



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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Reminders: Commercial Harvest of Gray Triggerfish in the South Atlantic Waters

Commercial harvest for gray triggerfish re-opens today, July 1, 2015, and will close when the new quota is projected to be met.

On June 1, 2015, NOAA published a final rule implementing Amendment 29 for South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper. The final rule:

- Increased the total annual catch limit for gray triggerfish.
- Established a 12-inch fork length minimum size limit for gray triggerfish in federal waters off North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.
- Increased the commercial and recreational minimum size limit for gray triggerfish off the east coast of Florida from 12-inches to 14-inches fork length.
- Established a 1,000 pound whole weight commercial trip limit.
- Implemented commercial split seasons for gray triggerfish: January 1 – June 30 and July 1 – December 31.

Because the final rule was implemented halfway through the 2015 fishing year and commercial landings of gray triggerfish have accumulated, the 2015 quota for the July 1 - December 31 fishing season is **63,918 pounds whole weight**. This new quota was calculated as the difference between the new total commercial annual catch limit (312,324 pounds whole weight) and the amount of commercial landings that have occurred by July 1, 2015 (248,406 pounds whole weight).

When the commercial gray triggerfish quota is projected to be met, NOAA Fisheries will send a fishery bulletin to announce the closure date.

More Information

For more information on Amendment 29, please see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).