



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Gerhart or Susan.Gerhart@NOAA.gov
727/824-5305, FAX 727/824-5308

February 4, 2008

FB08-007

KING MACKEREL COMMERCIAL GILLNET FISHERY TO CLOSE IN THE SOUTHERN FLORIDA WEST COAST SUBZONE

The commercial run-around gillnet fishery for Gulf group king mackerel in the southern Florida west coast subzone is **closed, effective 6 a.m. (local time) February 5, 2008**, through January 19, 2009. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service has determined the 520,312-pound commercial quota has been met. With this action, the king mackerel commercial gillnet fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is closed from 26°19.8' N. latitude (a line directly west from the Lee/Collier, Florida, county line) to 25°20.4' N. latitude (a line directly east of the Monroe/Miami-Dade, Florida, county line). Closure of the commercial king mackerel gillnet fishery is necessary to protect the Gulf group king mackerel resource.

No person aboard a vessel with a commercial king mackerel permit with a gillnet endorsement may fish for king mackerel using a run-around gillnet in the closed subzone after 6 a.m. on February 5, 2008. Also, no one on board a vessel possessing a gillnet with a stretched-mesh size of 4.75 inches (12.1 cm) or larger may fish for or possess king mackerel in this zone during the closure. The hook-and-line fishery remains open in this subzone during this time.

During the closure, no king mackerel caught in the closed subzone using a gillnet may be purchased,

bartered, traded, or sold. The prohibition of sale, however, does not apply to trade in king mackerel that were harvested, landed ashore and bartered, traded, or sold before the closure and held in cold storage by a dealer or processor.

How can we improve these fishery bulletins?

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

Kim Amendola, Communication Specialist

Phone: 727-551-5707

FAX: 727-824-5320

E-mail: SERO.Communications.Comments@noaa.gov

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*.