

Recent Changes in Coastal Migratory Pelagics Regulations

King Mackerel

Effective July 16, 2014 (Amendment 20A):

- Bag limit sales prohibited
 - → South Atlantic exception: state-permitted tournaments
 - → Gulf exception: state permitted tournaments and fish caught on for-hire trips on vessels with both federal for-hire CMP permit and commercial CMP permit
- Income requirements removed for CMP permits

Effective August 7, 2014 (Generic Dealer Amendment):

- Must sell to federally permitted dealer; weekly dealer reporting requirements

Effective December 19, 2014 (CMP Framework Amendment):

- Trip limits in Florida East Coast subzone [Flagler/Volusia line to Dade/Monroe line]:
 - → From Nov 1- end of Feb, trip limit is 50 fish per trip.
 - → Beginning on March 1 and continuing through March 31, if 70% or more of the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) group Florida east coast subzone quota has been harvested, the trip limit would remain 50 fish per trip. If less than 70% of the Gulf group Florida east coast subzone quota has been harvested, the trip limit would increase to 75 fish per trip.

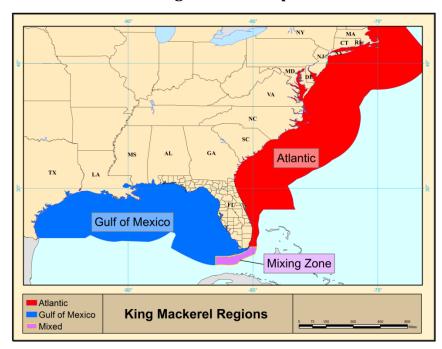
Effective March 1, 2015 (Amendment 20B):

- Gulf king mackerel
 - → Trip limit in Florida west coast Northern and Southern subzones is 1,250 lbs all year (no step-down)
 - → Fishing year in Florida west coast Northern subzone to Oct 1- Sept 30.
- Allow transit of commercial vessels with king mackerel through areas closed to king mackerel fishing, if gear is appropriately stowed.
- Separate commercial quotas of Atlantic king mackerel for a Northern Zone (north of NC/SC line) and Southern Zone (south of NC/SC line)

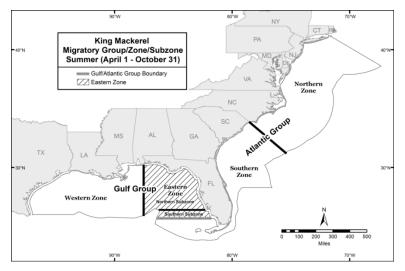
Trip Limit Summary:

111p Limit Summary.		
Atlantic King Mackerel	Apr 1 – Oct 31	Nov 1 – Mar 31
- North of Flagler/Volusia (through Mid-Atlantic)	3,500 lbs	
- Flagler/Volusia to Volusia/Brevard	3,500 lbs	See FLEC limits
- Volusia/Brevard to Dade/Monroe	75 fish	See FLEC limits
- Dade/Monroe to SAFMC line	1,250 lbs	1,250 lbs (Gulf Southern Subzone)
Gulf King Mackerel	Apr 1 – Oct 31	Nov 1 – Mar 31
- Florida East Coast (FLEC) subzone (Flagler/Volusia to Dade/Monroe)		Nov 1- Feb 28: 50 fish Mar 1- Mar 31: - If 70% or more of the FLEC quota has been met, the trip limit is 50 fish If less than 70% of the FLEC quota is met, the trip limit is 75 fish till Mar 31.
- Florida West Coast Southern Subzone	Hook and line: 1,250 lbs *step-down removed Mar 1 Gillnet: 25,000 lbs	
- Florida West Coast Northern Subzone	1,250 lbs *step-down removed Mar 1	
- Western Zone	3,000 lbs	

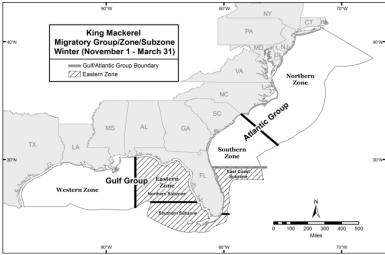
King Mackerel Maps:



MAP 1 King Mackerel Stock Boundaries



MAP 2
Seasonal boundaries:
April 1-October 31, with the Northern and Southern Zones in the Atlantic Group.



MAP 3
Seasonal boundaries:
November 1- March 31, with the Northern and Southern
Zones in the Atlantic Group

Spanish Mackerel

Effective July 16, 2014 (Amendment 20A):

- Bag limit sales prohibited
 - → South Atlantic exception: state-permitted tournaments
 - → Gulf exception: state permitted tournaments and fish caught on for-hire trips on vessels with both federal for-hire CMP permit and commercial CMP permit
- Income requirements removed for CMP permits



- Must sell to federally permitted dealer; weekly dealer reporting requirements

Effective December 19, 2014 (CMP Framework Action 2013):

- Allow Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel, harvested with gillnet gear in the South Atlantic in excess of the trip limit, to be transferred to another federally permitted vessel that has not yet harvested the trip limit.
 This provision would be allowed under certain conditions:
 - → If allowable gillnet gear is used to harvest Spanish mackerel.
 - → Transfer takes place in federal waters between vessels with valid Spanish mackerel commercial permits.
 - → The receiving vessel may possess no more than three gillnets on board after transfer is complete.
 - → All fish exceeding the applicable daily vessel limit shall remain entangled in the meshes of the net until transfer.
 - → The quantity of fish transferred to any single vessel shall not exceed the applicable daily trip limit.
 - \rightarrow Only one transfer per vessel per day would be allowed.
 - → Call-in would be required for both vessels engaged in the transfer: NOAA Fisheries Port Orange Law Enforcement Office (386) 492-6686.

