

South Atlantic Historical Recreational Landings and Annual Catch Limits

This page was updated on 7/16/2018

All 2017 landings reported on this page are considered preliminary.

This page provides only a summary of the information regarding the existing regulations. Any discrepancies between this information and the regulations as published in the *Federal Register* will be resolved in favor of the *Federal Register*.

There are no seasonal closures unless otherwise noted. For a list of current seasonal closures, see the [South Atlantic Seasonal Closures page](#).

Goliath Grouper, Nassau Grouper, Speckled Hind, and Warsaw Grouper are closed to harvest.

Definitions:

ACL = Annual Catch Limit

ww = whole weight; gw = gutted weight

NA = not applicable

Species and species groups are listed below in alphabetical order.

Atlantic Spadefish							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	27,591	ww	661,926	4.2		MRIP
2015		225,861		661,926	34.1		MRIP
2014		702,011		154,352	454.8		MRIP
2013		53,878		154,352	34.9		MRIP
2012		187,106		246,365	75.9		MRFSS

Bar Jack							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	2,005	ww	49,021	4.1		MRIP
2015		4,612		49,021	9.4		MRIP
2014		1,979		19,515	10.1		MRIP
2013		2,209		19,515	11.3		MRIP
2012		2,559		13,834	18.5		MRFSS

Black Grouper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30	116,547	ww	165,750	70.3		MRFSS
2015			128,557		165,750	77.6		MRFSS
2014			57,031		165,750	34.4		MRFSS
2013			99,096		161,859	61.2		MRFSS
2012			147,446		155,020	95.1		MRFSS

*Black grouper was managed as a part of the Black, Gag, and Red Grouper Aggregate during 2011 and 2010

Black, Gag, and Red Grouper Aggregate							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2011	Jan 1 - Dec 31	308,215	gw	648,663	47.5		MRFSS
2010		293,564		648,663	45.3		MRFSS

*In 2012, these species were removed from an aggregate ACL and are managed under a species-specific ACL.

Black Sea Bass							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016 - 2017	Apr 1 - Mar 31	329,455	ww	1,001,177	32.9		MRIP
2015 - 2016		377,239		1,033,980	36.5		MRIP
2014 - 2015	Jun 1 - May 31*	406,826		1,033,980	39.3		MRIP
2013 - 2014		585,357		1,033,980	56.6		MRIP
2012 - 2013		428,786	409,000	104.8		MRFSS	
2011 - 2012		491,677	341,747	143.9	10/17/11	MRFSS	
2010 - 2011		485,663	409,000	118.7	2/11/11	MRFSS	

*The 2014-2015 fishing year only includes landings through March 31.

Blueline Tilefish								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Sept 1 - Apr 30	172,286	ww	87,277	197.4		MRIP
2015			45,323		17,791	254.8	6/10/15	MRIP
2014			95,712		111,893	85.5		MRIP

*Prior to 2014, blueline tilefish was managed as part of the deepwater complex.

Cobia (NY to GA)							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	1,336,531	as reported	620,000	215.6	6/20/16	MRIP
2015		1,565,186		630,000	248.4		MRIP

Cobia							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2014	Jan 1 - Dec 31	1,179,031	ww	1,445,687	81.6		MRFSS
2013		1,142,947		1,445,687	79.1		MRFSS
2012		1,058,582		1,445,687	73.2		MRFSS

*Beginning in 2015, cobia is now managed by regional ACLs for NY to GA (table above) and East Coast FL (Gulf Recreational Pages).

Deepwater Complex							
Deepwater Complex: Yellowedge grouper, blueline tilefish, silk snapper, misty grouper, queen snapper, sand tilefish, blackfin snapper							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016*	Jan 1 - Dec 31	17,494	ww	38,628	45.3		MRIP
2015		16,271		38,644	42.1		MRIP
2014**		14,489		19,313	75.0		MRIP
2013		325,129		334,556	97.2		MRIP
2012		107,849		332,039	32.5		MRFSS

*Black snapper was removed from the complex beginning June 22, 2016.

**Blueline tilefish was removed from the complex beginning January 1, 2014 and is now managed under a species-specific ACL.

