

South Atlantic Historical Recreational Landings and Annual Catch Limits

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This page provides only a summary of the information regarding the existing regulations. Any discrepancies between this information and the regulations as published in the *Federal Register* will be resolved in favor of the *Federal Register*.

There are no seasonal closures unless otherwise noted. For a list of current seasonal closures, see the [South Atlantic Seasonal Closures page](#).

Goliath Grouper, Nassau Grouper, Speckled Hind, and Warsaw Grouper are closed to harvest.

Definitions:

ACL = Annual Catch Limit

ww = whole weight; gw = gutted weight

NA = not applicable

Species and species groups are listed below in alphabetical order.

Atlantic Spadefish							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	136,301	ww	661,926	20.6		MRIP
2016		27,591		661,926	4.2		MRIP
2015		225,861		661,926	34.1		MRIP
2014		702,011		154,352	454.8		MRIP
2013		53,878		154,352	34.9		MRIP
2012		187,106		246,365	75.9		MRFSS

Bar Jack							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	9,756	ww	49,021	19.9		MRIP
2016		2,005		49,021	4.1		MRIP
2015		4,612		49,021	9.4		MRIP
2014		1,979		19,515	10.1		MRIP
2013		2,209		19,515	11.3		MRIP
2012		2,559		13,834	18.5		MRFSS

Black Grouper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30	86,454	ww	165,750	52.2		MRFSS
2016			116,547		165,750	70.3		MRFSS
2015			128,557		165,750	77.6		MRFSS
2014			57,031		165,750	34.4		MRFSS
2013			99,096		161,859	61.2		MRFSS
2012			147,446		155,020	95.1		MRFSS

*Black grouper was managed as a part of the Black, Gag, and Red Grouper Aggregate during 2011 and 2010.

Black, Gag, and Red Grouper Aggregate							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2011	Jan 1 - Dec 31	308,215	gw	648,663	47.5		MRFSS
2010		293,564		648,663	45.3		MRFSS

*In 2012, these species were removed from an aggregate ACL and are managed under a species-specific ACL.

Black Sea Bass							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017 - 2018	Apr 1 - Mar 31	246,889	ww	1,001,177	24.7		MRIP
2016 - 2017		329,455		1,001,177	32.9		MRIP
2015 - 2016		377,239		1,033,980	36.5		MRIP
2014 - 2015	Jun 1 - May 31*	406,826	ww	1,033,980	39.3		MRIP
2013 - 2014		585,357		1,033,980	56.6		MRIP
2012 - 2013		428,786		409,000	104.8		MRFSS
2011 - 2012		491,677		341,747	143.9	10/17/11	MRFSS
2010 - 2011		485,663		409,000	118.7	2/11/11	MRFSS

*The 2014-2015 fishing year only includes landings through March 31.

Blueline Tilefish

Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Sept 1 - Apr 30	153,959	ww	87,277	176.4		MRIP
2016			172,286		87,277	197.4		MRIP
2015			45,323		17,791	254.8	6/10/15	MRIP
2014			95,712		111,893	85.5		MRIP

*Prior to 2014, blueline tilefish was managed as part of the deepwater complex.

Cobia (NY to GA)

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	479,352	as reported	620,000	77.3	1/24/2017	MRIP
2016		1,336,531		620,000	215.6	6/20/16	MRIP
2015		1,565,186		630,000	248.4		MRIP

Cobia

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2014	Jan 1 - Dec 31	1,179,031	ww	1,445,687	81.6		MRFSS
2013		1,142,947		1,445,687	79.1		MRFSS
2012		1,058,582		1,445,687	73.2		MRFSS

*Beginning in 2015, cobia is now managed by regional ACLs for NY to GA (table above) and East Coast FL ([Gulf Recreational Pages](#)).

Deepwater Complex

Deepwater Complex: Yellowedge grouper, blueline tilefish, silk snapper, misty grouper, queen snapper, sand tilefish, blackfin snapper

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	20,674	ww	38,628	53.5		MRIP
2016*		17,494		38,628	45.3		MRIP
2015		16,271		38,644	42.1		MRIP
2014**		14,489		19,313	75.0		MRIP
2013		325,129		334,556	97.2		MRIP
2012		107,849		332,039	32.5		MRFSS

*Black snapper was removed from the complex beginning June 22, 2016.

**Blueline tilefish was removed from the complex beginning January 1, 2014 and is now managed under a species-specific ACL.

