State Management History: Alabama

Council & State Staff

SEDAR87-RW-04

2025



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Harvest Restrictions (Harvest Limits)

Species Affected	First Yr In Effect	Effective Date	End Date	Fishery	Harvest limitation	Region Affected	Amendment Number or Rule Type
Penaeid Shrimp	1986	9/3/86	11/19/90	all 3	In waters open to commercial shrimping, unlicensed individuals may take up to 25 pounds per person per day for noncommercial purposes	ALTW*	86-MR-9
	1990	11/19/90		all 3	In waters open to commercial shrimping, persons operating licensed recreational shrimp boats may take up to 25 pounds with heads attached per person per day for noncommercial purposes	ALTW*	90-MR-9
	1997	8/15/97	9/28/02	all 3	In waters open to commercial shrimping, persons operating licensed recreational shrimp boats may take up to 5 gallons of shrimp with heads attached per person aboard per day for noncommercial purposes	ALTW*	97-MR-4
	2016	4/13/16		all 3	Individuals taking shrimp, for recreational purposes, in an area open to commercial shrimping by means of a cast net and without the use of a boat, are limited to no more than 5 gallons of shrimp with heads on per person per day.	ALTW*	2016-MR-1

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Harvest Restrictions (Fishery Closures)

First Yr In Effect	Last Year in Effect	Effective Date	End Date	Fishery	Closure Type First Day Last Day Closed Closed ***		Region Affected	AL Marine Resources Regulation Number	
1956	1957	12/7/56	3/11/57	all 3	The taking or catching of shrimp for commercial purposes between sunset and sunrise shall be prohibited	12/7/56		ALTW*	A-196
1957		3/11/57		Brown	The taking or catching of brown shrimp for commercial purposes between sunset and sunrise shall be permitted			ALTW*	A-199
1957		7/10/57		all 3	The taking or catching of shrimp at any time other than for baiting purposes shall be prohibited	7/10/57		ALTW*	A-206
1958		7/30/58		all 3	The taking or catching of shrimp during the daytime other than for baiting purposes shall be prohibited	7/30/58		ALTW*	A-225
1958		10/15/58		all 3	The taking or catching of shrimp between sunset and sunrise other than for baiting purposes shall be prohibited	10/15/58		ALTW*	A-230
1959		3/25/59		all 3	The taking or catching of shrimp other than for baiting purposes shall be prohibited	3/25/59	5/21/59	ALTW*	A-240
1959		5/21/59		all 3	Both daytime and nighttime shrimping shall be permitted		12/14/59	ALOW**	A-243
1959		12/14/59		all 3	The taking or catching of shrimp other than for baiting purposes shall be prohibited	12/14/59	6/1/60	ALTW*	A-259
1960		6/1/60	11/15/61	all 3	The taking or catching of shrimp at any time is permitted			ALTW*	A-277
1961		11/15/61		all 3	Waters are closed to night shrimping. Shrimping permitted during the hours from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset	11/15/61	4/20/62	ALTW*	A-329
1962		4/20/62		all 3	The taking of shrimp shall be permitted both day and night			ALTW*	A-341
1962		5/18/62		all 3	Waters are closed to the catching of shrimp for commercial purposes both day and night	5/18/62	8/15/62	ALTW*	A-342
1962		6/11/62		all 3	The taking of shrimp shall be permitted both day and night			ALOW**	A-348
1963		5/1/63		all 3	Waters closed to both day and night commercial shrimping	5/1/63		ALTW*	A-383
1963		5/6/63		all 3	Waters shall be open to commercial shrimping both daylight and nighttime		5/15/70	ALOW**	A-384
1970		5/15/70		all 3	It shall be unlawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes during both daylight and darkness	5/15/70		ALOW** and part of ALTW*	A-601
1970		6/3/70		all 3	It shall be unlawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes during both daylight and darkness, excluding areas south of the line of demarcation	6/3/70		ALOW**	A-605

