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OYSTERS

POMPANO, AFRICAN POMPANO, PERMIT

PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE RULE PROVISIONS

PUFFER FISH, PROHIBITION

QUEEN CONCH

RED DRUM

REEF FISH

REEF FISH (formerly SNAPPER, GROUPER, AND SEA BASS), CH 46-14, FAC (Effective July 29, 1985)

Minimum size limits:

- Red, mutton, yellowtail snappers - 12 inches
- Yellowfin, black, gag, red, Nassau groupers and jewfish - 18 inches
- Black and southern sea bass - 8 inches

REEF FISH, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Dec. 11, 1986)

- Snapper Bag limit: 10 per recreational fisherman daily, with off-the-water possession limit of 20 per recreational fisherman, for any combination of snapper, excluding lane, vermillion, and yelloweye
- Grouper Bag limit: 5 per recreational fisherman daily, with off-the-water possession limit of 10 per recreational fisherman, for any combination of groupers, excluding rock hind and red hind
- Use of longline gear by commercial fishermen prohibited; bycatch allowance of 5% is permitted harvesters of other species using this gear

- Use of stab nets (or sink nets) to take snapper or grouper is prohibited in Atlantic waters of Monroe County
- 5% of snapper and grouper in possession of harvester may be smaller than the minimum size limit
- Must be landed in whole condition (head and tail intact)

REEF FISH, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Feb. 1, 1990)

- Designates all snapper and grouper as "restricted species"
- Designates red snapper and jewfish as protected species
- Prohibits all harvest, possession, and sale of jewfish from Florida waters
- Minimum size limits:

Red snapper - 13 inches

Queen, mutton, blackfin, cubera, dog, mahogany, silk, and yellowtail snapper - 12 inches

Gray/mangrove and schoolmaster snapper - 10 inches (the sale of these species of total length less than 12 inches is prohibited)

Lane and vermilion snapper - 8 inches

Sea basses - 8 inches

Yellowfin, black, gag, red, Nassau, and yellowmouth grouper and scamp - 20 inches

- Recreational bag limits: 10 daily per person for any combination of snapper, not including lane and vermilion (no more than 5 may be gray/mangrove snapper and no more than 2 may be red snapper); 5 daily per person for any combination of grouper
- Off-the-water recreational possession limits: 20 per person for any combination of snapper, not including lane and vermilion (no more than 10 may be gray/mangrove snapper and no more than 4 may be red snapper); 10 per person for any combination of grouper
- Allowable gear: Hook and line, black sea bass trap, spear, gig, or lance (except powerheads, bangsticks, or explosive devices) for snapper and grouper
- All commercial harvest of any species of snapper, grouper, and sea bass is prohibited in state waters whenever harvest of that species is prohibited in adjacent federal waters
- Snapper and grouper must be landed in whole condition

REEF FISH - AMBERJACK (formerly AMBERJACK, CH 46-40), CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Feb. 1, 1990)

- Designated as a "restricted species"
- Minimum size limits: 28 inches fork length (the sale of an amberjack of less than 36 inches fork length or 28 inches with head-only removed is prohibited)
- Recreational bag limit: 3 daily per person
- Off-the-water possession limit: 6 per person

- Must be landed in a whole condition (may be landed with head-only removed for commercial harvest)
- All commercial harvest of amberjack in state waters is prohibited whenever harvest of amberjack is prohibited in adjacent federal waters
- A federal reef fish permit to harvest amberjack is required any time this permit is required in adjacent federal waters

REEF FISH, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Dec. 31, 1992)

- Requires the appropriate federal permit in order to exceed snapper/grouper bag limits and to purchase or sell snapper/grouper on the state's Gulf coast
- Establishes vermillion snapper minimum size limits of 10 inches for recreational fishermen and 12 inches for commercial fishermen on the state's Atlantic coast
- Establishes a minimum size limit of 20 inches for red snapper on the state's Atlantic coast
- Prohibits the harvest of Nassau grouper from state waters
- Restricts all harvest of mutton snapper in May and June to the bag limit for this species

