



# Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Gerhart or [Susan.Gerhart@noaa.gov](mailto:Susan.Gerhart@noaa.gov)  
727/824-5305, FAX 727/824-5308

February 25, 2008  
FB08-013

## COMMERCIAL SEASONAL CLOSURES FOR GAG, BLACK GROUPER, AND GREATER AMBERJACK IN FEDERAL WATERS OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service reminds fishermen of the seasonal closure for gag and black grouper March 1 through April 30, 2008, and the seasonal closure for greater amberjack April 1 through April 30, 2008. The sale or purchase of these species harvested from the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in the South Atlantic is prohibited.

The operator of a vessel with a valid federal commercial South Atlantic snapper-grouper permit having gag or black grouper aboard must have landed or sold those fish prior to 12:01 a.m., local time, March 1, 2008. The fisheries for these species will reopen at 12:01 a.m., local time, on May 1, 2008. This prohibition on the sale/purchase does not apply to gag or black grouper that were harvested, landed ashore, and sold prior to March 1 and held in cold storage by a dealer or processor. During the closure, possession is limited to no more than two black grouper and/or gag individually or in combination.

The operator of a vessel with a valid federal commercial South Atlantic snapper-grouper permit having greater amberjack aboard must have landed or sold those fish prior to 12:01 a.m., local time, April 1, 2008. The fisheries for these species will reopen at 12:01 a.m., local time, on May 1, 2008. This prohibition on the sale/purchase does not apply to greater amberjack that were harvested, landed ashore, and sold prior to April 1

and held in cold storage by a dealer or processor. Possession of greater amberjack during April is limited to one per person per day or one per person per trip, whichever is more restrictive.

The sale or purchase of these species taken from the EEZ is prohibited during the closed period. No person aboard a vessel for which a commercial permit for South Atlantic snapper-grouper has been issued may possess gag, black grouper, or greater amberjack in excess of the bag limit, or sell or purchase these species, without regard to where it has been harvested.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PERMIT NO. G-19

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southeast Regional Office, F/SER24  
263 13th Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use - \$ 300  
FB08-013