



KNOW YOUR TEXAS REEF FISH

Scan the QR code to view current fishing regulations using the *Fish Rules App*.

Sea Grant
AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

EXTENDING OUR REACH
REGIONAL REEF FISH COLLABORATIVE

RETURN'EM
RIGHT

Illustrations copyrighted by Diane Rome Peebles

MEASURE YOUR FISH CORRECTLY

PLEASE NOTE: State and federal fishing regulations may vary, and reef fish size limits may be measured using fork length or total length. To check protruding gonads/intestines, bloat, which measurement should be used for your species and fishing area, review current fishing regulations.

RED SNAPPER

GREATER AMBERJACK

LANE SNAPPER

VERMILION SNAPPER

SCAMP GROUPER

GAG GROUPER

GRAY (MANGROVE) SNAPPER

YELLOWMOUTH GROUPER

BLACK GROUPER

ALMACO JACK

Irregular blotches

Elongated fin tips

Pointed anal fin

Rounded anal fin

Slender body

Deep body

Black blotch

Pointed tail

Close mouth

FORK LENGTH

TOTAL LENGTH

Often has dark stripe through eye

Mouth yellow

Rectangular blotches

Bronze spots

Get one for free at returnemright.org

GIVE REEF FISH A FIGHTING CHANCE

- Handle fish quickly and as little as possible
- Use a quick release rubber-coated net
- Only gut fish you intend to keep
- Avoid lifting fish by the jaws, as this may cause internal damage
- Keep fingers out of your mouth
- Keep a gear prohibited species in the water
- Use non-stainless, monofilament hooks
- When fishing natural bait, review current fishing regulations
- Review current fishing regulations before fishing