REEF FISH - AMBERJACK (formerly AMBERJACK, CH 46-40), CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Dec. 31, 1992)

- Requires the appropriate federal permit in order to exceed the amberjack bag limit and to purchase or sell amberjack on the state's Gulf coast
- Restricts all harvest of amberjack in April and May to the bag limit for this species
- Requires all amberjack species to be landed with heads and tails intact (the coring provision for greater amberjack still applies)
- Prohibits persons from harvesting greater amberjack under both recreational and commercial rules on the same trip

REEF FISH, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Oct. 18, 1993)

Allows persons who possess either a Gulf of Mexico or South Atlantic federal reef fish permit to commercially harvest snappers and groupers (except red snapper) in all state waters, until July 1, 1995.

REEF FISH, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective March 1, 1994)

- Establishes a recreational daily bag limit of 10 vermillion snapper harvested from the Atlantic, and not count these fish in the aggregate bag limit for other snappers
- Establishes a minimum size limit of 16 inches for mutton snapper
- Establishes a minimum size limit of 12 inches for red porgy harvested in Atlantic state waters
- Effective July 1, 1994, designates hogfish as a "restricted species", establishes a minimum size limit of 12 inches fork length for hogfish, and establishes a daily recreational bag limit of 5 hogfish per person
- Establishes a minimum size limit of 12 inches for gray triggerfish, effective January 1, 1995

- Establishes a daily bag limit for cubera snapper of two per person or boat, whichever is less, for all fishermen, for fish 30 inches in length or larger (smaller cubera snapper are included in the 10 snapper aggregate recreational bag limit)
- Allows a two-day possession limit for reef fish statewide for persons aboard charter and headboats on trips exceeding 24 hours provided that the vessel is equipped with a permanent berth for each passenger aboard, and each passenger has a receipt verifying the trip length
- Modifies rule language to provide the same state and federal definitions of Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean regions
- Establishes vessel trip limits of one speckled hind and one warsaw grouper for all fishermen in state waters
- Prohibits the sale of warsaw grouper and speckled hind harvested in state waters
- Sets the minimum size limit for red snapper on the state's Gulf coast at 14 inches, and then at 15 inches effective January 1, 1996, and 16 inches effective January 1, 1998

REEF FISH, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective July 1, 1995)

Continues the allowance of persons to possess either the proper South Atlantic or Gulf permit to harvest reef fish for commercial purposes through December 31, 1995.

REEF FISH - BLACK SEA BASS TRAPS, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Oct. 4, 1995)

Establishes degradability requirements for black sea bass traps. Such traps are considered to have a legal degradable panel if:

- The trap lid tie-down strap is secured to the trap by a single loop of untreated Jute twine, and the trap lid is secured so that when the jute degrades, the lid will no longer be securely closed, or
- The trap lid tie-down strap is secured to one end with a corrodible hook composed of non-coated steel wire measuring 24 gauge or thinner, and the trap lid is secured so that when the hook degrades, the lid will no longer be securely closed, or
- The trap contains at least one sidewall with a vertical rectangular opening no smaller in either dimension than 6 inches high and 3 inches wide, and the opening is laced, sewn, or otherwise obstructed by a single length of untreated jute twine knotted only at each end and not tied or looped more than once around a single mesh bar; the opening in the sidewall of the trap must no longer be obstructed when the jute degrades, or
- The trap contains at least one sidewall with a vertical rectangular opening no smaller in either dimension than 6 inches high by 3 inches wide, and the opening must be obstructed with an untreated pine slat or slats no thicker than 3/8 inch; the opening in the sidewall of the trap must no longer be obstructed when the slat degrades, or
- The trap contains at least one sidewall with a vertical rectangular opening no smaller in either dimension than 6 inches high by 3 inches wide, and the opening must be laced, sewn, or otherwise obstructed by non-coated steel wire measuring 24 gauge or thinner or be obstructed with a panel of ferrous single-dipped galvanized wire mesh made of 24 gauge or thinner wire

REEF FISH - COMMERCIAL HARVEST, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 1996)

Continues to allow persons to possess either the proper South Atlantic or Gulf permit to harvest reef fish for commercial purposes through December 31, 1996.

