

NOAA FISHERIES

Southeast Regional Office

Part 622 Regulation Reorganization

Summary Presentation to Councils



Part 622 Regulation Reorganization

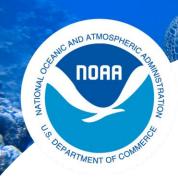
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Currently:

- 50 CFR Part 622 contains Federal regulations for the Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic.
- 50 CFR Part 640 contains Federal regulations for the Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic.

These regulations are primarily organized by fishery management measure; such as size limits, bag limits, and closures.



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- The Southeast Regional Office is currently in the process of reorganizing the regulations.
- This reorganization will reorganize the Part 622 regulations by fishery, for example the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery, the South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper Fishery, and the Caribbean Reef Fish Fishery.
- The Part 640 Spiny Lobster regulations will be combined into the reorganized Part 622 regulations.
- The regulations are being reorganized in a more cohesive, less complex, and more focused manner. This will allow for greater ease of reference to all users, particularly the public.



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- In the spring of 2013, NOAA Fisheries will publish in the <u>Federal</u> Register an Interim Final Rule for the reorganization. This interim final rule will be effective upon publication and comments will be solicited from the public for 30 days on the overall approach.
- After the public comment period, NOAA Fisheries will publish in the <u>Federal Register</u> a Final Rule making the reorganization effective permanently.
- The actual regulations themselves will not be changing through these rulemakings, only the specific format and organization of the Southeast Region's regulations.

