



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505
<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

F/SER29:CMH

Robert K. Mahood, Executive Director
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
4055 Faber Place Drive Suite 201
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405

MAY 29 2015

RE: Preliminary 2015 Commercial Landings

Boy
Dear Mr. ~~Mahood~~:

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 annual catch limits, which include electronically-reported landings through May 7, 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ry".

Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator



Preliminary 2015 Commercial South Atlantic Landings

Species Complex	Fishing Year	Date Landings Available Through	Current Landings Pounds (lb)	ACL (lb)	Units	ACL (%)	Current Status	Date Closed 2015
Atlantic spadefish	January 1 - December 31	7-May-15	739	35,108	ww	2.10	OPEN	
Bar jack			1,438	5,265	ww	27.31	OPEN	
Black grouper ^(a)			4,943	96,844	ww	5.10	OPEN	
Black sea bass ^(b)			104,963	780,020	ww	13.46	OPEN	
Blueline tilefish ^(c)			107,723	17,841 ^(d)	ww	603.79	CLOSED	04/07/15
Cobia			29,857	125,712	ww	23.75	OPEN	
Deep-water complex ^(e)			65,249	131,634	ww	49.57	OPEN	
Dolphin			183,591	1,157,001	ww	15.87	OPEN	
Gag ^(a)			3,802	326,722	gw	1.16	OPEN	
Golden crab			203,870	2,000,000	ww	10.19	OPEN	
Golden tilefish (Hook-n-Line)			90,260	135,324	gw	66.70	OPEN	
Golden tilefish (Longline)			388,885	405,971	gw	95.79	CLOSED	02/19/15
Goliath grouper			-	0	ww	-	CLOSED	-
Gray triggerfish			246,892	272,880	ww	90.48	CLOSED	05/08/15
Grunts ^(f)			22,954	218,539	ww	10.50	OPEN	
Hogfish			5,001	49,469	ww	10.11	OPEN	
Jacks ^(g)			102,007	189,422	ww	53.85	OPEN	
Mutton snapper ^(h)			32,787	157,743	ww	20.79	OPEN	
Nassau grouper			-	0	ww	-	CLOSED	-
Porgies ⁽ⁱ⁾			20,933	36,348	ww	57.59	OPEN	
Red grouper ^(a)			1,258	343,200	ww	0.37	OPEN	
Red porgy ^(a)			2,349	164,000	ww	1.43	OPEN	
Red snapper			0	TBD	gw	0.00	CLOSED	
Scamp ^(a)			668	333,100	ww	0.20	OPEN	
Shallow water grouper ^{(a) (j)}			250	49,776	ww	0.50	OPEN	
Snappers ^(k)			24,629	215,662	ww	11.42	OPEN	
Snowy grouper			63,663	82,900	gw	76.79	OPEN	
Speckled hind			-	0	ww	-	OPEN	-
Wahoo			13,665	70,542	ww	19.37	OPEN	
Warsaw grouper			-	0	ww	-	OPEN	-
Yellowtail snapper	669,591	1,596,510	ww	41.94	OPEN			
Atlantic spadefish	739	35,108	ww	2.10	OPEN			

(lb = Pounds, ww = whole weight, gw = gutted weight)

(a) Commercial harvest is prohibited during January 1-April 30 of each year.

(b) The use of black sea bass pots is prohibited annually from November 1 through April 30.

(c) NOAA Fisheries has removed blueline tilefish from the Deep-water Complex. This rule became effective on March 30, 2015. Additionally, there is now a trip limit of 100 lbs gutted weight for commercial harvest of blueline tilefish.

(d) The 2015 landings of blueline tilefish represent 95.81% of the previous ACL of 112,207 lbs ww.

(e) Deepwater Complex: yellowedge grouper, silk snapper, misty grouper, queen snapper, sand tilefish, black snapper, blackfin snapper

(f) Grunts: White grunt, margate, sailor's choice, tomtate

(g) Jacks: Almaco jack, banded rudderfish, lesser amberjack

(h) During May and June, possession limited to 10 per person per day or per trip, whichever is more restrictive.

(i) Porgies: Jolthead, knobbed, saucereye, whitebone, scup

(j) Shallow Water Grouper: Red hind, rock hind, coney, graysby, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper

(k) Snappers: Gray, lane, cubera, dog, mahogany

Preliminary 2014 – 2015 Commercial South Atlantic Landings

Species Complex	Fishing Year	Date Landings Available Through	Current Landings (lb)	ACL (lb)	Units	ACL (%)	Current Status	Date Closed
Greater amberjack ^(a)	March 1, 2015 – February 28, 2016	May 7, 2015	131,982	769,388	gw	17.15	OPEN	
Vermilion snapper ^(b)	January 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015	May 7, 2015	448,226	438,260	ww	102.27	CLOSED	04/15/15
	July 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015	n/a	n/a	438,260		n/a		
Wreckfish	April 16, 2014 – January 14, 2015	confidential landings	confidential landings	223,250	ww	confidential landings	OPEN	
King mackerel	March 1, 2015 - February 28, 2016	May 7, 2015	180,086	3,880,000	ww	4.64	OPEN	
Spanish mackerel			202,389	3,330,000	ww	6.08	OPEN	
				2,880,000 ^(c)	ww	7.03		

(a) Commercial harvest of greater amberjack is prohibited during April.

(b) Any remaining quota from the Jan-June vermilion snapper ACL is rolled over into the July-Dec quota.

(c) The adjusted quota is used to determine trip limit reductions. At 75% of the adjusted quota (2,880,000 lbs ww), the trip limit is reduced to 1,500 lbs. At 100% of the adjusted quota, the trip limit is reduced to 500 lbs.