



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FB08-008

NOAA Fisheries Service Announces the Publication of a Final Rule Changing the Timing of Trip Limits for the Atlantic Spanish Mackerel Fishery off the East Coast of Florida *Small Entity Compliance Guide*

On February 11, 2008, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) published a final rule to change the beginning date for trip limits in the Atlantic Spanish mackerel fishery off the east coast of Florida. NOAA Fisheries Services will begin the 3,500-pound trip limit on March 1 each year to correspond to the beginning of the fishing year. This trip limit will be effective until November 30. From December 1 until the end of the fishing year trip limits are adjusted based on the percent of the quota landed (see table). This action becomes effective March 12, 2008; for all subsequent years the trip limit will begin March 1.

The fishery for the Atlantic group of Spanish mackerel is divided into northern and southern zones. The southern zone extends south along the east coast of Florida from 30°42.8' N. lat. (a line directly east from the Georgia/Florida border) to 25°20.4' N. lat. (a line directly east from the Miami-Dade/Monroe county line).

Written copies of the final rule implementing these measures may be obtained from NOAA Fisheries Service's Southeast Regional Office at 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701.

Electronic copies of the final rule, once published, may be obtained from the *Federal Register* Web site at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>.

This bulletin serves as a Small Entity Compliance Guide, complying with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. 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*.

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 print 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 email address in the body of the email.

TIME PERIOD	TRIP LIMIT
<p align="center">March 1* until November 30 *March 12 for 2008 only</p>	<p align="center">3,500 pounds</p>
<p>December 1 until 75% of adjusted quota is landed</p>	<p align="center">Monday – Friday: unlimited Saturday – Sunday: 1,500 pounds</p>
<p align="center">After 75% of adjusted quota is landed</p>	<p align="center">1,500 pounds</p>
<p align="center">After 100% of adjusted quota is landed</p>	<p align="center">500 pounds</p>

Adjusted quota = 3,620,000 pounds and compensates for estimated catches of 500 pounds per vessel per day to the end of the season; that is, the fishery does not close.

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