



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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Commercial Harvest of Gag in South Atlantic Waters Will Close on November 21, 2014

Commercial harvest of gag in South Atlantic waters will **close at 12:01 a.m. (local time) November 21, 2014**. The 2014 commercial catch limit is 326,722 pounds gutted weight. Reports indicate the catch limit will be met by November 21, 2014. A seasonal closure is in place for commercial and recreational sectors for gag during January – April; therefore, commercial harvest will reopen at 12:01 a.m. (local time) on May 1, 2015.

The operator of a vessel that has been issued a federal commercial permit for snapper-grouper and that is landing gag for sale must have landed and bartered, traded, or sold such gag prior to 12:01 a.m., local time, November 21, 2014. The prohibition on sale does not apply to sale or purchase of gag that were harvested, landed ashore,

and sold prior to 12:01 a.m. (local time) November 21, 2014, and held in cold storage by a dealer or processor.

During the closure:

- Harvest or possession of gag in or from federal waters is limited to the recreational bag and possession limits.
- Sale and purchase of gag in or from federal waters is prohibited.
- The closure applies in both state and federal waters for a person onboard a vessel with a federal snapper-grouper permit.

This closure is necessary to protect the snapper-grouper resource.