

Tomorrow's fishing starts TODAY



Know your limits

Possession limits assist in the protection of the Territory's aquatic resources and ensure our high quality recreational fishing experiences can be enjoyed in the future.



What it means

A General Personal Possession Limit (GPL) of 15 fish applies. This is the maximum number of fish a person may have in their possession at any time (other than in their place of permanent residence). Included within the 15 fish limit you may only have a maximum number of the following specified fish as shown below.

Species	Personal possession limits	Special controls and key information
Golden snapper★	3	Not suitable for catch and release in water 10 m+ in depth, susceptible to barotrauma. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Black jewfish★	2	Not suitable for catch and release in water 10 m+ in depth, susceptible to barotrauma. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Barramundi	5	55 cm minimum overall length. Mary and Daly River Fish Management zones: 3 per person possession limit and vessel limit of 1 fish over 90 cm.
King threadfin	3	Mary and Daly River Fish Management zones: Vessel limit of 1 fish over 90 cm (fork length).
Mangrove jack★	3	35 cm minimum length. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Spanish mackerel	2	Sensitive to handling. The use of barbless single hooks for catch and release fishing is recommended.
Red snappers – saddletail, crimson, Indonesian	10	Any combination to a limit of 10 total.
Tricky snapper★ (Grass emperor)	5	Susceptible to barotrauma. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Stripey snapper★ (Spanish flag)	5	Susceptible to barotrauma. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Russells' snapper★	5	Susceptible to barotrauma. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Tuskfish★	5	Susceptible to barotrauma. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Coral trout★	5	Susceptible to barotrauma. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Red emperor★	5	Susceptible to barotrauma. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Cod and Groper★	5	120 cm maximum length. Vessel limit applies, see overleaf.
Sharks (excluding protected species)	3	Any combination to a limit of 3. Sawfish, northern river and spartooth sharks are protected and must not be taken.
Marlin and sailfish	1	
Bream (<i>Acanthopagrus</i> spp.)	15	
All other fish species not subject to specific individual limits	5	

★At risk species, vessel limits apply

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In addition to the 15 fish GPL, a maximum personal limit also applies for the following species.

Species exempt from the 15 fish GPL	Personal possession limits	Special controls and key information
Mud crabs	10	Vessel limit of 30 when 3 or more people are on board. Carapace width 13 cm for males and 14 cm for females. 5 marine pots / dillies per person. 10 marine pots / dillies per vessel when 2 or more people are on board. Females with eggs must be released unharmed.
Crabs (other than mud crab)	30	
Freshwater crustaceans – cherabin and/or redclaw	30	Daly River Fish Management Zone: A combined vessel limit of 90 when 3 or more people are on board with a maximum limit of 30 cherabin. A combined personal possession limit of 30 which includes a maximum limit of 10 cherabin. 3 freshwater pots / dillies per person. 6 freshwater pots / dillies per vessel when 2 or more people are on board. Females with eggs must be released unharmed.
Tropical rock lobster	5	Vessel limit of 15 when 3 or more people are on board. Tropical rock lobsters must not be taken using underwater breathing apparatus.
Whiting and/or mullet and/or garfish (combined)	50	
Pilchards and/or sardines and/or herring (combined)	100	
Molluscs	10 litres (in shell)	Giant clams are protected and must not be taken.
Saltwater prawns (all species combined)	10 litres (intact in shell)	
Octopus, cuttlefish and squid (combined)	30	

Vessel limits for at risk species

Vessel limits apply to "at risk" species listed in the table overleaf.

- Vessels with 4 or less people on board, each person can take their personal possession limit.
- Vessels with 5 to 7 people on board can take a maximum of 4 times the personal possession limit of designated "at risk" species. The balance of the GPL can be made up of other fish.
- Vessels with 8 or more people on board can take a maximum of 8 times the personal possession limit of designated "at risk" species. The balance of the GPL can be made up of other fish.

Protected species

You must not be in possession of protected species which include:

- all species of cod or groper longer than 1.2 m
- sawfish, northern river and speartooth sharks
- giant clams

Protected species must be released unharmed.

To ensure fish species can be identified, the following rules apply:

The entire skin must be left on fillets and trunks of all fish.

- Fillets from species with a personal possession limit must be stored in separate packaging to all other fish.
- Frozen fillets from different species must be kept in separate packaging.
- Two fillets together are deemed to comprise 1 fish.
- A piece of fish, other than a fillet, is to be counted as 1 fish, unless you can prove that 2 or more pieces of fish were obtained from the one fish.
- It is illegal to tether fish dead or alive.

For more information phone 8999 2144 or visit www.fisheries.nt.gov.au