



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert Mahood, Executive Director
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

FROM: Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator

SUBJECT: Preliminary 2011-2012 Commercial Landings

The Southeast Fisheries Science Center has provided the following **preliminary landings estimates** for species in the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's area of jurisdiction subject to quota management through December 31, 2011, and includes electronically reported landings through February 7, 2011, updated on February 7, 2011.

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Preliminary 2011 – 2012 Commercial South Atlantic Landings

| Species | Fishing Season | Current Landings (lb) | Quota (lb) | Quota (%) | Date Closed 2012 | Date Closed 2011 |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Atlantic Group king mackerel | 03/01/11 – 02/28/12 | 1,934,245 ^a | 3,710,000 | 52.14 | | |
| Atlantic Group Spanish mackerel | 03/01/11 – 02/28/12 | 2,695,237 ^a | 3,870,000 | 74.45 ^b | | |
| Gulf king mackerel – Eastern Zone – East coast subzone | 11/01/12 – 12/31/13 | 720,908 | 1,040,625 | 69.28 | | February 26 |
| Snowy grouper | 01/01/12 – 12/31/12 | 1,199 | 82,900 | 1.45 | | |
| Golden tilefish | 01/01/12 – 12/31/12 | 124,992 | 282,819 | 44.20 ^c | February 17 | March 9 |
| Greater amberjack | 05/01/11 – 04/31/12 | 689,068 | 1,169,931 | 58.90 | | |
| Black sea bass | 06/01/11 – 05/31/12 | 391,111 | 309,000 | 126.57 ^d | | July 15 |
| Vermilion snapper | 01/01/12 – 06/30/12 | 140,921 | 315,523 | 44.66 | | March 10 |
| | 07/01/12 – 12/31/12 | - | 302,523 | - | | September 30 |
| Red porgy | 01/01/12 – 12/31/12 | 283 | 190,050 | 0.15 | | |
| Gag | 01/01/12 – 12/31/12 | 1,560 | 352,940 | 0.44 | | |
| Aggregate Grouper ^e | 01/01/12 – 12/31/12 | 1,944 | 662,403 | 0.29 | | |
| Wreckfish | 04/16/11 – 04/15/12 | † | 2,000,000 | † | | |
| Dolphin | 01/01/11 – 12/31/11 | 590,662 | 1,500,000 ^g | 39.38 | | |
| Octocoral | 01/01/11 – 12/31/11 | Atlantic: 1,954 Gulf: 1,721 | 50,000 ^h | 7.35 | | |

a. Atlantic king and Spanish mackerel data includes preliminary landings through January 31, 2012, with electronic reporting through February 7, 2012.

b. Atlantic Spanish mackerel quota (%) is based on the adjusted quota of 3,620,000 lbs.

c. Based on projections from the Southeast Fishery Science Center indicating the trip limit reduction for golden tilefish was surpassed, the fishery will close on February 17, 2012.

d. Commercial fishing for black sea bass closed on July 15, 2011.

e. Amendment 17B established an aggregate quota for gag, black grouper, and red grouper of 662,403 lbs gutted weight.

f. Confidential landings.

g. The Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan established a 1.5 million-pound cap for the dolphin commercial fishery for both northeast and southern Atlantic regions. During January 1 through December 9, 2011, 39.38% of the 1.5 million-pound cap was landed (590,662 pounds).

h. Octocoral landings are reported twice a year with final landings reported by May of the next year; therefore, these are the total landings for both Atlantic (57 trips) and Gulf (53 trips) in federal waters for 2011, reported in number of colonies.