Dolphin

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	3,830,337	ww	13,810,361	27.7		MRIP
2016		6,301,326		13,810,361	45.6		MRIP
2015		7,586,553		14,187,845	53.5		MRIP
2014		5,227,644		14,187,845	36.8		MRIP
2013		5,136,067		13,530,692	38.0		MRFSS
2012		6,108,460		13,530,692	45.1		MRFSS

Gag

Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30	114,117	gw	331,902	34.4		MRIP
2016			151,456		312,351	48.5		MRIP
2015			58,348		310,023	18.8		MRIP
2014			169,447		340,060	49.8		MRFSS
2013			78,472		340,060	23.1		MRFSS
2012			177,097		340,060	52.1		MRFSS
2011			169,854		340,060	49.9		MRFSS
2010			171,841		340,060	50.5		MRFSS

Golden Tilefish

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	1746	number of fish	3019	57.8		MRFSS
2016		13,010		3,019	430.9	8/27/16	MRFSS
2015		3,595		3,019	119.1	8/11/15	MRFSS
2014		1,357		3,019	44.9	6/7/14	MRFSS
2013		4,143		3,019	137.2	6/3/13	MRFSS
2012		3,627		3,019	120.1		MRFSS
2011		9,863		1,578	625.0	10/6/11	MRFSS
2010		4,383		1,578	277.8		MRFSS

Gray Triggerfish

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	448,996	ww	404,675	111.0		MRIP
2016		393,302		404,675	97.2		MRIP
2015		354,237		404,675	87.5		MRIP
2014		431,516		353,638	122.0		MRIP
2013		373,983		353,638	105.8		MRIP
2012		383,466		367,303	104.4		MRFSS

Greater Amberjack

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017 - 2018	Mar 1 - Feb 28/29	1,216,881	ww	1,167,837	104.2	10/31/17	MRFSS
2016 - 2017		1,226,054		1,167,837	105.0	11/30/16	MRFSS
2015 - 2016		1,207,355		1,167,837	103.4		MRFSS
2014 - 2015	May 1 - Apr 30*	865,799		1,167,837	74.1		MRFSS
2013 - 2014		811,879		1,167,837	69.5		MRFSS
2012 - 2013		1,410,340		1,167,837	120.8		MRFSS

*The 2014-2015 fishing year only included landings through Feb 28, 2015.

Grunts

Grunts: White grunt, margate, sailor's choice, tomtate

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	396,421	ww	618,122	64.1		MRIP
2016		420,847		618,122	68.1		MRIP
2015		282,552		618,122	45.7		MRIP
2014		354,543		588,113	60.3		MRIP
2013		359,382		588,113	61.1		MRIP
2012		408,318		562,151	72.6		MRFSS

Hogfish Northern Zone - NC - GA

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	580	numbers	988	58.7		MRIP

*Starting in 2017, Hogfish are managed with regional annual catch limits for Florida Keys through East Florida and New York through Georgia.

Hogfish Southern Zone - FLK - EFL

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	31,104	numbers	15,689	198.3	8/24/17	MRIP

*Starting in 2017, Hogfish are managed with regional annual catch limits for Florida Keys through East Florida and New York through Georgia.

Hogfish

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	119,388	ww	85,355	139.9	11/30/16	MRIP
2015		291,765		85,355	341.8	8/24/15	MRIP
2014		111,803		85,355	131.0		MRIP
2013		65,085		85,355	76.3		MRIP
2012		103,610		98,866	104.8		MRFSS

*Starting in 2017, Hogfish are managed with regional annual catch limits for Florida Keys through East Florida and New York through Georgia.

Jacks

Jacks: Almaco jack, banded rudderfish, lesser amberjack

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	249,367	ww	267,799	93.1		MRIP
2016		247,571		267,799	92.4	8/9/16; Reopened 12/2/16	MRIP
2015		125,212		267,799	46.8		MRIP
2014		226,004		267,799	84.4		MRIP
2013		160,988		267,799	60.1		MRIP
2012		241,372		261,490	92.3		MRFSS

King Mackerel							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017 - 2018	Mar 1 - Feb 28/29	1,959,393	ww	9,900,000	19.8		MRFSS
2016 - 2017		2,191,324		6,580,000	33.3		MRFSS
2015 - 2016		1,070,319		6,580,000	16.3		MRFSS
2014 - 2015		1,303,837		6,580,000	19.8		MRFSS
2013 - 2014		1,004,441		6,580,000	15.3		MRFSS
2012 - 2013		1,719,199		6,580,000	26.1		MRFSS

Mutton Snapper							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	494,566	ww	768,857	64.3		MRFSS
2016		608,480		768,857	79.1		MRFSS
2015		707,119		768,857	92.0		MRFSS
2014		518,320		768,857	67.4		MRFSS
2013		481,731		768,857	62.7		MRFSS
2012		470,028		768,857	61.1		MRFSS

Porgies							
Porgies: Jolthead, knobbed, saucereye, whitebone, scup							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	70,671	ww	106,914	66.1		MRIP
2016		140,105		106,914	131.0	9/3/16	MRIP
2015		111,577		106,914	104.4		MRIP
2014		128,231		106,914	119.9		MRIP
2013		117,293		106,914	109.7		MRIP
2012		125,641		112,485	111.7		MRFSS

Red Grouper							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	96,430	ww	436,800	22.1		MRFSS
2016		155,271		436,800	35.5		MRFSS
2015		128,213		436,800	29.4		MRFSS
2014		38,756		436,800	8.9		MRFSS
2013		87,123		402,080	21.7		MRFSS
2012		101,604		362,320	28.0		MRFSS

