

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 622 is proposed to be amended as follows:

**PART 622--FISHERIES OF THE CARIBBEAN, GULF OF MEXICO, AND SOUTH ATLANTIC**

1. The authority citation for part 622 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

2. In § 622.183, revise paragraph (b)(5)(i) and remove paragraph (b)(5)(iii) to read as follows:

**§ 622.183 Area and seasonal closures.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) \* \* \*

(5) \* \* \*

(i) The commercial and recreational sectors for red snapper are closed (*i.e.*, red snapper may not be harvested or possessed, or sold or purchased) in or from the South Atlantic EEZ, except as specified in § 622.193(y). The commercial season will begin annually on May 1, unless otherwise specified. See § 622.193(y), for establishing the end date of the commercial fishing season. NMFS will announce the recreational season opening date in the **Federal Register**. The recreational fishing season, which

**Commented [SS1]:** Action 1, Preferred Alternative 2. Removes the 3 days or less criteria.

**Commented [SS2]:** Seasonal closures

**Commented [SS3]:** Closures of the commercial and recreational sectors for red snapper

**Commented [SS4]:** Action 2, Preferred Alternative 2. Commercial sector May 1 opening.

**Commented [SS5]:** Since we'll now have a specific date, May 1, codified through Reg 33, there is no need to have a commercial season opening notice in the Federal Register.

NMFS will still do a notice to announce the rec sector opening since we do not have a specific recurring calendar date in the regs.

consists of weekends only (Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays) begins on the second Friday in July, unless otherwise specified. NMFS will project the length of the recreational fishing season and announce the recreational fishing season end date in the **Federal Register**.

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**Commented [SS6]:** Note that the tropical storm/hurricane conditions text in (b)(5)(ii) remains unchanged in this text and Reg 33.