

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office 263 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505 (727) 824-5305; FAX (727) 824-5308 http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov

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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 2009-2010 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 May 31, 2010.

Species	Fishing Year	Current Landings (lb)	Quota (lb)	Quota (%)
Atlantic Group king mackerel	03/01/10 - 02/28/11	711,606 <sup>a</sup>	3,710,000	19.18
Atlantic Group Spanish mackerel	03/01/10 - 02/28/11	448,840 <sup>a</sup>	3,870,000	12.40 <sup>b</sup>
Gulf king mackerel – Eastern Zone-East Coast subzone	11/01/09 - 03/31/10	1,085,862	1,040,625	104.35°
Snowy grouper	01/01/10 - 12/31/10	26,825	82,900	32.36
Golden tilefish	01/01/10 - 12/31/10	333,241	295,000	112.96 <sup>d</sup>
Greater amberjack	05/01/09 - 04/30/10	747,902	1,169,931	63.93
Black sea bass	06/01/09 - 05/31/10	298,286	309,000	96.53 <sup>e</sup>
Vermilion snapper	01/01/10 - 06/30/10	322,259	315,523	102.13 <sup>f</sup>
Red porgy	01/01/10 - 12/31/10	8,140	190,050	4.28
Gag	01/01/10 - 12/31/10	35,213	352,940	9.98
Wreckfish	04/16/10 - 04/15/11	g	2,000,000	g
Dolphin	01/01/10 - 12/31/10	73,711	1,500,000 <sup>h</sup>	4.91
Octocoral	01/01/09 - 12/31/09	Atlantic: 3,509 Gulf: 3,863	50,000 <sup>i</sup>	14.74

Atlantic king and Spanish mackerel data includes preliminary landings through May 15, 2010.

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

The commercial fishery for black sea bass closed on December 20, 2009.

Vermilion snapper closed on March 19, 2010.

Confidential landings.

Given the early closure on the Gulf king mackerel Eastern Zone-East Coast subzone on February 4, 2010, the National Marine Fisheries Service reopened the fishery from March 3-7, 2010.

d. The trip limit for golden tilefish was reduced to 300 lbs gutted weight on March 18, 2010, and the fishery closed on April 12, 2010.

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 May 31, 2010, 4.91% of the 1.5 million-pound cap was landed (73,711 pounds)

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 (81 trips) and Gulf (110 trips) in federal waters for 2009, reported in number of colonies.