Dolphin							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	6,301,326	ww	13,810,361	45.6		MRIP
2015		7,586,553		14,187,845	53.5		MRIP
2014		5,227,644		14,187,845	36.8		MRIP
2013		5,136,067		13,530,692	38.0		MRFSS
2012		6,108,460		13,530,692	45.1		MRFSS

Gag								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30	151,456	gw	312,351	48.5		MRIP
2015			58,348		310,023	18.8		MRIP
2014			169,447		340,060	49.8		MRFSS
2013			78,472		340,060	23.1		MRFSS
2012			177,097		340,060	52.1		MRFSS
2011			169,854		340,060	49.9		MRFSS
2010			171,841		340,060	50.5		MRFSS

Golden Tilefish							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	13,010	number of fish	3,019	430.9	8/27/16	MRFSS
2015		3,595		3,019	119.1	8/11/15	MRFSS
2014		1,357		3,019	44.9	6/7/14	MRFSS
2013		4,143		3,019	137.2	6/3/13	MRFSS
2012		3,627		3,019	120.1		MRFSS
2011		9,863		1,578	625.0	10/6/11	MRFSS
2010		4,383		1,578	277.8		MRFSS

Gray Triggerfish							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	393,302	ww	404,675	97.2		MRIP
2015		354,237		404,675	87.5		MRIP
2014		431,516		353,638	122.0		MRIP
2013		373,983		353,638	105.8		MRIP
2012		383,466		367,303	104.4		MRFSS

Greater Amberjack							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016 - 2017	Mar 1 - Feb 28/29	1,226,054	ww	1,167,837	105.0	11/30/16	MRFSS
2015 - 2016		1,207,355		1,167,837	103.4		MRFSS
2014 - 2015	May 1 - Apr 30*	865,799		1,167,837	74.1		MRFSS
2013 - 2014		811,879		1,167,837	69.5		MRFSS
2012 - 2013		1,410,340		1,167,837	120.8		MRFSS

*The 2014-2015 fishing year only included landings through Feb 28, 2015.

Grunts							
Grunts: White grunt, margate, sailor's choice, tomtate							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	420,847	ww	618,122	68.1		MRIP
2015		282,552		618,122	45.7		MRIP
2014		354,543		588,113	60.3		MRIP
2013		359,382		588,113	61.1		MRIP
2012		408,318		562,151	72.6		MRFSS

Hogfish							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	119,388	ww	85,355	139.9	11/30/16	MRIP
2015		291,765		85,355	341.8	8/24/15	MRIP
2014		111,803		85,355	131.0		MRIP
2013		65,085		85,355	76.3		MRIP
2012		103,610		98,866	104.8		MRFSS

*Starting in 2017, Hogfish are managed with regional annual catch limits for Florida Keys through East Florida and New York through Georgia.

Jacks							
Jacks: Almaco jack, banded rudderfish, lesser amberjack							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	247,571	ww	267,799	92.4	8/9/16; Reopened 12/2/16	MRIP
2015		125,212		267,799	46.8		MRIP
2014		226,004		267,799	84.4		MRIP
2013		160,988		267,799	60.1		MRIP
2012		241,372		261,490	92.3		MRFSS

King Mackerel							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016 - 2017	Mar 1 - Feb 28/29	2,191,324	ww	6,580,000	33.3		MRFSS
2015 - 2016		1,070,319		6,580,000	16.3		MRFSS
2014 - 2015		1,303,837		6,580,000	19.8		MRFSS
2013 - 2014		1,004,441		6,580,000	15.3		MRFSS
2012 - 2013		1,719,199		6,580,000	26.1		MRFSS

Mutton Snapper							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	608,480	ww	768,857	79.1		MRFSS
2015		707,119		768,857	92.0		MRFSS
2014		518,320		768,857	67.4		MRFSS
2013		481,731		768,857	62.7		MRFSS
2012		470,028		768,857	61.1		MRFSS

Porgies							
Porgies: Jolthead, knobbed, saucereye, whitebone, scup							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	140,105	ww	106,914	131.0	9/3/16	MRIP
2015		111,577		106,914	104.4		MRIP
2014		128,231		106,914	119.9		MRIP
2013		117,293		106,914	109.7		MRIP
2012		125,641		112,485	111.7		MRFSS

Red Grouper							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	155,271	ww	436,800	35.5		MRFSS
2015		128,213		436,800	29.4		MRFSS
2014		38,756		436,800	8.9		MRFSS
2013		87,123		402,080	21.7		MRFSS
2012		101,604		362,320	28.0		MRFSS

Red Porgy							
Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	145,173	ww	164,000	88.5		MRIP
2015		97,503		164,000	59.5		MRIP
2014		59,788		154,500	38.7		MRIP
2013		74,177		153,000	48.5		MRIP
2012		101,298		197,652	51.3		MRFSS

