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. 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):  
Bryan Simons  

Date of Birth: MM/DD/YYYY

Permanent address:  

Street:  

City: Richmond Hill  

County: Bryan  

State: GA  

Zip:  

Phone number:  

Email address:  

Including area code:  

Fishing license information:  

Division of entry (check one):  

Fishing club affiliation (if any):  

MEN  

WOMEN

Georgia fishing license number

Saltwater Information Program (SIP) Permit expiration date: MM/DD/YYYY (Note: A valid SIP permit is required by law, O.C.G.A. 27-2-211).

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 "V. Vessel".

II. CATCH INFORMATION
Species (common name): Queen Triggerfish  

Place of catch (be specific): South Ledge

Weight:  

7 Pounds  

.576 Ounces

Length (in inches):  

30 3/4 Total length  

19 1/2 Fork length

Girth (in inches):  

20 1/2

Date of catch:  

4/7/2024

Method of catch:  

Bottom Rig  

Trolling, casting, fly fishing, etcetera

Distance around the thickest part of body:  

20 1/2
III. EQUIPMENT

Rod:
SHIMANO JIGGING ROD

Make and length

Line:
605 16 BRAID

Make and test

Terminal rig description:

Reel:
SHIMANO SPEEDMASTER

Make

Name of lure or type of bait:
Dead Ballyhoo

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:
RICHMOND HILL, BRYAN
City County
GA State

Captain’s phone number:

Including area code

Captain’s signature:

X

V. SCALES

Weighmaster’s name:
CHRIS KALINOWSKY

First and last name

Scale owner:
WRD Hatchery

Name of business, fishing club, etc. cetera

Physical address of scale:
130 Hatchery Dr.

Street
RICHMOND HILL, BRYAN
City County
GA State

Agency of scale certification:
GA DEPT OF AG
i.e. Georgia Dept of Agriculture

Weighmaster’s phone number:

X

Weighmaster’s signature:

X
VI. EYEWITNESS TO CATCH
Name of eye witness to catch (other than angler or captain):

Braden Hethcoat

First and last name

Phone number: [REDACTED]

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: [REDACTED]

Signature of eye witness to weighing:
X

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Fighting time, equipment used, additional witnesses, et cetera:

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

Date of signature: 04/08/2024

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
**Applicant's name**

RYAN E. SIMONS

**Date of catch**

04/07/2024

**Division of entry (check one):**

- MEN
- WOMEN

**Date application received**

04/09/2024

**Species common name**

QUEEN TRIGGERFISH

**Genus and species**

Balistes vetula

**Current record weight:**

- NONE

**Entry weight:**

- 7

0.570

**Weight needed:**


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<th>REVIEW COMMITTEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approve NEW Record</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Jones Program Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Medders Program Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Flowers Research and Surveys</td>
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<td>Carolyn Belcher Chief of Marine Fisheries</td>
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<td>Doug Haymans Division Director</td>
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**Notes**

IGFA world record is 14 LBS, 3 OZ (40% = 5 LBS, 10.802)
License verified by CED
Species ID by Dawn Franco, Carolyn Belcher
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,

[Signature]
GOVERNOR
State of Georgia

[Signature]
COMMISSIONER
Department of Natural Resources

[Signature]
DIRECTOR
Coastal Resources Division