

# North Carolina Saltwater Citation Program

The Tournament begins January 1, 2021 and ends Midnight, December 31, 2021.  
TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR AN AWARD, ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 15, 2022.

Fish shall be caught in accordance with North Carolina State and Federal laws and regulations as well as the NC Saltwater Fishing Tournament rules. Everyone is eligible except a charter boat captain or a crewman of a for-hire boat or anyone who offers fish for sale. Certificates can only be issued to an individual angler. Weighmasters or their employees are eligible for awards, provided a witness signs verification. Eligible waters include all North Carolina sounds, estuaries, surf, and the Atlantic Ocean. No registration fee is required. All fish must be caught on hook and line and landed or brought to gaff or net by the angler. No electric or hydraulic equipment is allowed. Fish must be weighed by an authorized weighmaster (or his/her representative) at an official weigh station. Each fish must be recorded on an official application form, signed by the angler and by a weighmaster. Snagged, mutilated, scaled, speared, frozen, or shot fish are not eligible. The weighmaster reserves the right to cut, open, or mark the fish after it has been weighed.

Release Rules: Angler or mate must touch the fish or the leader. Application must be completed with exception of length and weight (false albacore, amberjack, barracuda, cobia, black drum, jack crevalle, king mackerel, shark, striped bass, gray trout, speckled trout and red drum must have the length recorded).



For eligible released fish, anglers can submit their applications through this QR Code or by visiting our website [www.ncdmf.net](http://www.ncdmf.net)



## The Official 2021 North Carolina Saltwater Fishing Tournament Minimum Sizes

SPECIES	MINIMUM WEIGHT (Harvested)	MINIMUM LENGTH (Released)	SPECIES	MINIMUM WEIGHT (Harvested)	MINIMUM LENGTH (Released)
Albacore, False	Release Only	34 inches	Porgy (Silver Snapper)	4 lbs.	N/A
Amberjack	50 lbs.	50 inches	Sailfish	Release Only	Any Length
Barracuda	Release Only	45 inches	Shark	Release Only	80 inches
Bass, Black Sea	4 lbs.	N/A	Sheepshead	8 lbs.	N/A
Bluefish	15 lbs.	34 inches	Spearfish	Release Only	Any Length
Cobia	40 lbs.	36 inches	Spot	1 lb	N/A
Croaker	1.5 lbs.	N/A	Swordfish	50 lbs.	Any Length
Dolphin	35 lbs.	N/A	Tarpon	Release Only	Any Length
Drum, Black	Release Only	40 inches	Tilefish, Gray	12 lbs.	N/A
Drum, Red	Release Only	40 inches	Triggerfish	5 lbs.	N/A
Gag Grouper	20 lbs.	N/A	Trout, Gray	5 lbs.	24 inches
Jack, Crevalle	Release Only	32 inches	Trout, Speckled	5 lbs.	24 inches
Mackerel, King	30 lbs.	45 inches	Tuna, Bigeye	100 lbs.	N/A
Mackerel, Spanish	6 lbs.	N/A	Tuna, Blackfin	25 lbs.	N/A
Marlin, Blue	400 lbs.	Any Length	Tuna, Bluefin	200 lbs.	70 inches
Marlin, White	Release Only	Any Length	Tuna, Yellowfin	70 lbs.	N/A
Mullet, Sea	2 lbs.	N/A	Wahoo	40 lbs.	N/A
Pompano, Florida	2 lbs.	N/A			

North Carolina Saltwater Fishing Citation

Kevin Aman

WHOSE CATCH HAS BEEN JUDGED SPECIALLY

FISH: RED DRUM WEIGHT: 1 RELEASED: DATE AND 11, 2021



For additional information about the NC Saltwater Fishing Citation Program, Saltwater State Records, the Carcass Collection Program, or additional outreach provided by the NC Division of Marine Fisheries  
Contact Carole Willis, Sportfishing Specialist  
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