

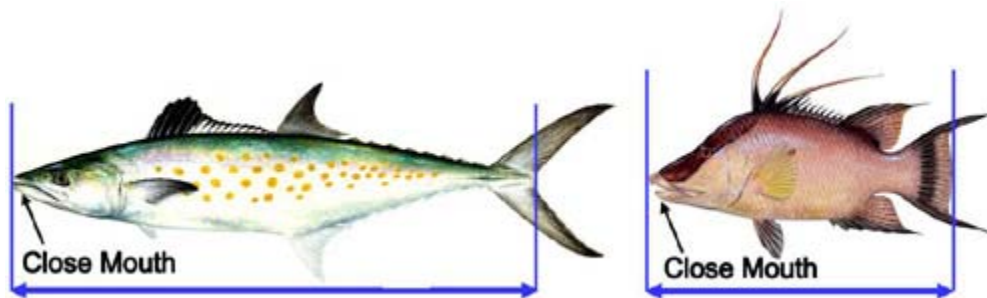
How to Measure Fish

NOTE: Total Length illustrations are part of a proposed draft rule for the April 2005 Commission Meeting

Most size limit regulations implemented by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) use either Fork Length or Total Length

Fork Length Measurement

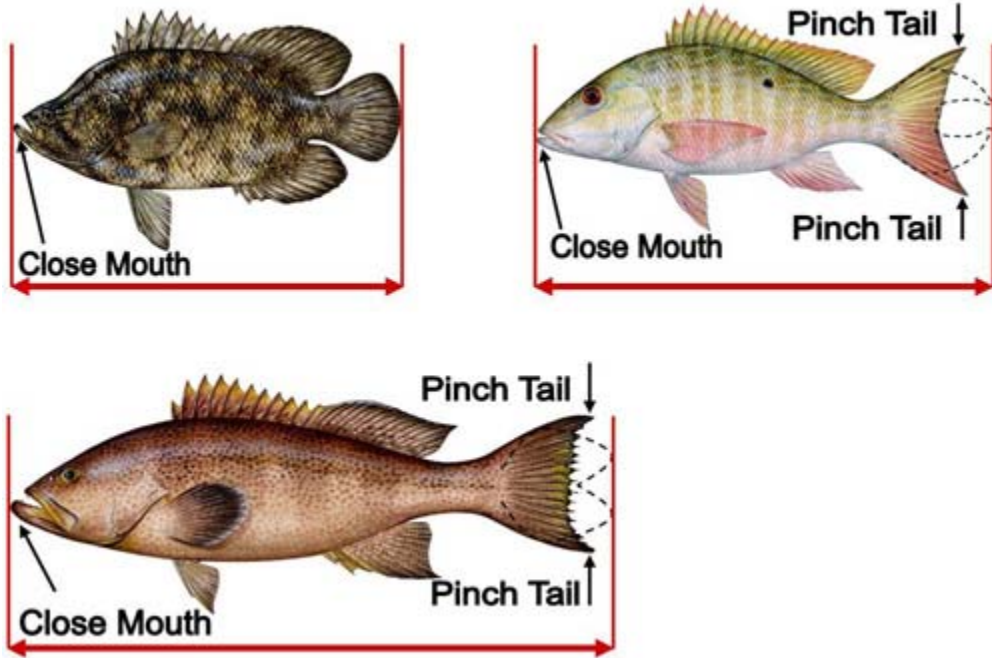
Fish regulated by fork length are measured from the tip of the jaw or tip of the snout with closed mouth to the center of the fork in the tail.



Total Length Measurement

A clarifying definition for Total Length Max is part of a proposed draft rule for the April 2005 Commission Meeting

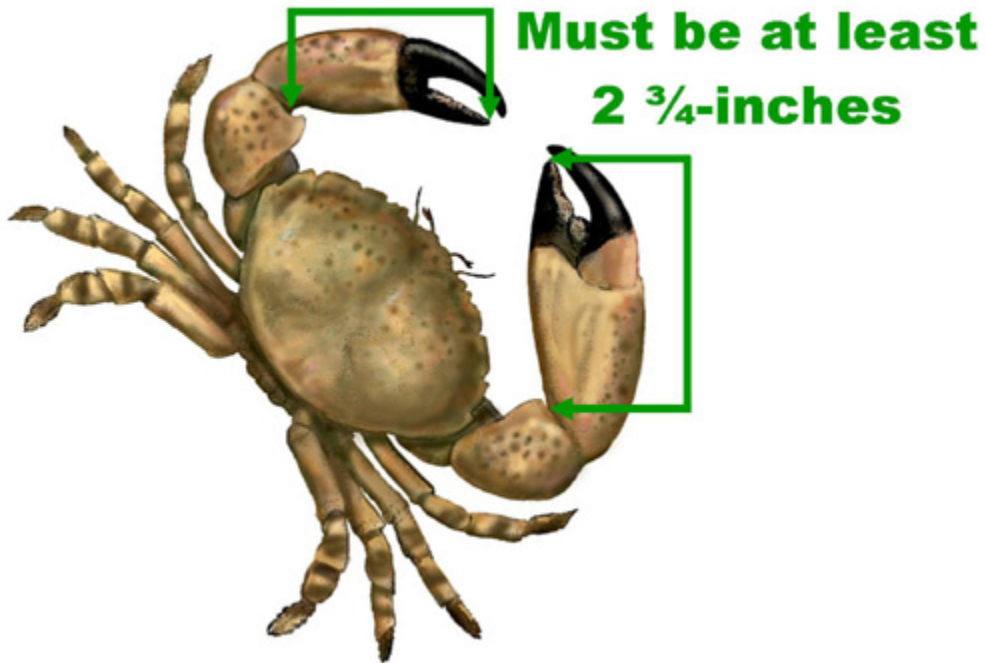
Total Length Max is measured from the most forward point of the head, with the mouth closed, to the farthest tip of the tail with the tail compressed or squeezed.



How to Measure Stone Crab and Spiny Lobster

Stone Crab Measurement

Stone Crab claws must measure at least 2 3/4-inches in length measured by a straight line from the elbow to the tip of the lower immovable finger. The forearm (propodus) shall be deemed to be the largest section of the claw assembly that has both a moveable and immovable finger and is located farthest from the body of the crab.



Spiny Lobster Measurement

Spiny Lobster must have a minimum carapace length of greater than 3-inches and the measurement must take place in the water. The carapace is measured beginning at the forward edge between the rostral horns, excluding and soft tissue, and proceeding along the middle to the rear edge of the carapace.

