



**TEXAS**  
**HUNTING**  
**& FISHING**

Licenses & Regulations



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# HUNTING

## Seasons 2017-18

### Alligator

**22 Counties & special properties**  
Sep. 10 - 30

**All Other Counties**  
Apr. 1 - June 30

### Chachalaca

Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr & Willacy Counties  
Nov. 4 - Feb. 25

### Dove

**North Zone**  
Sep. 1 - Nov. 12 & Dec. 15 - Dec. 31

**Central Zone**  
Sep. 1 - Nov. 5 & Dec. 15 - Jan. 7

**South Zone**  
Regular season  
Sep. 22 - Nov. 8, 2017; Dec. 15 - Jan. 21  
Additional days for Special White-winged  
Dove season  
Sep. 2, 3, 9, 10  
(special regulations apply)

### Duck

**North Zone**  
Regular season  
Nov. 11 - 26 & Dec. 2 - Jan. 28  
Dusky duck  
Nov. 16 - 26 & Dec. 2 - Jan. 28,  
Youth-only  
Nov. 4 - 5

**South Zone**  
Regular season  
Nov. 4 - 26 & Dec. 9 - Jan. 28  
Dusky duck  
Nov. 9 - 26 & Dec. 9 - Jan. 28  
Youth-only  
Oct. 28 - 29

### High Plains Mallard Management Unit (HPMMU)

Regular season  
Oct. 28 - 29 & Nov. 3 - Jan. 28  
Dusky duck  
Nov. 6 - Jan. 28  
Youth-only: Oct. 21 - 22

### Goose

**East Zone**  
Early Canada goose  
Sep. 9 - 24  
Light goose  
Nov. 4 - Jan. 28  
Light goose conservation order  
Jan. 29 - Mar. 18  
White-fronted goose  
Nov. 4 - Jan. 28

**West Zone**  
Light & dark geese  
Nov. 4 - Feb. 4  
Light goose conservation order  
Feb. 5 - Mar. 18

### Javelina

**North Zone**  
Oct. 1 - Feb. 25

**South Zone**  
Sep. 1 - Aug. 31

### Mule Deer

**General Season**  
Panhandle  
Nov. 18 - Dec. 3  
SW Panhandle  
Nov. 18 - 26  
Trans-Pecos  
Nov. 24 - Dec. 10

**Archery Season**  
Sep. 30 - Nov. 3

### Pheasant

**Panhandle**  
Dec. 2 - 31

### Pronghorn Antelope

Sep. 30 - Oct. 8

### Quail

**Statewide**  
Oct. 28 - Feb. 25

### Sandhill Crane

**Zone A**  
Oct. 28 - Jan. 28

**Zone B**  
Nov. 24 - Jan. 28

**Zone C**  
Dec. 16 - Jan. 21

### Squirrel

**East Texas**  
Oct. 1 - Feb. 25 & May 1 - 31  
**Other Open Counties**  
Sep. 1, 2017 - Aug. 31, 2018  
**Special Youth Season**  
Sep. 23 - 24

### Snipe

Oct. 28 - Feb. 11,

### Teal

Sep. 9 - 24

### Rio Grande Turkey

#### Fall Season

**North Zone**  
Nov. 4 - Jan. 7

**South Zone**  
Nov. 4 - Jan. 21

Brooks, Kenedy, Kleberg & Willacy counties  
Nov. 4 - Feb. 25

**Archery-Only**  
Sep. 30 - Nov. 3

#### Fall Youth-Only

**Early**  
Oct. 28 - 29

**Late**  
Jan. 8 - 21

#### Spring Season

**North Zone**  
Mar. 31 - May 13

**South Zone**  
Mar. 17 - Apr. 29

**One-turkey counties**  
Apr. 1 - Apr. 30

#### Spring Youth-Only

**North Zone**  
Mar. 24 - 25 & May 19 - 20

**South Zone**  
Mar. 10 - 11 & May 5 - 6

### Eastern Turkey

**Spring Season**  
East Texas: Apr. 15 - May 14

### White-tailed Deer

**General Season**  
North Zone: Nov. 4 - Jan. 7  
South Zone: Nov. 4 - Jan. 21

**Special Late Season**  
North Zone: Jan. 8 - 21  
South Zone: Jan. 22 - Feb. 4

**Youth-Only Seasons**  
Early Season: Oct. 28 - 29  
Late Season: Jan. 8 - 21

**Archery Season**  
Sep. 30 - Nov. 3

**Muzzleloader-Only Season**  
Jan. 8 - 21



# FISHING

## Bag & Length Limits

### Fishing Licenses

#### All-Water

Type	Resident	Non-Resident
All-Water Package	\$40	\$68
One-Day License	\$11	\$16
Senior Package	\$22	
Special Resident (legally blind)	\$7	
Year-From-Purchase	\$47	

