

## GEORGIA SALTWATER GAME FISH RECORDS PROGRAM

### APPLICATION FOR STATE RECORD

Prior to completing this application, please read the Georgia Saltwater Game Fish Records Program rules and regulations at [CoastalGaDNR.org/SaltwaterRecords](http://CoastalGaDNR.org/SaltwaterRecords). This application must be accompanied by photographs as specified in the Program's rules and regulations. Incomplete applications may be rejected or take longer to process. By completing this application, you agree to allow the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to release to the public photos and relevant information regarding a new record, tie record, or outstanding catch.

#### I. ANGLER IDENTITY

Angler name (as you would wish it to appear on your state record certificate):

Date of Birth:

Ryan      R      Simons  
First name      Middle initial      Last name

[REDACTED]

Permanent address:

[REDACTED]

Richmond Hill      Bryan      GA      [REDACTED]  
City      County      State      ZIP

Phone number:

[REDACTED]

Email address:

[REDACTED]@yahoo.com

Fishing license information:

[REDACTED]

Division of entry (check one):

MEN

WOMEN

Fishing club affiliation (if any):

Saltwater Information Program (SIP) Permit expiration date:

[REDACTED] 2024

MM/DD/YYYY (Note: A valid SIP permit is required by law, O.C.G.A. 27-2-20.1)

Note: You do not need a fishing license or SIP permit if you are covered under a Georgia Charter/Guide License. To be eligible, you must have been on a paid charter trip when you caught your fish, and the guide must be appropriately licensed. Be sure to include the charter guide's information in Section "IV. Vessel".

#### II. CATCH INFORMATION

Species (common name):

Queen Triggerfish

Date of catch:

4/7/2024

Place of catch (be specific):

South Ledge

Method of catch:

Bottom Rig

Trotting casting fly fishing et cetera

Weight:

7  
Pounds

Length (in inches):

0.576  
Ounces

30 3/4  
Total length

19 1/2  
Fork length

Girth (in inches):

20 1/2

Distance around the thickest part of body



III. EQUIPMENT

Rod:

SHIMANO JIGGING ROD  
Make and length

Reel:

SHIMANO SPEEDMASTER  
Make

Line:

65 lb BRAID  
Make and test

Name of lure or type of bait:

Dead Ballyhoo

Terminal rig description:

Number of hooks, type, arrangement

IV. VESSEL (IF APPLICABLE)

Vessel name:

SWEET MELISSA

Vessel captain:

HENRY WILLIAMSON  
First and last name

Captain's permanent address:

[Redacted]

RICHMOND HILL  
City

BRYAN  
County

Apartment/Unit  
GA  
State

[Redacted]  
ZIP

Captain's phone number:

[Redacted]  
Including area code

Captain's signature:

X [Signature]

V. SCALES

Weighmaster's name

Chris Kalinowsky  
First and last name

Scale owner:

WRD Hatcher  
Name of business, fishing club, etc cetera

Physical address of scale:

130 Hatcher Dr.

Richmond Hill  
City

Bryan  
County

Unit  
GA  
State

3/324  
ZIP

Agency of scale certification:

GA Dept of Ag.  
ie. Georgia Dept. of Agriculture

Date of last scale certification

12/2023  
MM / YYYY

Weighmaster's phone number:

[Redacted]

Weighmaster's signature:

X [Signature]



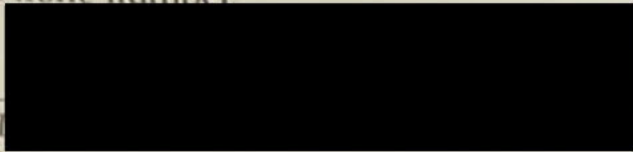
VI. EYEWITNESS TO CATCH

Name of eye witness to catch (other than angler or captain):

Braden Hethcoat

First and last name

Phone number



Signature of eye witness to catch:

X Braden Hethcoat

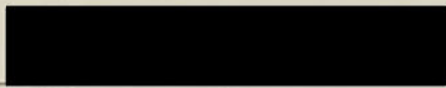
VII. EYEWITNESS TO WEIGHING

Name of eye witness to weighing (other than weighmaster):

Frank Buchanan

First and last name

Phone number:



Including area code

Signature of eye witness to weighing:

X [Signature]

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Fighting time, equipment used, additional witnesses, et cetera:

Empty lines for additional comments

IX. ANGLER AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned applicant, hereby take oath and attest that the fish described in this application was hooked, fought, and brought to gaff by me without assistance from anyone, except as specifically provided in the rules and regulations of the Georgia Saltwater Game Fish Program, and it was caught in accordance with the Program's rules and regulations. I further declare that all information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of angler applicant:

X [Signature]

Date of signature:

04/08/2024  
MM / DD / YYYY

Applicants who lack a valid Georgia fishing license, active Saltwater Information Program Permit, or other necessary permits will be disqualified. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division will check permits as part of this application.

