

## **Nonresident Recreational Marine Fishing License (NRMFL) – Frequently Asked Questions**

(updated: 02/5/25)

### **Who needs a Nonresident Recreational Marine Fishing License?**

Nonresidents who wish to recreationally ocean fish in Hawai'i. Recreational fishing for residents is still free and has no registration requirements.

### **When did this requirement become law?**

In June 2021, [Act 48](#) was passed into law, requiring nonresidents of Hawai'i to obtain a recreational marine fishing license to fish in Hawai'i. This law has been codified at [Hawaii Revised Statutes \(HRS\) §188-72](#). The Department of Land and Natural Resources subsequently adopted administrative rules to implement the NRMFL, [Hawaii Administrative Rules \(HAR\) § 13-74-11](#), which took effect on May 2, 2024.

### **Where can I apply for the Nonresident Recreational Marine Fishing License?**

The Nonresident Recreational Marine Fishing License is only available online at: <http://fishing.hawaii.gov>

### **What ages are required to have a Nonresident Recreational Marine Fishing License?**

- Not Required: 14 years old and under
- Required: 15 years old and up.

### **How much does the Nonresident Recreational Marine Fishing License cost?**

- 1 Day\* - \$20
- 7 Day - \$40
- 1 Year - \$70

\*note: one day is from 12am to 11:59pm on the day selected

### **Is there an exemption for members of the military?**

Yes, members of the U.S. armed forces on active duty in the State, as well as their spouses and minor children, are exempt from having to possess a NRMFL when recreational marine fishing.

### **Is a screenshot or download copy in my mobile phone okay to carry?**

A screenshot, pdf copy, or printed out hard copy are all acceptable forms to carry if asked to show your license.

### **If I'm a Hawai'i resident, how to I prove my residency?**

The easiest way to demonstrate residency is to have a valid State ID, such as a Hawai'i driver's license. You can also demonstrate residency if you have a state tax return or an official

document issued to you at a Hawai'i address within the previous thirty days (for example: mail from a government agency, financial institution, insurance company, or utility company).

**Does the Nonresident Recreational Marine Fishing License cover fishing in streams, lakes, and reservoirs?**

The Nonresident Recreational Marine Fishing License is for fishing in ocean waters surrounding the state. If fishing in freshwater for gamefish, you will need a Freshwater Game Fishing License. Please refer to the Division of Aquatic Resources website below.

**Where can I find all the fishing rules and regulations?**

The Division of Aquatic Resources website: <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dar/>