

Federal Species Permitting Requirements

****DISCLAIMER - This document is for general informational purposes only. For specific permit information, or to apply for a permit, contact the respective federal agency listed below.**

Offices of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS):

NMFS Southeast Regional Permit Office (SERO): NC – Florida and the Gulf of Mexico

877-376-4877 or 727-824-5326

http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/operations_management_information_services/constituency_services_branch/permits/index.html

NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO): Maine – NC

978-281-9370

<https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/aps/permits/>

NMFS Highly Migratory Species Permit Office (HMS)

888-872-8862

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/>

Species Permit Requirements

These species may require additional permits depending on current rules and where you are fishing. Some may require permits for federal waters only OR both state and federal waters.

Table is for reference only. Other permitting may be required.

Species	NMFS Office		
	SERO	GARFO	HMS
Dolphin	✓		
Wahoo	✓		
Snapper/Grouper Complex*	✓		
King Mackerel	✓		
Spanish Mackerel	✓		
Cobia	✓		
Bluefish		✓	
Summer Flounder		✓	
Black Sea Bass (North of Cape Hatteras)		✓	
Scup		✓	
Spiny Dogfish		✓	
Monkfish		✓	
Sharks**	✓		✓
Tunas**	✓		✓
Swordfish**	✓		✓
Billfish			✓

*Includes snapper, grouper, amberjack, black sea bass (south of Cape Hatteras), triggerfish, blueline tilefish, golden tilefish (NC-FL), etc. See www.safmc.net for a complete list of snapper/grouper complex species.

**Permits for sharks, tunas, and swordfish are issued by both SERO and HMS, depending on the permit type (limited access vs. open access). See links above and contact SERO or HMS for more information.

NOTE: Seafood dealers who purchase federally managed species may also require additional permits. For a comprehensive list of species that require federal permits, please contact the appropriate NMFS office.