

## Size, take and possession limits

# Tidal waters

The following legal limits apply to fish taken in Queensland waters. A take and possession limit is the total number of fish a person may take or possess at any one time.

### Coral reef finfish\*

Species	Legal size (cm)	Take and possession limit
All cods and groupers	38 min	Combined limit of 5 in total of all cod species
<i>Cod exceptions</i>		
Camouflage rockcod	50 min 100 max	
Estuary cod	<i>(see other tidal species)</i>	
Flowery cod	50 min 100 max	
Greasy rockcod	38 min 100 max	
Maori cod	45 min	
Barramundi cod		No take
Potato cod		No take
Queensland grouper		No take
All coral trout	38 min	Combined limit of 7 in total of all trout species
<i>Coral trout exceptions</i>		
Chinese footballer trout (blue spot trout)	50 min 80 max	
All emperors	25 min	5 per species
<i>Emperor exceptions</i>		
Red-throat (sweetlip) emperor	38 min	8
Long nose emperor	38 min	5
Spangled emperor	45 min	5
Red emperor	55 min	5
All fusiliers	No limit	No limit
All parrotfishes	25 min	5 per species
All surgeonfishes	25 min	5 per species

Species	Legal size (cm)	Take and possession limit
All sweetlips—excluding red-throat (sweetlip) emperor	25 min	5 per species
All tropical snappers and sea perches	25 min	5 per species
<i>Tropical snappers and sea perch exceptions</i>		
Crimson (rosy) jobfish and lavender jobfish	38 min	Combined limit of 8 in total for both species
Chinaman fish		No take
Crimson seaperch (small mouth nannygai) and saddletail seaperch (large mouth nannygai)	40 min	Combined limit of 9 in total for both species
Flame snapper	38 min	5
Goldband snapper	38 min	5
Hussar	25 min	10
Green jobfish	38 min	5
Paddletail		No take
Red bass		No take
Red emperor	55 min	5
Ruby snapper	38 min	5
Small-toothed jobfish	38 min	5
All wrasse	25 min	5 per species
<i>Wrasse exceptions</i>		
Hump-headed Maori		No take
Tuskfish (all species)	30 min	Combined limit of 6 in total for all tuskfish species

\*A closed season applies to coral reef finfish.

In addition to individual take and possession limits for each species above, all coral reef finfish species have a combined take and possession limit of 20. Please see the guide for more information. For a complete list of coral reef species see the Fisheries (Coral Reef Fin Fish) Management Plan 2003 on [www.legislation.qld.gov.au/OQPChome.htm](http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/OQPChome.htm)

These size, take and possession limits are part of the brief guide to *Recreational fishing rules and regulations for Queensland*, which is available from [www.dpi.qld.gov.au/fishweb](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/fishweb) or from the DPI&F Business Information Centre on 13 25 23.

## Other tidal species

Species	Legal size (cm)	Take and possession limit
<b>Barramundi*</b>		
East coast	58 min 120 max	5
Gulf of Carpentaria	60 min 120 max	5
<b>Bêche de mer (sea cucumber)</b>		
—excluding black teatfish (take and possession limit 0)		
Bream (pikey and yellow finned)	23 min	No limit
Black lipped pearl oyster	9 min	No limit
Cod (estuary)	35 min 120 max	10
<b>Crab</b>		
Blue swimmer	11.5	No limit
Mud	15 min	10
Spanner*	10 min	20
Dolphin fish	45 min	No limit
<b>Eels</b>		
Long-finned	30 min	Combined limit of 10 in total of all species
Short-finned	30 min	
South Pacific	30 min	
<b>Flathead</b>		
Bar-tailed	30 min	No limit
Dusky (mud)	40 min 70 max	5
Sand	30 min	No limit
<b>Giant trevally</b>		
East coast	No limit	No limit
Gulf of Carpentaria	35 min	No limit
<b>Gold lipped pearl oyster</b>		
Grass emperor (grass sweetlip)	30 min	No limit
<b>Grunter bream (small spotted and spotted)</b>		
East coast	30 min	No limit
Gulf of Carpentaria	40 min	10 whole fish or 20 fillets
<b>Jewel fish</b>		
Gulf of Carpentaria	45 min	No limit
<b>Jewfish</b>		
Silver	45 min	No limit
Black (east coast)	45 min	10
Black (Gulf of Carpentaria)	60 min 120 max	5 with no more than 2 over 100 cm
<b>Kingfish</b>		
Black	75 min	10
Yellowtail	50 min	No limit
Large-scale sea perch (fingermark)	35 min	10
Luderick	23 min	No limit
<b>Mackerel</b>		
Grey/broad-barred	50 min	10
Spanish/narrow-barred	75 min	3

