



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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

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NOAA Fisheries Service Announces New Regulations to Reduce Overfishing of Red Snapper in the South Atlantic

NOAA Fisheries Service filed and will publish a final rule implementing interim measures to reduce overfishing of red snapper in the South Atlantic. The final rule will publish in the *Federal Register* on December 4, 2009, and becomes effective January 4, 2010. The interim rule will be effective until June 2, 2010, and could be extended for another 186-day period.

The final rule establishes a prohibition on recreational and commercial harvest of red snapper for 180 days in federal waters off Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. 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.

Addresses

Electronic copies of the final interim rule or 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:

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How Can We Improve These Fishery Bulletins?

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