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 1996)

Establishes a 5 fish daily bag limit on red snapper for all harvesters on the state's Gulf of Mexico coast, and prohibits the sale of red snapper when federal sale closures occur in Gulf of Mexico waters.

REEF FISH - AMBERJACK (formerly AMBERJACK, CH 46-40), CH 46-14, FAC (Effective April 1, 1996)

Prohibits the sale of all amberjack species (including greater and lesser amberjack, banded rudderfish, and Almaco jack) during the April/May closed commercial season.

REEF FISH - AMBERJACK (formerly AMBERJACK, CH 46-40), CH 46-14, FAC (Effective July 1, 1996)

In Monroe County waters only, reduces the recreational bag limit for amberjack of any species (including greater and lesser amberjack, banded rudderfish, and Almaco jack) to one fish harvested daily per person.

REEF FISH - COMMERCIAL HARVEST, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Nov. 27, 1996)

Continues to allow persons to possess either the proper South Atlantic or Gulf permit to harvest reef fish for commercial purposes through December 31, 1997.

REEF FISH - VERMILION SNAPPER, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 1998)

Establishes a 10 inches minimum size limit for vermilion snapper harvested in all state waters (to conform with federal rules).

REEF FISH - AMBERJACK (formerly AMBERJACK, CH 46-40), CH 46-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 1998)

- Reduces the recreational daily bag limit for greater amberjack to 1 fish per person statewide
- Prohibits the sale of any amberjack species (greater and lesser amberjack, Almaco jack, and banded rudderfish) during March, April, and May each year
- Prohibits the sale of any amberjack species less than 36 inches fork length at any time
- Requires all amberjack to be landed in a whole condition (including such fish harvested commercially)
- Establishes 14 inches minimum/22 inches maximum fork length size limits and an aggregate recreational daily bag limit of 5 fish per person for banded rudderfish and lesser amberjack

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective August 17, 1998)

- Reduces the recreational bag limit for red snapper from 5 fish per day to 4 fish per day (including captain and crew on for-hire vessels)
- Modifies the federal commercial license requirement in the reef fish rule to correctly reference new Gulf red snapper commercial limited entry permits

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective November 1, 1998)

Provides an automatic closure of state waters to Gulf of Mexico recreational red snapper harvest when federal waters are closed to such harvest, effective November 1, 1998.

REEF FISH, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective December 31, 1998)

- Modifies black and gag grouper management in Atlantic Ocean state waters only by establishing a 2 fish daily recreational bag limit (within the 5 fish daily aggregate limit for all groupers), increasing the minimum size limit from 20 to 24 inches total length, and prohibiting the harvest and possession in excess of the recreational bag limit and purchase and sale of black and gag grouper during March and April
- Increases the minimum size limit on black sea bass from 8 to 10 inches total length statewide, establishes a 20 fish daily recreational aggregate bag limit on black sea bass in Atlantic state waters only, and requires escape vents on sea bass pots statewide
- Establishes a 14 inches total length minimum size limit and a 5 fish daily recreational bag limit for red porgies, and prohibits the harvest and sale in excess of the bag limit and all sale of red porgies in March and April (these provisions apply in Atlantic state waters only)
- Requires that all reef fish species managed in Florida be landed in a whole condition, and designate all such species as "restricted species"
- Standardizes commercial closure language in Commission reef fish rules
- Prohibits all possession of Nassau grouper
- Specifies that the 1 fish daily recreational bag limits for speckled hind and Warsaw grouper are within the 5 fish aggregate daily grouper bag limit
- Revises the name of the federal licenses required to harvest amberjack in the South Atlantic to conform with federal changes

