



# Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Rich.Malinowski@noaa.gov  
(727) 824-5305, FAX (727) 824-5308

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## **Gulf of Mexico Recreational Greater Amberjack Season to Remain Open Through the End of 2010**

The Gulf of Mexico recreational greater amberjack harvest is not likely to exceed the 2010 allocation of 1,243,184 pounds whole weight by the end of the year. The recreational fishing season will remain open through the end of the 2010. Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack are managed under regulations and quotas established by the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council and the NOAA Fisheries Service. Regulations implementing Amendment 30A to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan established, in part, annual catch limits and accountability measures for greater amberjack, modified the rebuilding plan, and set commercial and recreational quotas. The recreational quota for 2010 was reduced from 1,368,000 to 1,243,184 pounds whole weight to account for a nine percent quota overage in 2009.

An analysis completed on October 15, 2010, for the Projected 2010 Quota Closure Date for the Gulf of Mexico Recreational Greater Amberjack considers Marine Recreational Fisheries Survey and Statistics (MRFSS) landings estimates through Wave 4 (e.g., August 30) as well as headboat landings estimates

through July 23, and available information regarding the short-term impacts of the Deepwater Horizon/BP oil spill upon recreational greater amberjack. The updated projections indicate that landings are unlikely to exceed the 2010 adjusted quota prior to the end of the recreational fishing year.

A greater amberjack update stock assessment is scheduled to be completed early in 2011 and will provide the information necessary to determine if overfishing is still occurring in the greater amberjack fishery.

If you would like to receive these fishery bulletins via e-mail as soon as they are published, e-mail us at: [SERO.Communications.Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:SERO.Communications.Comments@noaa.gov).

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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National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southeast Regional Office, F/SER24  
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St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
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