



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karla Gore or Karla.Gore@noaa.gov
727-824-5305, FAX 727-824-5308

May 18, 2010
FB10-041

NOAA Fisheries Service Announces Extension to Red Snapper Interim Rule in the South Atlantic

NOAA Fisheries Service published an extension to the interim rule which continues the current prohibition on commercial and recreational harvest of red snapper in the South Atlantic. The interim rule became effective on January 4, 2010, and remains effective through June 2, 2010. The extension to the interim rule which published in the *Federal Register* on May 18, 2010, will be effective on June 3, 2010, through December 5, 2010.

The extension to the interim rule will continue the current prohibition on recreational and commercial harvest of red snapper for 186 days off Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia. However, provisions specified in the interim rule would also apply to a person on board a vessel for which a federal commercial or charter/headboat permit for the South Atlantic snapper-grouper fishery has been issued, regardless of whether the fish are harvested or possessed in state or federal waters.

The extension to the interim rule is needed to reduce overfishing of red snapper while longer-term measures to end overfishing of this species can be developed in Amendment 17A to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region.

Addresses

Electronic copies of the interim rule or the Environmental Assessment may be obtained from the e-Rulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Web site at <http://www.safmc.net>, or:

NOAA Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office
Sustainable Fisheries Division
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- Electronic Submissions: Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments received are part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. All personal identifying information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. NOAA Fisheries Service will accept anonymous comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only. Comments received through means not specified in this bulletin or the proposed rule may not be considered.
- Mail: Karla Gore
NOAA Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office
Sustainable Fisheries Division
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
- Fax: 727-824-5308, Attention: Karla Gore

How Can We Improve These Fishery Bulletins?

If you have any suggestions on how we may improve the contents of future fishery bulletins, please contact: Kim Amendola, Communications Specialist
Phone: 727-551-5707, FAX: 727-824-5320

If you would like to receive these fishery bulletins via e-mail as soon as they are published, please e-mail: sero.communications.comments@noaa.gov.