REEF FISH - MONROE COUNTY GAG & BLACK GROUPER, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective March 1, 1999)

These rules, effective in all Monroe County state waters:

- Increase the minimum size limit for black and gag grouper from 20 to 24 inches total length
- Establish a 2 fish daily recreational bag limit (within the 5 fish daily aggregate limit for all groupers) for black and gag grouper
- Prohibit the harvest, possession, or landing of black and gag grouper in excess of the recreational bag limit and the purchase, sale, or exchange of black and gag grouper during March and April

REEF FISH - BLACK SEA BASS TRAP SPECIFICATIONS, CH 46-14, FAC (Effective June 1, 1999)

- Allows the use on black sea bass traps of trap lid tie-down straps secured at one end by a loop composed of non-coated steel wire measuring 24 gauge or thinner, 2 X 3/8 inch non-treated pine dowels or squares to replace the hook on tie-down straps, a 3 X 6 inch panel attached to the trap opening with 24 gauge or less wire or single strand jute
- Prohibits the use of a 24 gauge hook or tie-down strap on black sea bass traps

REEF FISH - EMERGENCY OPENING OF STATE RED SNAPPER FISHERY IN GULF WATERS, CH 68BER99-1, FAC (Effective August 3, 1999)

- Allows the Gulf of Mexico recreational red snapper fishery to remain open in Florida waters from August 29, 1999 through October 31, 1999
- Limits fishermen to a daily bag limit of 2 red snapper no less than 16 inches in total length harvested from state waters during this period

REEF FISH - RED PORGY, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective October 22, 1999)

Closes Atlantic state waters to the recreational harvest of red porgy through March 5, 2000.

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective December 31, 1999)

Establishes an April 15 - October 31 open season for the recreational harvest of red snapper in Gulf of Mexico state waters.

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective January 1, 2000)

- Merges amberjack rules into the current reef fish rule chapter
- Conforms amberjack commercial licensing requirements to those of reef fish (with a clarification that the appropriate federal commercial permit is a condition of sale for all species in the rule)
- Eliminates the 5-day commercial season closure extension in the reef fish rule
- Restores the documentation requirement for reef fish species possessed during a closure period
- Includes the 1-fish-daily vessel limit for speckled hind and warsaw grouper within the 5-fish grouper aggregate bag limit
- Increases the maximum size limit for banded rudderfish and lesser amberjack from 20 to 22 inches in length

REEF FISH - RED PORGY, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective March 6, 2000)

Prohibits all harvest of Atlantic red porgy from state waters.

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective January 1, 2001)

- Raises the minimum size limit of Gulf of Mexico gag and black grouper to 24 inches total length for commercial harvesters
- Establishes a Feb. 15 to Mar. 15 closed season for the commercial harvest of Gulf gag, black, and red grouper

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective January 1, 2001)

Increases the minimum size limit of gag and black grouper to 22 inches total length for recreational harvesters in Gulf of Mexico state waters.

REEF FISH - RED PORGY, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective March 1, 2001)

For Atlantic red porgy, this rule:

- Allows a one fish per person daily recreational bag limit and a 50 pound commercial vessel limit

- Establishes a minimum size limit of 14 inches total length
- Prohibits commercial harvest and sale January through April (permitted commercial and for-hire vessels are allowed a one fish per person daily bag limit)

REEF FISH - AMBERJACK (formerly AMBERJACK, CH 46-40), CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective March 1, 2001)

Establishes a 1,000-pound commercial daily vessel limit for greater amberjack harvested from Atlantic state waters.

REEF FISH - SEA BASSES & RED PORGY, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective June 1, 2001)

Withdraws federal permit requirements for the commercial harvest of sea basses and red porgy in the Gulf of Mexico.

