shrimp - Any species of the Genus *Stenopus*.

Snapping shrimp - Any species of the Genus *Alpheus*.

Yellowline arrow crab - *Stenorhynchus seticornis*.

Furcate spider or decorator crab - *Stenocionops furcatus*.

Blue-legged or tricolor hermit crab - *Clibanarius tricolor*.

Thinstripe hermit crab - *Clibanarius vittatus*.

Polkadotted hermit crab - *Phimochirus operculatus*.

Spotted porcelain crab - *Porcellana sayana*.

Nimble spray or urchin crab - *Percnon gibbesi*.

False arrow crab - *Metoporphaphis calcarata*.

Starfish - Any species of the Class *Asteroidea*, except the Bahama starfish, *Oreaster reticulatus*.

Brittlestars - Any species of the Class *Ophiuroidea*.

Sea urchins - Any species of the Class *Echinoidea*, except longspine urchin, *Diadema antillarum*, and sand dollars and sea biscuits, Order *Clypeasteroidea*.

Sea cucumbers - Any species of the Class *Holothuroidea*.

Sea lilies - Any species of the Class *Crinoidea*.

PLANTS

Caulerpa - Any species of the Family *Caulerpaceae*.

Halimeda/mermaid's fan/mermaid's shaving brush - Any species of the Family *Halimedaceae*.

Coralline red algae - Any species of the Family *Corallinaceae*.