



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 2012-2013 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 annual catch limits (ACLs), which includes electronically reported landings through May 31, 2012. This report reflects new quotas for king mackerel and Spanish mackerel implemented through Amendment 18 to the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Region. The report also reflects the new quotas established through the Comprehensive ACL Amendment.



Preliminary 2012 Commercial South Atlantic Landings (Fishing year January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012)

| Species Complex | Fishing Year | Current Landings (lb) | ACL or Quota (lb) | Units | Quota (%) | Date Closed 2012 | Date Closed 2011 |
|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Aggregate grouper* | | 57,240 | 662,403 | gw | 8.64 | | |
| Atlantic spadefish | | ** | 36,476 | ww | | | |
| Bar Jack | | ** | 6,686 | ww | | | |
| Black Grouper | | 5,083 | 90,575 | ww | 5.61 | | |
| Blue runner | | ** | 188,329 | ww | | | |
| Cobia | | 40,729 | 125,712 | ww | 32.40 | | |
| Deepwater complex* | | 105,192 | 343,869 | ww | 30.59 | | |
| Dolphin | | 108,392 | 1,065,524 | ww | 10.17 | | |
| Gag | | 35,626 | 352,940 | gw | 10.09 | | |
| Golden crab | | ** | 2,000,000 | ww | | | |
| Golden tilefish | | 398,386 | 282,819 | gw | 140.86 ^a | 17-Feb | 9-Mar |
| Goliath grouper | | | 0 | ww | | | |
| Gray triggerfish | | 168,703 | 305,262 | ww | 55.26 | | |
| Grunts* | | 23,556 | 214,624 | ww | 10.98 | | |
| Hogfish | | 3,266 | 48,772 | ww | 6.70 | | |
| Jacks* | | 162,809 | 193,999 | ww | 83.92 | | |
| Mutton snapper | | 15,294 | 157,743 | ww | 9.70 | | |
| Nassau grouper | | | 0 | ww | | | |
| Porgies* | | 13,442 | 35,129 | ww | 38.26 | | |
| Red Porgy | | 7,709 | 190,050 | gw | 4.06 | | |
| Red Snapper | | | 0 | gw | | | |
| Scamp | | 12,037 | 341,636 | ww | 3.52 | | |
| Shallow water grouper* | | 930 | 49,488 | ww | 1.88 | | |
| Snappers* | | 9,767 | 204,552 | ww | 4.77 | | |
| Snowy grouper | | 11,773 | 82,900 | gw | 14.20 | | |
| Speckled hind | | | 0 | ww | | | |
| Wahoo | | 14,552 | 64,147 | ww | 22.69 | | |
| Warsaw grouper | | | 0 | ww | | | |
| Yellowtail snapper | | 398,099 | 1,142,589 | ww | 34.84 | | |

***Indicates data not yet available.

a. Based on projections from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center indicating the trip limit reduction for golden tilefish was surpassed, commercial harvest closed on February 17, 2012.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Aggregate grouper* | Black, Red, and Gag grouper |
| Deepwater complex* | Yellowedge grouper, bluefin tilefish, silk snapper, misty grouper, queen snapper, sand tilefish, black snapper, blackfin snapper |
| Grunts* | White grunt, margate, sailor's choice, tomtate |
| Jacks* | Almaco jack, banded rudderfish, lesser amberjack |
| Porgies* | Jolthead, knobbed, saucereye, whitebone, scup |
| Shallow water grouper* | Red hind, rock hind, coney, graysby, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper |
| Snappers* | Gray, lane, cubera, dog, mahogany |

Preliminary 2012 – 2013 Commercial South Atlantic Landings (continued)

| Species Complex | Fishing Year | Current Landings (lb) | ACL or Quota (lb) | Units | Quota (%) | Date Closed 2012 | Date Closed 2011 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Black Sea Bass ^b | 07/01/12 – 05/31/13 | ** | 309,000 | gw | ** | | 15-Jul |
| Greater amberjack | 05/01/12 – 04/31/13 | 104,929 | 800,163 | ww | 13.11 | | |
| Vermilion snapper | 01/01/12 – 06/30/12 | 382,136 | 315,523 | gw | 121.11 ^c | 29-Feb | 10-Mar |
| | 07/01/12 – 12/31/12 | - | 302,523 | | - | | 30-Sep |
| Wreckfish | 04/16/12 – 04/15/13 | ^d | 223,250 | ww | ^d | | |
| King Mackerel | 3/1/2012 - 2/28/2013 | 73,579 ^e | 3,880,000 | ww | 1.90 | | |
| Spanish Mackerel | | 362,556 ^e | 3,130,000 | ww | 11.58 ^f | | |

**Indicates data not yet available

b. Commercial harvest of black sea bass will open on July 1, 2012, rather than June 1.

c. Commercial harvest of vermilion snapper closed on February 29, 2012.

d. Confidential landings.

e. Atlantic king and Spanish mackerel data includes preliminary landings through May 4, 2012.

f. Atlantic Spanish mackerel quota (%) listed is based on the 3,130,000-lb quota. Based on the adjusted quota of 2,880,000 lbs, the quota % is 12.59%.