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective January 1, 2003)

- Clarifies that imported reef fishes must comply with Florida's legal minimum size limits
- Includes a listing of minimum size limits for importation of 19 reef fish species
- Reduces the minimum size limit of red snapper commercially harvested from Gulf state waters from 16 to 15 inches total length
- Reduces the minimum size limit for all harvest of scamp from Gulf state waters from 20 inches to 16 inches total length
- Changes the term "jewfish" to "goliath grouper" to reflect a change to the common name for this species
- Deletes the rule designation of red snapper and goliath grouper (formerly jewfish) as protected species
- Reorganizes and simplifies various reef fish rule provisions
- Changes rule language regarding possession of mutton snapper, red porgy and amberjack during commercial trips to correspond with federal regulations
- Deletes a provision pertaining to closure notices for state waters when adjacent federal waters close

REEF FISH - BLACK SEA BASS TRAPS, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective July 15, 2004)

Establishes a September 20 through October 4 closure to use of black sea bass traps in all Gulf of Mexico state waters between three and nine miles from shore.

REEF FISH - RED GROUPE, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective January 3, 2005)

Establishes a two-fish daily bag limit for recreational harvest of red grouper in Gulf of Mexico state waters.

REEF FISH - GROUPE VESSEL TRIP LIMIT, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective May 20, 2005)

Applies a grouper vessel trip limit for vessels harvesting commercially in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The vessel trip limit is 10,000 pounds from January 1 until such time as the National

Marine Fisheries Service reduces the vessel trip limit in adjacent federal waters to 7,500 pounds or 5,500 pounds, in which case the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries Management shall order a consistent reduction in the vessel trip limit in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The grouper vessel limit shall be restored to 10,000 pounds on January 1 of the following year. All grouper species listed in Ch. 68B-14.001(2) (b), FAC, except bank sea bass and black sea bass, are included in the grouper vessel trip limit.

REEF FISH - BLACK SEA BASS TRAPS, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective July 17, 2005)

- Requires each trap used for harvesting black sea bass to have the trap owner's Saltwater Products License (SPL) number permanently attached
- Each buoy attached to these traps shall have the letter "B" and the owner's SPL number affixed to it in legible figures at least 1.5 inches high
- Requires a buoy or time-release buoy must be attached to each black sea bass trap or at each end of a weighted trap trotline. The buoy must be constructed of Styrofoam, cork, molded polyvinyl chloride, or molded polystyrene, be of sufficient strength and buoyancy to float, and be either white in color or the same color as the owner's blue crab or stone crab buoy colors. These buoys must be either spherical in shape with a diameter no smaller than six inches, or some other shape that is no shorter than 10 inches in the longest dimension and the width at some point exceeds five inches

REEF FISH - VERMILION SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective September 16, 2005)

- Raises the statewide recreational minimum size limit for vermilion snapper from 10 to 11 inches total length
- Increases the commercial minimum size limit for vermilion snapper from 10 to 11 inches total length in Gulf of Mexico state waters
- Establishes a recreational daily bag limit of 10 fish per person in Gulf state waters
- Establishes a closed season to the commercial harvest of vermilion snapper in Gulf state waters from April 22 through May 31

REEF FISH - RED GROUPE, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective January 1, 2006)

Reduces the daily recreational bag limit for red grouper harvested in the Gulf of Mexico from two fish per person to one fish per person.

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective July 1, 2006)

- Provides that, for purposes of determining the legal size of reef fish species, "total length" means the straight line distance from the most forward point of the head with the mouth closed, to the farthest tip of the tail with the tail compressed or squeezed, while the fish is lying on its side
- Changes the legal measurement for gray triggerfish from total length to fork length

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective July 1, 2007)

- Allows the Atlantic recreational harvest of one golden tilefish and one snowy grouper within the five-fish daily aggregate grouper bag limit
- Increases the daily recreational bag limit for Atlantic red porgy from one fish to three fish per person