1970	5/15/70	all 3	It shall be lawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes during both daylight and darkness			ALOW** and part of ALTW*	A-608
1971	6/24/71	all 3	It shall be lawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes during both daylight and darkness			ALOW** and part of ALTW*	A-644
1971	7/2/71	all 3	It shall be lawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commecial purposes during both daylight and darkness			ALOW** and part of ALTW*	A-647
1974	5/15/74	all 3	It shall be unlawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes	5/15/74	6/3/74	ALTW*	74-MR-1
1974	6/3/74	all 3	It shall be lawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes			ALTW*	74-MR-2
1977	5/1/77	all 3	It shall be unlawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes	5/1/77		ALTW*	77-MR-1
1977	6/6/77	all 3	It shall be lawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes			ALTW*	77-MR-3
1978	4/30/78	all 3	It shall be unlawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes	4/30/78	6/12/78	ALTW*	78-MR-3
1978	6/12/78	all 3	It shall be lawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes			ALTW*	78-MR-8
1980	5/7/80	all 3	It shall be unlawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes	5/7/80		ALTW*	80-MR-4
1980	6/16/80	all 3	It shall be lawful to take, catch or attempt to take or catch shrimp for commercial purposes			ALOW**	80-MR-8
1982	9/30/82	all 3	Live bait shrimp dealers may take bait from all waters not permanently closed to commercial shrimping			ALTW*	82-MR-18
1983	7/7/83	all 3	Waters are closed to all shrimping, and it shall be unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take shrimp in said waters	7/7/83	7/30/83	ALOW**	83-MR-9

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**ALOW: Alabama Outside Waters are defined as all waters S of a line extending from the Florida-Alabama line westward along the shore to Alabama Point; from there along the Baldwin County beaches of the Gulf of Mexico to the intersection with the Territorial Sea Line on Fort Morgan Peninsula, known as Mobile Point (30°13.46'N, 088°01.72'W); from there following the Territorial Sea Line across the mouth of Mobile Bay to Dauphin Island (30°14.77'N, 088°04.48'W); from there along the Dauphin Island beaches of the Gulf of Mexico to the intersection with the Territorial Sea Line on the west point of Dauphin Island (30°13.72'N, 088°19.81'W); from there following the Territorial Sea Line southwest to the intersection with the Alabama-Mississippi state line (30°12.82'N, 088°23.54'W).

***If last day closed is omitted, it does not necessarily mean that an opening date doesn't exist, but rather that the information was not readily available

Harvest Restrictions (Spatial Restrictions)

Area	First Yr In Effect	Effective Date	Fishery	First Day Closed	Restriction in Area	AL Marine Resources Regulation Number
ALTW	1959	9/15/59	Shrimp		It shall be unlawful to wash a trawl or net by pulling or dragging it in any of the ALTW closed to shrimping	A-252
Within 200 yards of AL Gulf beaches	1975	3/27/78	Shrimp	3/27/78	No shrimp trawls may be used	78-MR-2
Gulf of Mexico within the 3- mile territorial jurisdiction of the state of Alabama	1983	4/23/83	Shrimp		No Restriction. Establishment of Shrimp Management zones. ALOW* defined as Zone 1	83-MR-4
*ALTW	1984	1/13/84	Shrimp		Licensed live bait shrimp dealers may take bait shrimp from all waters not permanently closed to commercial shrimping	84-MR-1
*ALTW	1991	8/18/91	Shrimp		The use of any trawl or trawls in any area closed to shrimping is prohibited	91-MR-5
*ALTW	1994	11/18/94	Shrimp		Licensed live bait shrimp dealers may take bait shrimp from all waters of the state south of the mouth of the Mobile River and the Battleship Pkwy not permanently closed to shrimping, and areas designated as exclusive bait shrimping areas. Removal of Shrimp Management zones from Marine Resources	94-MR-7
*ALTW	2002	9/28/02	Shrimp		Removal of "Licensed live bait shrimp dealers may take bait shrimp from all waters not permanently closed to commercial shrimping"	2002-MR-11
*ALTW	2002	12/3/02	Shrimp		The use of any trawl or the taking of shrimp by any means in any area closed to commercial shrimping is prohibited	2002-MR-16