#### Freshwater

Type	Resident	Non-Resident
Freshwater Package	\$30	\$58
Senior Package	\$12	

#### Saltwater

Type	Resident	Non-Resident
Saltwater Package	\$35	\$63
Senior Package	\$17	

### Freshwater Limits

Type	Daily Bag	Min Length
Alligator Gar *	1	--
<b>Bass †</b>		
Largemouth & smallmouth	--	14"
Spotted, Guadalupe & Alabama	5	
White	25	10"
Yellow	--	--
<b>Catfish</b>		
Channel, blue, their hybrids & subspecies	25 (any combination)	12"
Flathead	5	18"
<b>Crappie</b>		
White, black, their hybrids & subspecies	25 (any combination)	10"
<b>Paddlefish</b>	No harvest allowed.	
<b>Saugeye</b>	5 (only 2 less than 16")	--
<b>Shad</b>		
Gizzard & threadfin ‡	--	--
<b>Sunfish</b>		
Various species including bluegill, redear, green, warmouth & longear	--	--
<b>Trout</b>		
Rainbow & brown	5 (any combination)	--
<b>Walleye</b>	5 (only 2 less than 16")	--

\* Certain areas may be temporarily closed to alligator gar fishing when optimum spawning conditions occur.

† The combined limit for any combination of largemouth, smallmouth, Alabama, Guadalupe, and spotted bass is 5 fish per day.

‡ No limit; however, starting April 13, 2017, a person who collects shad for personal use and transports those fish from a public water body in a container or containers that total 82 quarts or more in volume will be required to get a Permit to Possess or Sell Nongame Fish Taken from Public Fresh Water.

### Saltwater Limits

Type	Daily Bag	Min/Max Length
Alligator gar *	1	--
<b>Amberjack, greater</b>	1	38" min
<b>Bass</b>		
Striped, its hybrids & subspecies	5 (any combination)	18" min
<b>Catfish</b>		
Channel, blue, their hybrids & subspecies	25 (any combination)	12" min
Flathead	5	18" min
Gafftopsail	--	14" min
<b>Cobia</b>	2	37" min
<b>Drum</b>		
Black drum †	5	14" - 30"
Red drum ‡	3	20" - 28"
<b>Flounder</b>		
All species, subspecies, & hybrids	5/2 §	14" min
<b>Grouper</b>		
Black grouper	4	24" min
Gag grouper	2	24" min
Goliath grouper	0 (Catch and Release Only)	14" min
Nassau grouper	0 (Catch and Release Only)	14" min
<b>Mackerel</b>		
King	2	27" min
Spanish	15	14" min

*Continued on back*

\* Certain areas may be temporarily closed to alligator gar fishing when optimum spawning conditions occur.

† No more than one black drum over 52 inches may be retained per person per day and counts as part of the daily bag limit and possession limit.

‡ During a license year, one red drum over the stated maximum length limit may be retained when affixed with a properly completed Red Drum Tag and one red drum over the stated maximum length limit may be retained when affixed with a properly completed Bonus Red Drum Tag. Any fish retained under authority of a Red Drum Tag or a Bonus Red Drum Tag may be retained in addition to the daily bag and possession limit as stated in this section.

§ Daily bag is 5 fish except from Nov. 1-30, when the daily bag limit is 2 fish and flounder may be taken only by pole-and-line; and from December 1-14, when the daily bag limit is 2 fish and flounder may be taken by any legal means, including gigning. Possession limit is equal to the daily bag.



Type	Daily Bag	Min Length
<b>Marlin</b>		
Blue marlin	--	131" min
White marlin	--	86" min
<b>Mullet</b>		
All species, subspecies, & hybrids	--	12" max *
<b>Sailfish</b>	--	84" min
<b>Sharks</b>		
Atlantic sharpnose, blacktip, bonnethead	1	24" min
Hammerhead (smooth, great, scalloped)	1	99" min
All other allowable shark species †	1	64" min
<b>Sheepshead</b>	5	15" min
<b>Snapper</b>		
Lane	--	8" min
Red	4	15" min
Vermilion	--	10" min
<b>Snook</b>	1	24" - 28"
<b>Tarpon</b>	1	85" min
<b>Seatrout, spotted</b>	5 - 10 †	15" min
<b>Triggerfish</b>		
Gray	20	16" min
<b>Tripletail</b>	3	17" min

\* May not take from public waters, or possess on board a boat, mullet over 12 inches during October, November, December, and January. No limits apply during other months.

† All waters north of FM 457 in Matagorda County - Limit 10, All waters south of FM 457 - Limit 5

‡ Visit [tpwd.texas.gov](http://tpwd.texas.gov) for a list of allowable and prohibited shark species.

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