

■ Texas Fishing Regulations & Seasons Guide ■

Rules, Limits & Legal Guide for Saltwater and Freshwater Fishing in Texas ■■■■

■ Introduction

Fishing in Texas is regulated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). Whether you fish in rivers, lakes, coastal bays, or the Gulf of Mexico, following the rules helps protect fish populations and keeps your trip legal and enjoyable ■.

■ Fishing License Requirements

- ■ A valid Texas fishing license is required for most anglers
- ■ Saltwater endorsement required for coastal & Gulf fishing
- ■■ Freshwater endorsement required for lakes & rivers
- ■ Children under a certain age may be exempt
- ■ Free Fishing Days are offered once per year

■■ Freshwater Fishing Regulations

- ■ Applies to lakes, rivers, reservoirs, and ponds
- ■ Size limits apply to Bass, Crappie, Catfish, and more
- ■ Daily bag limits vary by species and location
- ■ Legal gear includes rod & reel, poles, and certain trotlines
- ■ Some waters have special slot limits or catch-and-release rules

■ Saltwater Fishing Regulations

- ■ Applies to coastal bays, tidal waters & Gulf of Mexico
- ■ Redfish, Trout & Flounder have strict size limits
- ■ Shark fishing has special gear & handling rules
- ■■ Seasonal closures may apply (especially Flounder)
- ■■ Federal waters follow additional regulations

■■ Fishing Seasons & Closures

Some species are open year-round ■, while others have seasonal closures ■ to protect spawning fish. Always check the current TPWD announcements before fishing.

■ Quick Regulation Overview

■ Type	■ Location	■ Limits	■ Bag Rules
■■ Freshwater	Lakes & Rivers	Species-based	Daily limits apply
■ Saltwater	Coast & Gulf	Slot sizes	Strict enforcement

■■ Violations & Penalties

Breaking fishing laws can result in fines ■, license suspension ■, or confiscation of gear ■. Know the rules to fish stress-free ■.

■ Pro Fishing Tips

- ■ Keep a digital copy of your license
- ■ Carry a measuring tool
- ■ Release undersized fish gently
- ■ Check local regulations every trip
- ■ Respect nature and habitats

■■ Note: Regulations change frequently. Always verify with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD).