

**Amendment 7 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Dolphin and Wahoo Fishery of the Atlantic and Amendment 33 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region
(Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7 and Snapper-Grouper Amendment 33)**

*Frequently Asked Questions
December 2015*

What will Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7 and Snapper-Grouper Amendment 33 do?

Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7 and Snapper-Grouper Amendment 33 will:

- Allow recreational fishermen to bring lawfully harvested fillets of dolphin and wahoo from The Bahamas into the U.S. federal waters and update regulations that currently allow recreational fishermen to bring snapper-grouper fillets from The Bahamas into the U.S. federal waters.
- For determining the bag limit, specify two fillets are equivalent to one fish for dolphin, wahoo, and snapper-grouper species brought into the U.S. federal waters from The Bahamas.
- Require fishers to retain skin on the entire fillet of any dolphin, wahoo, or snapper-grouper species lawfully harvested in Bahamian waters and transported through the U.S. federal waters.
- Require fishing gear to be stowed while transiting the U.S. federal waters from The Bahamas. A vessel carrying fillets of dolphin, wahoo, or snapper-grouper species on board will not be allowed to stop in the U.S. federal waters during transit.
- Require stamped and dated passports, as well as valid current Bahamian cruising and fishing permits to prove that the recreational fishers were indeed in The Bahamas.
- Not allow recreationally caught dolphin, wahoo, or snapper-grouper from The Bahamas to be sold or purchased in the U.S.
- Not exempt recreational fishermen from any other Federal fishing regulations such as fishing seasons, recreational bag limits, size limits, and prohibited species.

Who will be affected by Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7 and Snapper-Grouper Amendment 33?

- Recreational fishers who fish for dolphin, wahoo, and snapper-grouper species in Bahamian waters and bring fillets of these species into federal waters (3-200 miles offshore) of the U.S. federal waters.

When will Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7 and Snapper-Grouper Amendment 33 be effective?

- The comment period for the notice of availability ended on November 16, 2015, and the comment period for the proposed rule ended on November 6, 2015.
- The final rule published on December 28, 2015, and regulations will be effective on January 27, 2016.

Where can I get more information on Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7 and Snapper-Grouper Amendment 33 and its Proposed and Final Rules?

- Contact NOAA Fisheries
By Mail: Southeast Regional Office, c/o Nikhil Mehta
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505
By FAX: (727) 824-5308
By Phone: (727) 824-5305
- Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7 and Snapper-Grouper Amendment 33 and its Proposed Rule may be found online at the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office Web site at: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/s_atl/generic/2015/dw7_sg33/index.html or the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Web site at <http://www.safmc.net>.