*ALTW	2015	8/10/15	Shrimp	Re-Define AL 'Inside Waters': all waters north of a line extending from the Florida-Alabama line westward along the shore to Alabama Point; from there along the Baldwin County beaches of the Gulf of Mexico to the intersection with the Territorial Sea Line on Fort Morgan Peninsula, known as Mobile Point (30°13.46'N, 088°01.72'W); from there following the Territorial Sea Line across the mouth of Mobile Bay to Dauphin Island (30°14.77'N, 088°04.48'W); from there along the Dauphin Island beaches of the Gulf of Mexico to the intersection with the Territorial Sea Line on the west point of Dauphin Island (30°13.72'N, 088°19.81'W); from there following the Territorial Sea Line southwest to the intersection with the Alabama-Mississippi state line (30°12.82'N, 088°23.54'W)	2015-MR-2
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Harvest Restrictions (Gear Restrictions)

Gear Type	First Yr In Effect	Effective Date	Gear/Harvesting Restrictions	Region Affected	AL Marine Resources Regulation Number
Trawl	1960	4/22/60	Illegal to use more than one trawl net from any one boat to take or attempt to take shrimp	ALTW*	A-271
Trawl	1960	7/20/60	Not more than one shrimp trawl, which is 16 feet or less in width measured along the cork line, shall be used on any boat to take or attempt to take shrimp for bait or any unlicensed purpose	ALTW*	A-282
Trawl	1983	3/26/83	Bait shrimp trawl nets: Wings shall be cut and tied to the wing line only on points and it shall be illegal to use nets where the length of the top of the leg line exceeds the length of the bottom of the leg line. Live bait shrimp dealers shall drag their net no longer than 20 consecutive minutes	ALTW*	83-MR-3
Trawl	1986	9/3/86	It shall be illegal to hang, tie or otherwise connect any webbing or netting between the rear of the trawl door and the adjacent wing line or between the top leg line and bottom leg line of any trawl or trawls to extend the width of any trawl	ALTW*	86-MR-9
Trawl	1989	6/21/89	Bait and recreational shrimp trawls: Not more than one shrimp trawl, which is 16 feet or less in width measured along the main top line, nor more than 22 feet as measured along the lead line, shall be used on any boat to take, or attempt to take shrimp	ALTW*	89-MR-3
Trawl	1990	5/1/90	Bait and recreational shrimp trawls: Not more than one shrimp trawl, which is 16 feet or less in width measured along the main top line shall be used on any boat to take or attempt to take shrimp. Removal of following stipulation: width no more than 22 feet as measured along the lead line,	ALTW*	90-MR-4

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Harvest Restrictions (Size Limits)

Species Affected	First Yr In Effect	Effective Date	Fishery	Harvest limitation	Region Affected	AL Marine Resources Regulation Number
	1959	8/12/59	all 3	The size count of 50 shrimp per pound with heads and 75 per pound of headed shrimp shall be strictly enforced	ALTW*	A-248
	1960	6/27/60	Brown	Unlawful to sell or have in possession for sale for commercial purposes any brown shrimp which require more than 68 brown shrimp with heads or 90 headless brown shrimp to weigh a pound.	ALTW*	A-281
Penaeid Shrimp	1962	6/11/62	Brown	Maximum count for shrimp per pound will be 65 with heads and 90 without for brown shrimp	ALOW**	A-348
Ommp	1963	4/9/63	all 3	The legal minimum size of shrimp shall be 50 per pound with heads attached and 75 per pound with heads off	ALTW*	A-381
	1973	5/24/73	all 3	Shrimp which are caught or taken from the territorial waters of AL for commercial purposes, or which are brought into AL waters for commercial purposes shall require not more than 68 shrimp with heads or 114 headless shrimp to weigh 1 pound	ALTW*	A-728

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