



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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

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REMINDER OF SEASONAL BOUNDARY SHIFTS BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2008, FOR ATLANTIC AND GULF GROUPS OF KING MACKEREL OFF THE FLORIDA COAST

NOAA Fisheries Service reminds fishermen the boundary between the Atlantic and Gulf groups of king mackerel off Florida shifts, beginning April 1, 2008. This change also affects daily commercial trip limits.

The area west of the Florida/Alabama state line is considered the Western zone for the Gulf group king mackerel year-round. This zone closed November 3, 2007, and will reopen July 1, 2008, with a trip limit of 3,000 pounds.

The area north of 29° 25' N. lat. (a line directly east of the Flagler/Volusia County boundary) is considered to contain Atlantic group king mackerel year-round, with a 3,500-pound trip limit.

April 1–October 31 (see map on next page)

Beginning April 1, the boundary between Atlantic and Gulf groups of king mackerel shifts south and west from the Flagler/Volusia County boundary on the Florida east coast to the Monroe/Collier County boundary on the Florida west coast. At this time, fish harvested along the east coast of Florida, including all of Monroe County, are considered to be Atlantic group king mackerel.

After the boundary shift, the commercial trip limit for the Florida east coast off Volusia County becomes 3,500 pounds per day – the same as the trip limit north of the Flagler/Volusia County boundary. The commercial trip limit for the area southward from 28° 47.8' N. lat. (a line directly east from the Volusia/Brevard County line) to 25° 20.4' N. lat. (a line directly east from the Miami-Dade/Monroe County line) becomes 75 fish per day. The trip limit off Monroe County becomes 1,250 pounds.

The west coast of Florida is divided into northern and southern zones at 26° 19.8' N. lat. (a line directly west from the Lee/Collier County line). The northern subzone extends to the Florida/Alabama state line and remains the same year-round. However, with this boundary shift, the southern subzone for Gulf group king

mackerel is reduced to the area off Collier County. Both the northern and southern subzones have a trip limit of 1,250 pounds until 75 percent of the quota is reached. After that, the trip limit is reduced to 500 pounds until the end of the fishing season or 100 percent of the quota is met. From now until June 30, 2008, or until the quota is met, the trip limit for the northern subzone is reduced to 500 pounds. The trip limit for hook-and-line fishermen in the southern subzone remains at 1,250 pounds at this time.

November 1–March 31 (see map on next page)

During this time period, fish harvested southward of the Flagler/Volusia County line to the Miami-Dade/Monroe County line are considered to be Gulf group king mackerel. The trip limit for the fishery in this Florida east coast subzone during this time period is 50 fish per day, until February 1, when trip limits may increase to 75 fish per day, if 75 percent of the quota has not been reached. This subzone closed February 21, 2008, and will reopen November 1, 2008, when the boundary shifts occur again.

Fish harvested from Monroe County during this time are also considered to be Gulf group king mackerel. This area is included in the Florida west coast southern subzone until April 1. The trip limit for the hook-and-line sector is 1,250 pounds.

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.



Commercial Hook-and- Line Quotas for King Mackerel (pounds)	
Gulf Group	
Western Zone	1,010,000
Eastern Zone	
Florida West Coast Subzone Northern	168,750
Florida West Coast Subzone Southern	520,312
Florida East Coast Subzone	1,040,625
Atlantic Group (includes gillnets north of Cape Lookout, NC)	3,710,000

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