



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:

for

Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator

James E. Weaver

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 November 15, 2011, and includes electronically reported landings through November 22, 2011, updated on November 22, 2011.



Preliminary 2010 – 2012 Commercial South Atlantic Landings

Species	Fishing Season	Current Landings (lb)	Quota (lb)	Quota (%)	Date Closed 2011	Date Closed 2010
Atlantic Group king mackerel	03/01/11 – 02/28/12	1,675,946 ^a	3,710,000	45.17		
Atlantic Group Spanish mackerel	03/01/11 – 02/28/12	1,695,982 ^a	3,870,000	46.85 ^b		
Gulf king mackerel – Eastern Zone – East coast subzone	11/01/11 – 12/31/12	0	1,040,625	0	February 26 ^c	February 4
Snowy grouper	01/01/11 – 12/31/11	34,583	82,900	41.72		
Golden tilefish	01/01/11 – 12/31/11	361,437	282,819	127.80 ^d	March 9	April 12
Greater amberjack	05/01/11 – 04/31/12	574,686	1,169,931	49.12		
Black sea bass	06/01/11 – 05/31/12	342,361	309,000	110.80 ^e	July 15	October 6
Vermilion snapper	01/01/11 – 06/30/11	311,522	315,523	98.73	March 10 ^f	March 19
	07/01/11 – 12/31/12	546,981	302,523	180.81	September 30 ^g	October 7
Red porgy	01/01/11 – 12/31/11	140,511	190,050	73.93		
Gag	01/01/11 – 12/31/11	262,993	352,940	74.51		
Aggregate Grouper ^h	01/01/11 – 12/31/11	474,603	662,403	71.65		
Wreckfish	04/16/11 – 04/15/12	ⁱ	2,000,000	ⁱ		
Dolphin	01/01/11 – 12/31/11	377,177	1,500,000 ^j	25.15		
Octocoral	01/01/11 – 12/31/12	Atlantic: 1,954	50,000 ^k	7.35		
		Gulf: 1,721				

a. Atlantic king and Spanish mackerel data includes preliminary landings through October 31, 2011, with electronic reporting through November 15, 2011.

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

c. The Gulf king mackerel Eastern Zone-East Coast subzone closed to harvest on February 26, 2011.

d. The trip limit reduction for golden tilefish was surpassed, and the fishery closed on March 9, 2011.

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

f. Commercial fishing for vermilion snapper closed on March 10, 2011. Commercial fishing reopened May 1-8, 2011, to meet the remaining portion of the quota.

g. Commercial harvest of vermilion snapper closed on September 30, 2011.

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

i. Confidential landings.

j. 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 September 9, 2011, 25.15% of the 1.5 million-pound cap was landed (377,177 pounds).

k. 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.