- Increases the recreational minimum size limit for Atlantic vermilion snapper from 11 to 12 inches total length
- Sets commercial trip limits in the Atlantic that are the same as trip limits in federal waters
- Increases the recreational minimum size limit for Atlantic black sea bass from 10 inches total length to 11 inches total length in 2007, and then to 12 inches total length in 2008, and establishes a June 1 - May 31 harvest season
- Reduces the daily recreational bag limit for Atlantic black sea bass from 20 to 15 fish per person
- Requires a minimum 2-inch mesh for the back panel of black sea bass traps in the Atlantic, and requires removal of black sea bass traps in the Atlantic when the commercial quota is reached
- Decreases the Gulf commercial and recreational minimum size limit for vermilion snapper from 11 to 10 inches total length
- Eliminates the April 22 through May 31 closed season for Gulf commercial harvest of vermilion snapper
- Establishes a zero bag limit for Gulf gag, red and black grouper for captains and crew on for-hire vessels
- Removes the requirement for Class I and Class II Gulf commercial red snapper licenses
- Designates golden tilefish as a "restricted species"
- Changes the minimum size limit of vermilion snapper imported into Florida from 11 to 10 inches total length
- Prohibits commercial fishermen from harvesting or possessing the recreational bag limit of reef fish species on commercial trips

REEF FISH - BLACK SEA BASS TRAPS, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective March 12, 2008)

Allows the use of black sea bass traps to 8 cubic feet in volume.

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER AND REEF FISH GEAR, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective April 1, 2008)

- Reduces the Gulf recreational and commercial daily bag limit for red snapper from 4 fish to 2 fish per person
- Establishes a zero Gulf red snapper daily bag limit for captains and crew of for-hire vessels
- Reduces the minimum size for commercially harvested red snapper in the Gulf and for imported red snapper from 15 to 13 inches total length
- Requires all commercial and recreational anglers fishing for any Gulf reef fish species to use circle hooks, dehooking devices and venting tools, beginning June 1, 2008

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 2009)

- Establishes a two-fish per person recreational daily bag limit for Gulf gag grouper within the five grouper aggregate limit
- Prohibits the recreational harvest of Gulf gag grouper from Feb. 1 through March 31

- Establishes a two-fish per person recreational daily bag limit for Gulf red grouper within the five grouper aggregate limit
- Increases the recreational minimum size limit for Gulf greater amberjack from 28 to 30 inches fork length
- Increases the commercial and recreational minimum size limit for Gulf gray triggerfish from 12 to 14 inches fork length

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective March 13, 2009)

Changes the recreational open harvest season for red snapper in Gulf of Mexico state waters to June 1 through Sept. 30.

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Aug. 7, 2009)

Changes the recreational harvest season for red snapper in Gulf of Mexico state waters from June 1 through Sept. 30 to June 1 through Aug. 14.

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Aug. 27, 2009)

- Decreases the daily recreational aggregate bag limit for grouper from five fish to four per person in Gulf of Mexico state waters, except in Monroe County
- Establishes a Feb. 1 - March 31 closed spawning season for all recreational harvest of shallow-water groupers (gag, black, red, yellowfin, scamp, yellowmouth, rock hind and red hind) in Gulf state waters, except in Monroe County
- Reduces the commercial minimum-size limit for Gulf red grouper, and for all importation and sale of red grouper, from 20 inches to 18 inches total length

REEF FISH - VERMILION SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Oct. 16, 2009)

- Reduces the daily recreational bag limit for vermilion snapper in Atlantic state waters from 10 fish to 5 fish per person
- Prohibits the captain and crew on for-hire vessels in the Atlantic from keeping vermilion snapper
- Establishes a Nov. 1 - March 31 closed season to all harvest of vermilion snapper in Atlantic state waters

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 19, 2010)