Red Porgy							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	78,573	ww	164,000	47.9		MRIP
2016		145,173		164,000	88.5		MRIP
2015		97,503		164,000	59.5		MRIP
2014		59,788		154,500	38.7		MRIP
2013		74,177		153,000	48.5		MRIP
2012		101,298		197,652	51.3		MRFSS

Red Snapper							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	14270	numbers of fish	29,656	48.1	*See FB17-061 and FB17-071 for more information	MRFSS
2016	Closed to Recreational Harvest					To view Report which projects 2016 season, and provides 2015 landings, season click here.	
2015	Closed to Recreational Harvest					To view Report which projects 2015 season, and provides 2015 landings click here.	
2014	Fishery Bulletin		numbers of fish	22,576	To view Report which projects 2014 season, and provides 2013 and 2012 landings click here.		
2013	Fishery Bulletin			9,585	To view Report which projects 2013 season, and provides 2012 and 2011 landings click here.		
2012	Fishery Bulletin			9,399			
2011	Closed to Recreational Harvest					NA	
2010	Closed to Recreational Harvest					NA	

Scamp								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30	96,196	ww	116,369	82.7		MRIP
2016			30,961		116,369	26.6		MRIP
2015			18,639		116,369	16.0		MRIP
2014			70,157		176,688	39.7		MRIP
2013			45,813		176,688	25.9		MRIP
2012			78,446		150,936	52.0		MRFSS

Shallow Water Grouper								
Shallow water grouper: Red hind, rock hind, coney, graysby, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30	6,540	ww	48,648	13.4		MRIP
2016			28,229		48,648	58.0		MRIP
2015			20,571		48,648	42.3		MRIP
2014			11,940		46,656	25.6		MRIP
2013			26,959		46,656	57.8		MRIP
2012			19,552		48,329	40.5		MRFSS

Snappers								
Snappers: Gray, lane, cubera snapper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31		1,015,638	ww	1,169,308	86.9		MRIP
2016*			1,053,214		1,169,308	90.1		MRIP
2015			558,583		1,172,832	47.6		MRIP
2014			830,700		728,577	114.0		MRIP
2013			803,450		728,577	110.3		MRIP
2012			428,982		882,388	48.6		MRFSS

*Dog and mahogany snapper were part of the Snappers complex until June 22, 2016. Landings of these species are included in reports prior to their removal.

Snowy Grouper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30; Sept 1 - Dec 31	1,834	number of fish	4,819	38.1		MRIP
2016			9,746		4,483	217.4		MRIP
2015			1,621		4,152	39.0	9/1/15	MRIP
2014			1,214		523	232.1	6/7/14	MRFSS
2013			2,048		523	391.6	5/31/13	MRFSS
2012			2,065		523	394.8		MRFSS
2011			151		523	28.9		MRFSS
2010			2,065		523	394.8		MRFSS

Spanish Mackerel								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017 - 2018	Mar 1 - Feb 28/29		726,865	ww	2,727,000	26.7		MRIP
2016 - 2017			972,161		2,727,000	35.6		MRIP
2015 - 2016			814,094		2,727,000	29.9		MRIP
2014 - 2015			1,019,629		2,727,000	37.4		MRFSS
2013 - 2014			1,864,168		2,560,000	72.8		MRFSS
2012 - 2013			1,377,762		2,560,000	53.8		MRFSS

Vermilion Snapper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31		319,244	ww	406,080	78.6		MRIP
2016			366,063		406,080	90.1		MRIP
2015			331,570		412,480	80.4		MRIP
2014			406,070		419,840	96.7		MRIP
2013			221,959		439,040	50.6		MRIP
2012			194,499	307,315	63.3	gw		MRFSS
2011			197,652	307,315	64.3			MRFSS
2010			258,294	307,315	84.0			MRFSS

Wahoo							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	972,362	ww	1,724,418	56.4		MRIP
2016		1,570,951		1,724,418	91.1		MRIP
2015		1,023,882		1,724,418	59.4		MRIP
2014		656,871		1,724,418	38.1		MRIP
2013		378,612		1,427,638	26.5		MRFSS
2012		1,552,475		1,427,638	108.7		MRFSS

Wreckfish								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - June 30; Sep 1 -Dec 31	0	ww	20,710	0.0		MRIP
2016			0		21,185	0.0		MRIP
2015			0		21,650	0.0		MRIP
2014			0		11,750	0.0		MRFSS
2013			0		11,750	0.0		MRFSS
2012			964		11,750	8.2		MRFSS

Yellowtail Snapper							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2017-2018	Aug 1 - Jul 31	507,867	ww	1,440,990	35.2		MRFSS
2016-2017		681,806		1,440,990	47.3		MRFSS
2016*	Jan 1 - Dec 31	534,688		1,440,990	37.1		MRFSS
2015		791,157		1,440,990	54.9		MRFSS
2014		933,279		1,440,990	64.8		MRFSS
2013		666,029		1,440,990	46.2		MRFSS
2012		449,037		1,031,286	43.5		MRFSS

*The 2016 fishing year only included landings through July. The fishing season for yellowtail snapper was modified in Regulatory Amendment 25.