



# Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**SEASONAL PROHIBITION OF THE POSSESSION OF  
MUTTON AND LANE SNAPPER IN CARIBBEAN FEDERAL WATERS  
AT 12:01 A.M., LOCAL TIME, EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2007**

NOAA Fisheries Service reminds the public there is a seasonal prohibition on fishing for or possession of mutton and lane snapper from 12:01 a.m., local time, April 1 through June 30 each year. Caribbean federal waters are those waters extending to 200 nautical miles offshore from the nine-mile seaward boundary of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the three-mile seaward boundary of the territory of the U. S. Virgin Islands.

This action complies with regulations implemented under Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U. S. Virgin Islands to address required provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and is necessary to protect these resources. The Caribbean Fishery Management Council, in cooperation with

NOAA Fisheries Service, developed the amendment.

The amendment also established other seasonal closures for various species. The following species may not be fished for or possessed during the time period identified below:

- (1) Red hind off the west coast of Puerto Rico (defined as those waters in the U.S. Caribbean exclusive economic zone west of 67° 10' W longitude): December 1 through February 28;
- (2) Red, black, tiger, yellowfin, and yellowedge grouper: February 1 through April 30; and
- (3) Black, blackfin, vermilion, and silk snapper: October 1 through December 31.