

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2025 Recreational Red Snapper Season Closure
November 12, 2025

Louisiana's recreational red snapper season was previously set by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular March 2025 meeting to be open daily, beginning on May 1, 2025, until further notice. 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. Landings estimates generated from the LA Creel program indicate that the annual private recreational and state charter red snapper allocation for Louisiana has been projected to be met. In order to avoid exceeding the established allocation, the season must be closed.

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, R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, and the authority given to the secretary by the commission at its regular March 2025 meeting and in LAC 76:VII.335.G.5 to modify the recreational red snapper season, size, and bag limits as deemed necessary, the secretary hereby declares:

The season for the private recreational and state charter harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters and federal waters off Louisiana shall close at 11:59 p.m. on November 16, 2025 and shall remain closed until the start of the 2026 season, currently scheduled for May 22, 2026, unless modified. Effective with this closure, no person shall recreationally harvest or possess red snapper whether within or without Louisiana waters.

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.

Tyler M. Bosworth
Secretary

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