When this application is completely filled out and signed, mail it with the necessary photos to:

Saltwater Game Fish Records Program  
Coastal Resources Division  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
One Conservation Way  
Brunswick, GA 31250

or email the complete application and photographs to [tyler.jones@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:tyler.jones@dnr.ga.gov)

AGENCY USE ONLY

Applicant's name

Date of catch

RYAN R. SIMONS  
 First name Middle initial Last name

04/07/2024  
 MM / DD / YYYY

Date application received

Division of entry (check one):

04/09/2024  
 MM / DD / YYYY

MEN  WOMEN

Species common name

Genus and species

QUEEN TRIGGERFISH Balistes vetula

Current record weight:

Entry weight:

Weight needed:

NONE  
 Pounds Ounces

7 0.576  
 Pounds Ounces

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Pounds Ounces

REVIEW COMMITTEE

	Approve NEW Record	Approve TIE Record	Disapprove Record	Approve Outstanding Catch	Disapprove Outstanding Catch
Tyler Jones Program Coordinator	TJB				
Paul Medders Program Advisor	PM				
Jared Flowers Research and Surveys	JF				
Carolyn Belcher Chief of Marine Fisheries	Carolyn Belcher				
Doug Haymans Division Director	DH				

Notes

IGFA world record is 14 LBS, 3oz (40% = 5LBS, 10.8oz)  
 License verified by LED.  
 Species ID by Dawn Franco, Carolyn Belcher





















DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION  
ONE CONSERVATION WAY · BRUNSWICK, GA 31520 · 912-264-7218

WALTER RABON  
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS  
DIRECTOR

April 7, 2024

Mr. Ryan R. Simons

Dear Mr. Simons:

I wish to personally congratulate you on your new men's Georgia state record catch of an Queen Triggerfish (*Balistes vetula*), caught April 7, 2024, offshore in an area known as the "South Ledge." Enclosed is a certificate that serves to recognize not only the size of the catch, but your skill as an angler and the sportsmanship displayed in landing a record-setting game fish.

Your name will be added to the official record on our website at CoastalGaDNR.org and will appear in the next edition of the Georgia Sport Fishing Regulations guide.

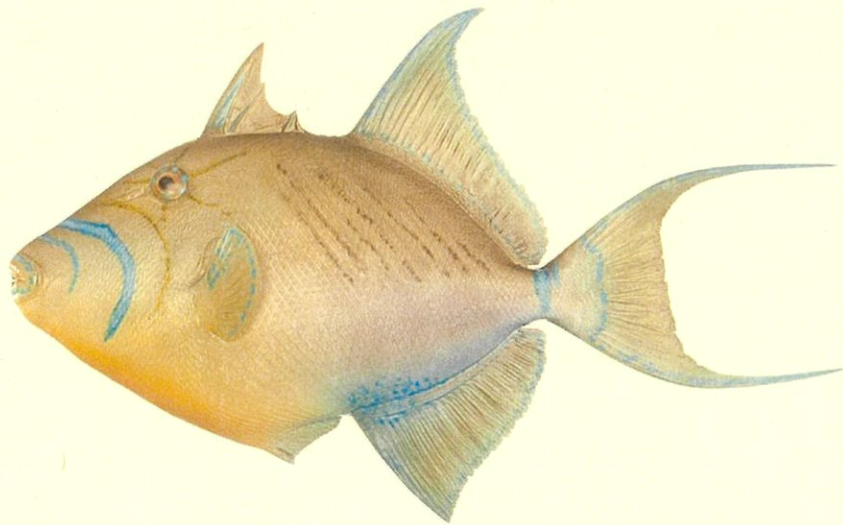
Again, congratulations on your achievement, and thank you for your participation in Georgia's Saltwater Game Fish Record program.

Sincerely,

Doug Haymans  
Director  
Coastal Resources Division  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Enclosures: Records Review Committee package (copy), Georgia Saltwater Gamefish Record certificate





# STATE RECORD

## Georgia Saltwater Game Fish Records Program

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources hereby recognizes that

**RYAN R. SIMONS**

has been awarded the men's state angling record for a catch of the heaviest Queen Triggerfish (*Balistes vetula*) under the rules of the Georgia Saltwater Game Fish Records Program and in accordance with its regulations.

QUEEN TRIGGERFISH  
*Balistes vetula*

7 POUND, 0.58 OUNCES  
3.191 kilograms

APRIL 7, 2024  
Date of Catch

Witness, this day, April 9, 2023,

GOVERNOR  
State of Georgia



COMMISSIONER  
Department of Natural Resources

DIRECTOR  
Coastal Resources Division