\*Mackerel (east) applies to these species.

Species	Legal size (cm)	Take and possession limit
Queensland school (east coast)	50 min	30
Queensland school (Gulf of Carpentaria)	50 min	10
Shark	50 min	No limit
Spotted (east coast)	60 min	5
Spotted (Gulf of Carpentaria)	50 min	10
<b>Mangrove jack</b>		
East coast	35 min	No limit
Gulf of Carpentaria	35 min	5
Molluscs any—excluding oysters	No limit	50
Mulloway	45 min	10
Perch pearl	35 min	5
Prawns	No limit	10 litres <sup>†</sup>
<sup>†</sup> No more than 10 prawns with their heads or any other part removed, unless the removal was to process the prawns for immediate consumption.		
<b>Queenfish</b>		
East coast	No limit	No limit
Gulf of Carpentaria	45 min	No limit
<b>Salmon</b>		
King/Burnett (east coast)	40 min	No limit
King/Burnett (Gulf of Carpentaria)	60 min	5
Blue/Cooktown (east coast)	40 min	No limit
Blue/Cooktown (Gulf of Carpentaria)	40 min	20
<b>Snapper</b>		
	35 min	5
<b>Sea mullet</b>		
	30 min	No limit
<b>Tailor</b>		
	30 min	20
72 hours or more on Fraser Island	30 min	30
Tarwhine	23 min	No limit
<b>Teraglin</b>		
Silver	30 min	No limit
Jew	38 min	5
Trochus	8 min 12.5 max	50
<b>Tropical rock lobster* (painted crayfish <i>Panulirus ornatus</i>)</b>		
115 mm tail min		Above 14° south lat. 3 per person/6 per boat
90 mm carapace min		Below 14° south lat. 5 per person/10 per boat
<b>All other <i>Panulirus</i> species</b>		
	No limit	As above
Wahoo	75 min	10
Whiting (golden lined and sand)	23 min	No limit
<b>Worms (including part thereof)</b>		
Beach	No limit	30 min
Blood	No limit	50 min

## No-take species

- Barramundi cod
- Paddletail
- Chinaman fish
- Potato cod
- Red bass
- Queenslander grouper
- Hump-headed Maori wrasse

## Size, take and possession limits

# Fresh waters

The following legal limits apply to fish taken in Queensland waters. A take and possession limit is the total number of fish a person may take or possess at any one time.