Effective December 20, 2014 (CMP Framework Amendment 1):

- Atlantic Spanish Mackerel ACL is increased to 6.063 million pounds (mp).
- Gulf Spanish Mackerel is increased to 12.7 million pounds in 2014-2015, and then to 11.8 million pounds in 2015-2016, and 11.3 million pounds in 2016-2017 and subsequent years.

Effective March 1, 2015 (Amendment 20B):

- Separate commercial quotas of Atlantic Spanish mackerel for a Northern Zone (north of NC/SC line) and Southern Zone (south of NC/SC line)

POTENTIAL UPCOMING CHANGE → CMP Framework Amendment 2 (under NMFS review)

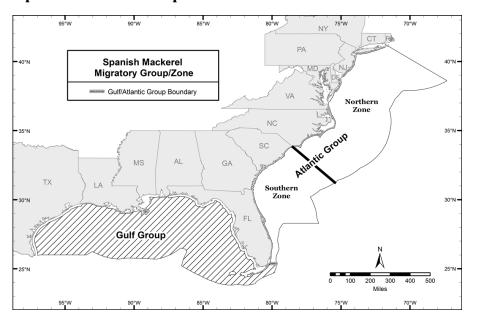
- Atlantic Spanish mackerel trip limits: proposes to establish a trip limit of 3,500 lbs for the Southern Zone (SC/GA/FL).
 - → When 75% of adjusted Southern Zone quota is met or projected to be met, the trip limit would be reduced to 1,500 lbs.
 - → When 100% of adjusted Southern Zone quota is met or projected to be met, the trip limit is reduced to 500 lbs until the end of the fishing year or until the Southern Zone commercial quota is met or projected to be met, at which time the commercial sector in the Southern Zone would be closed to harvest of Spanish mackerel.

Trip Limit Summary:

Atlantic Spanish Mackerel	Mar 1 – Nov 30	Dec 1 – Feb 28
North of GA/FL line (through Mid-Atlantic)	3,500 lbs	
South of GA/FL line through Dade/Monroe	3,500 lbs	 Unlimited on weekdays and 1,500 lbs on weekends. When 75% of the adjusted quota is met, set at 1,500 lbs every day. When 100% of the adjusted quota is met, reduced to 500 lbs.



Spanish Mackerel Map:



MAP 1
Fixed boundary between Atlantic and Gulf migratory groups of Spanish mackerel, with the Northern and Southern Zones in the Atlantic Group.

Cobia

Effective August 7, 2014 (Generic Dealer Amendment):

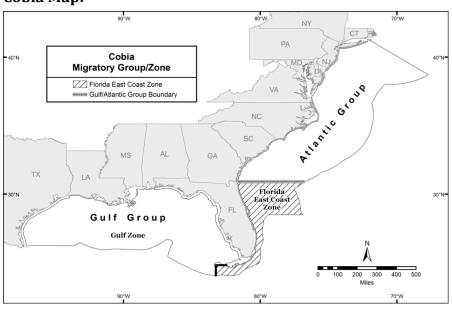
- Must sell to federally permitted dealer; weekly dealer reporting requirements



Effective March 1, 2015 (Amendment 20B):

- Establish a Florida East Coast quota for cobia; updated ACLs for cobia.

Cobia Map:



MAP 1
Fixed boundary between Atlantic and Gulf migratory groups of cobia, with the Florida East Coast zone established in Amendment 20B.

Links to Recent Amendments:

Amendment 20A

- NMFS page: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable-fisheries/gulf-sa/cmp/2014/am20a/index.html
- Fishery Bulletin: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/fishery bulletins/documents/pdfs/2014/fb14-042 cmp am20a final rule.pdf

Generic Dealer Amendment

- NMFS page:

http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable fisheries/gulf sa/generic/2013/dealer reporting/index.html

- Fishery Bulletin: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/fishery bulletins/documents/pdfs/2014/fb14-048 dealer permit requirements.pdf

CMP Framework Action 2013

- NMFS page: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable-fisheries/gulf-sa/cmp/2014/sa-framework/index.html
- Fishery Bulletin: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/fishery bulletins/documents/pdfs/2014/fb14-087 cmp framework fr.pdf

CMP Framework Amendment 1

- NMFS page: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable fisheries/gulf sa/cmp/2014/framework am1/index.html
- Fishery Bulletin: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/fishery-bulletins/documents/pdfs/2014/fb14-088 cmp framework1 sm fr.pdf

Amendment 20B

- NMFS page: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_sa/cmp/2014/am20b/index.html
- Fishery Bulletin: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/fishery-bulletins/documents/pdfs/2015/fb15-010 king spanish cobia small entity compliance.pdf

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