Red Snapper							
Year	Fishing Year	Units	ACL	Closure Date	Data Source		
2016	Closed to Recreational Harvest				To view Report which projects 2016 season, and provides 2015 landings, season click here.		
2015	Closed to Recreational Harvest				To view Report which projects 2015 season, and provides 2015 landings click here.		
2014	Fishery Bulletin	numbers of fish	22,576		To view Report which projects 2014 season, and provides 2013 and 2012 landings click here.		
2013	Fishery Bulletin		9,585		To view Report which projects 2013 season, and provides 2012 and 2011 landings click here.		
2012	Fishery Bulletin		9,399				
2011	Closed to Recreational Harvest				NA		
2010	Closed to Recreational Harvest				NA		

Scamp								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30	30,961	ww	116,369	26.6		MRIP
2015			18,639		116,369	16.0		MRIP
2014			70,157		176,688	39.7		MRIP
2013			45,813		176,688	25.9		MRIP
2012			78,446		150,936	52.0		MRFSS

Shallow Water Grouper								
Shallow water grouper: Red hind, rock hind, coney, graysby, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30	28,229	ww	48,648	58.0		MRIP
2015			20,571		48,648	42.3		MRIP
2014			11,940		46,656	25.6		MRIP
2013			26,959		46,656	57.8		MRIP
2012			19,552		48,329	40.5		MRFSS

Snappers								
Snappers: Gray, lane, cubera snapper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016*	Jan 1 - Dec 31		1,053,214	ww	1,169,308	90.1		MRIP
2015			558,583		1,172,832	47.6		MRIP
2014			830,700		728,577	114.0		MRIP
2013			803,450		728,577	110.3		MRIP
2012			428,982		882,388	48.6		MRFSS

*Dog and mahogany snapper were part of the Snappers complex until June 22, 2016. Landings of these species are included in reports prior to their

Snowy Grouper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Apr 30; Sept 1 - Dec 31	9,746	number of fish	4,483	217.4		MRIP
2015			1,621		4,152	39.0	9/1/15	MRIP
2014			1,214		523	232.1	6/7/14	MRFSS
2013			2,048		523	391.6	5/31/13	MRFSS
2012			2,065		523	394.8		MRFSS
2011			151		523	28.9		MRFSS
2010			2,065		523	394.8		MRFSS

Spanish Mackerel								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016 - 2017	Mar 1 - Feb 28/29		972,161	ww	2,727,000	35.6		MRIP
2015 - 2016			814,094		2,727,000	29.9		MRIP
2014 - 2015			1,019,629		2,727,000	37.4		MRFSS
2013 - 2014			1,864,168		2,560,000	72.8		MRFSS
2012 - 2013			1,377,762		2,560,000	53.8		MRFSS

Vermilion Snapper								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31		366,063	ww	406,080	90.1		MRIP
2015			331,570		412,480	80.4		MRIP
2014			406,070		419,840	96.7		MRIP
2013			221,959		439,040	50.6		MRIP
2012			194,499	307,315	63.3		MRFSS	
2011			197,652	307,315	64.3		MRFSS	
2010			258,294	307,315	84.0		MRFSS	

Wahoo								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31		1,570,951	ww	1,724,418	91.1		MRIP
2015			1,023,882		1,724,418	59.4		MRIP
2014			656,871		1,724,418	38.1		MRIP
2013			378,612		1,427,638	26.5		MRFSS
2012			1,552,475		1,427,638	108.7		MRFSS

Wreckfish								
Year	Fishing Year	Seasonal Closure	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - June 30; Sep 1 - Dec 31	0	ww	21,185	0.0		MRIP
2015			0		21,650	0.0		MRIP
2014			0		11,750	0.0		MRFSS
2013			0		11,750	0.0		MRFSS
2012			964		11,750	8.2		MRFSS

Yellowtail Snapper

Year	Fishing Year	Total Landings	Units	ACL	ACL %	Closure Date	Data Source
2016-2017	Aug 1 - Jul 31	681,806	ww	1,440,990	47.3		MRFSS
2016*	Jan 1 - Dec 31	534,688		1,440,990	37.1		MRFSS
2015		791,157		1,440,990	54.9		MRFSS
2014		933,279		1,440,990	64.8		MRFSS
2013		666,029		1,440,990	46.2		MRFSS
2012		449,037		1,031,286	43.5		MRFSS
*The 2016 fishing year only included landings through July. The fishing season for yellowtail snapper was modified in Regulatory Amendment 25.							