



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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Recreational Harvest of Jacks in Puerto Rico Federal Waters will close on November 4, 2016
Commercial Harvest of Wrasses in Puerto Rico Federal Waters will close on November 16, 2016

Recreational Fishing Closure

The 2016 fishing season for the recreational harvest of the Jacks species group in federal waters around Puerto Rico will close at **12:01 am (local time) on November 4, 2016**. The 2017 fishing season will reopen at 12:01 a.m. (local time) on January 1, 2017. During the closure, the bag and possession limits for the recreational harvest of jacks is zero. Managed jacks include horse-eye (*Caranx latus*), black (*Caranx lugubris*), almaco (*Seriola rivoliana*), bar (*Caranx ruber*), and yellow (*Caranx bartholomaei*) jacks, greater amberjack (*Seriola dumerili*), and blue runner (*Caranx crysos*).

Commercial Fishing Closure

The 2016 fishing season for the commercial harvest of the Wrasses species group in federal waters around Puerto Rico will close at **12:01 a.m. (local time) on November 16, 2016**. The 2017 fishing season will reopen at 12:01 a.m. (local time) on January 1, 2017. During the closure, wrasses caught in federal waters may not be purchased or sold. Managed wrasses include hogfish (*Lachnolaimus maximus*), puddingwife (*Halichoeres radiatus*), and Spanish hogfish (*Bodianus rufus*).

NOAA Fisheries has determined that the annual catch limit for each of these species groups in federal waters around Puerto Rico was exceeded, triggering accountability measures to reduce the length of the seasons in the 2016 fishing year for each of these species groups by the amount necessary to ensure landings do not exceed the annual catch limit again.

The U.S. Caribbean federal waters around Puerto Rico extend from the nine nautical mile seaward boundary of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico out to 200 nautical miles offshore.