



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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NOAA Fisheries Announces the Closure Date for Gulf of Mexico Greater Amberjack Commercial and Recreational Sectors

The commercial and recreational harvest of greater amberjack in the Gulf of Mexico will be closed at **12:01 a.m. on August 25, 2014**, and remain closed until January 1, 2015.

The 2014 landings data indicate the 409,000-pound commercial annual catch target and the 888,839-pound recreational annual catch target will be harvested by August 24, 2014.

During the closure:

- Commercial harvest or possession of greater amberjack is prohibited.
- Recreational harvest or possession of greater amberjack is prohibited.
- The closure applies in both state and federal waters for vessels that have a valid Gulf of Mexico commercial reef fish vessel permit or a reef fish charter/headboat permit.

This closure is necessary to protect the greater amberjack resource. This population is considered overfished (the population is too low).

This bulletin provides only a summary of the existing regulations. Full regulations can be found in the *Federal Register*.