### Freshwater species

Species	Legal size (cm)	Take and possession limit	Species	Legal size (cm)	Take and possession limit
Australian bass*	30 min	2	Long-finned	30 min	Combined limit of 10 in total of all species
Barramundi *			Short-finned	30 min	
East coast	58 min 120 max	5 (1 during closed season for some dams)	South Pacific	30 min	
Gulf of Carpentaria	60 min 120 max	5	Lungfish		No take
Blueclaw crayfish (yabby)	No limit	100 (females carrying eggs or young must be returned to the water within their natural range)	Mangrove jack		
Catfish eel-tailed (Tandanus tandanus)	35 min	Combined limit of 5 in total for fish in the genera Neosilurus, Tandanus and Neosiluroides (e.g. black, Cooper Creek, eel-tailed, false spine, short-finned catfish and Hyrtl's tandan)	East coast	35 min	No limit
Cherabins	No limit	Combined limit of 10 for both species Macrobrachium lar and M. rosenbergii	Gulf of Carpentaria	35 min	5
Cod			Molluscs any—excluding oysters	No limit	50
Bloomfield River cod		No take	Perch and grunter		
Mary River cod—Upstream of the walls of Cressbrook, Hinze, Maroon, Moogerah, North Pine, Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams and Lakes Dyer (Bill Gunn Dam and Clarendon)	50 min	1	Golden perch (yellowbelly)	30 min	10
Mary River cod—Elsewhere in Queensland		No take	Jungle perch	35 max	Combined limit of 1 for both species (i.e. only one jungle perch may be taken)
Murray cod* (Queensland part of Murray–Darling Drainage Division)	60 min 110 max	2	Northern jungle perch (spotted flagtail)	35 max	As above
Eels			Silver	30 min	Combined limit of 5 for silver perch, Welch's grunter and Barcoo grunter. Silver perch in Paroo and Warrego River basins are catch and release only
			Barcoo grunter	30 min	As above
			Welch's grunter	30 min	As above
			Sooty grunter	28 min	Combined limit of 10 for sooty grunter and khaki bream
			Khaki bream	No limit	Combined limit of 10 for sooty grunter and khaki bream

\*A closed season applies to these species. Please see the guide for more information.

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## Freshwater species

Species	Legal size (cm)	Take and possession limit	Species	Legal size (cm)	Take and possession limit
Rainbow fish Melanotaenia sp.	No limit	Combined limit of 50 (banded, black banded, chequered, crimson spotted, desert, Duboulay's, eastern, Lake Eacham and McCulloch's rainbowfish)	River blackfish		No take
Redclaw crayfish in its natural range (Gulf of Carpentaria Drainage Division and from the Jacky Jacky River basin south to the Normanby River basin on the east coast of Queensland)	No limit	40 (females carrying eggs or young must be returned to the water within their natural range)	Saratoga		
			Northern	50 min	Combined limit of 1 for both species (i.e. only one saratoga may be taken)
			Southern	50 min	As above
			Sea mullet	30 min	No limit
			Spiny crayfish		No take

## The following freshwater species have a take and possession limit of 20:

Aggassiz's perchlet	Aru gudgeon	Mueller's perchlet	Mulgrave goby
Banded grunter	Berney's catfish	Obbes' catfish	Ornate rainbowfish
Bigheaded gudgeon	Bony bream	Pacific blue-eye	Penny fish
Bug eyed goby	Cairns rainbowfish	Purple spotted gudgeon	Rendahl's catfish
Celebes goby	Coal grunter	Reticulated perchlet	Roman nose goby
Common archer fish	Concave goby	Poreless gudgeon	Sailfin perchlet
Delicate blue-eye	Desert goby	Scaleless goby	Shovel nosed catfish
Dwarf goby	Empire gudgeon	Silver tandan	Sleepy cod
Fimbriate gudgeon	Flagtail perchlet	Small headed grunter	Smelt
Flathead goby	Firetail gudgeon	Snakehead gudgeon	Spangled perch
Flyspecked hardyhead	Freshwater long tom	Spotted blue-eye	Square blotch goby
Gilbert's grunter	Golden goby	Strawman	Striped gudgeon
Lake's carp gudgeon	Leathery grunter	Threadfin rainbowfish	Triangular shield catfish
Lesser salmon catfish	Lorentz's grunter	Trout gudgeon	Western carp gudgeon
Marjorie's hardyhead	Midgley's carp gudgeon	Yellowfin perchlet	

## No-take species

- Bloomfield River cod
- Lungfish
- River blackfish
- Spiny crayfish