



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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

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KING MACKEREL TRIP LIMIT INCREASED TO 75 FISH PER DAY FOR COMMERCIAL HOOK-AND-LINE VESSELS FISHING IN THE FLORIDA EAST COAST SUBZONE

The daily vessel trip limit for the commercial fishery for Gulf group king mackerel in the Florida east coast subzone is **increased to 75 fish, effective 12:01 a.m. (local time) February 1, 2008.** The trip limit in federal waters is increased after NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service determines less than 75 percent of the subzone's 1,040,625-pound quota has been landed before February 1.

The 75-fish trip limit applies to vessels fishing for Gulf group king mackerel in or from the exclusive economic zone in the Florida east coast subzone. The 75-fish trip limit will remain in effect until the quota is reached and the fishery closes or until the end of the current fishing year (March 31, 2008), whichever occurs first.

From November 1 through March 31, the Florida east coast subzone is the part of the Gulf group king mackerel eastern zone between 25°20.4' N. lat. (a line directly east from the Miami-Dade/Monroe county line) and 29°25' N. lat. (a line directly east from the Volusia/Flagler county line).

There is no provision under the Florida Administrative Code authorizing the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to similarly increase the trip

limit in state waters. Therefore, the daily trip limit for king mackerel harvested in state waters off the east coast of Florida will remain at 50 fish.

How can we improve these fishery bulletins?

If you have any suggestions on how we may improve future fishery bulletins, please contact:

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If you would like to receive these fishery bulletins via e-mail as soon as they are published, please e-mail us at the address below. You will still receive a hard copy of these bulletins through the mail.

E-mail: SERO.Communications.Comments@noaa.gov and include: (1) "Request for Electronic Fishery Bulletins" in the subject line; and (2) your preferred e-mail address in the body of the e-mail.

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

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