



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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

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FB15-052

NOAA Fisheries Seeks Public Comment on a Generic Amendment to the Fishery Management Plans for Snapper-Grouper, Golden Crab, and Dolphin and Wahoo

Comment Period Ends September 14, 2015

NOAA Fisheries is seeking public comment on the Generic Accountability Measures and Dolphin Allocation Amendment (Generic AM Amendment). This action would amend the fishery management plans for snapper-grouper and golden crab in South Atlantic, and for dolphin and wahoo in the Atlantic. The Notice of Availability for the amendment published on July 15, 2015 (80 FR 41472), with a comment period ending on September 14, 2015.

The amendment would:

- Revise commercial and recreational sector allocations, and annual catch limits for dolphin in the South Atlantic. The recreational sector allocation for dolphin would change from 92.46% to 90% and the annual catch limit would change from 14,187,845 to 13,810,361 pounds whole weight. The commercial sector allocation for dolphin would change from 7.54% to 10% and the commercial annual catch limit would change from 1,157,001 to 1,534,485 pounds whole weight.
- Revise the accountability measures for black grouper, mutton snapper, yellowtail snapper, greater amberjack, red porgy, gag, golden tilefish, red grouper, snowy grouper, gray triggerfish, hogfish, scamp, Atlantic spadefish, bar jack, snappers complex, jacks complex, shallow-water grouper complex, porgies complex; wreckfish (recreational), and golden crab (commercial).
 - The recreational sector for each species would be closed during the fishing year when the recreational annual catch limit is met or projected to be met.
 - Post-season paybacks would be triggered in the commercial and recreational sectors if the species, or one or more species in a species complex, is depleted by too much fishing and the total (commercial and recreational combined) annual catch limit is exceeded.

Request for Comments

Comments on the Notice of Availability must be received no later than **September 14, 2015**, to be considered by NOAA

Fisheries. See the Addresses section for information on where and how to submit comments.

Addresses

Electronic or hardcopies of the amendment may be obtained from:

- The NOAA Fisheries Web site:
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/s_atl/2014/am_dolphin_allocation/index.html.
- The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Web site at <http://www.safmc.net>.

You may submit comments by the following methods:

- Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2013-0181, click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.
- Mail: Mary Janine Vara
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Sustainable Fisheries Division
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All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NOAA Fisheries will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

More Information

For more information on the Generic AM Amendment, please follow this link to the Frequently Asked Questions:
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/s_atl/2014/am_dolphin_allocation/index.html.