- Establishes a 3 fish per person aggregate daily recreational bag limit for all grouper in Atlantic and Monroe County state waters
- Prohibits the captain and crew of for-hire vessels from retaining any species in the aggregate grouper bag limit
- Allows anglers to keep no more than 1 gag or black grouper combined in Atlantic and Monroe County state waters
- Prohibits all harvest of shallow-water groupers (including gag, black grouper, red grouper, scamp, red hind, rock hind, coney, graysby, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, and tiger grouper) from Jan. 1 - April 30 in Atlantic and Monroe County state waters

- Requires dehooking tools to be aboard commercial and recreational vessels for anglers to use as needed to remove hooks from Atlantic reef fish

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective June 4, 2010)

Establishes a June 1 through July 23 recreational harvest season for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico.

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Oct. 8, 2010)

Establishes eight Friday through Sunday recreational harvest weekends for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico from Oct. 1 through Nov. 21.

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective June 1, 2011)

Establishes a June 1 through July 18 recreational harvest season for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico.

REEF FISH - GREATER AMBERJACK AND GAG GROUPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective June 17, 2011)

- Prohibits recreational harvest of greater amberjack in the Gulf of Mexico from June 1 through July 31, each year
- Prohibits recreational harvest and possession of gag grouper in all state waters of the Gulf of Mexico, excluding Monroe County, during the following closed periods in 2011: June 1 through Sept. 15 and Nov. 16 through Dec. 31

REEF FISH - RED GROUPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Dec. 23, 2011)

- Increases the red grouper bag limit from 2 fish to four fish

REEF FISH - EXECUTIVE ORDER -GAG GROUPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 2012)

- Continues prohibition of harvest from January 1 - January 31, 2012

REEF FISH - RECREATIONAL BAG LIMITS EXCEPTION LANGUAGE UPDATE, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective July 1, 2012)

- Updates exception paragraph to reflect numbering changes that have occurred within the reef fish recreational bag limits rule
- Excludes red porgy harvested from the Atlantic Ocean from the exception paragraph

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, GULF OF MEXICO, CH 68B-14, FAC

Change the recreational fishing season for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico to June 1 through July 10 (40 days)

REEF FISH - EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12-10, RED SNAPPER (Effective July 11, 2012)

Extended the 2012 red snapper season an additional 6 days, setting the closure date to July 17, 2012.

REEF FISH – BLACK SEA BASS Ch 68B- 14, FAC (Effective February 1, 2013)

- Increased the minimum size limits for commercial and recreational harvest to 11 inches TL and 13 inches TL respectively in the Atlantic
- Decreased the recreational bag limit from 15 to five fish per person per day in the Atlantic
- Required anyone fishing with black sea bass traps in Atlantic state waters to have a federal South Atlantic black sea bass pot endorsement and a commercial snapper grouper unlimited permit
- Changed the Atlantic state trap requirements to match federal trap specifications and requirements (this would include trap construction requirements, requiring traps to be set in waters north of Cape Canaveral, and requiring traps to be removed from the water and brought back to shore at the conclusion of each trip)

REEF FISH – GAG GROUPE, GULF OF MEXICO, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective May 9, 2013)

- Established the recreational gag grouper harvest season for Franklin, Wakulla, Jefferson and Taylor counties, Indian Pass Apalachicola Bay and the Steinhatchee river to be April 1 through June 30
- Established the recreational gag grouper harvest for the rest of the Gulf of Mexico excluding Monroe County to be July 1 through Dec.

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, GULF OF MEXICO, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective May 31, 2013)

- Set the recreational red snapper season in Gulf of Mexico state waters to June 1 through July 14 (44 days)

REEF FISH – GRAY TRIGGERFISH, GULF OF MEXICO, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective June 10, 2013)

- Established a recreational and commercial closure of June 1 through July 31
- Established a recreational two fish daily bag limit
- Established a commercial trip limit of 12 fish

REEF FISH – RED SNAPPER, GULF OF MEXICO, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Sept. 13, 2013) Executive Order 13-34

- Set the recreational red snapper supplemental season for 2013 only in Gulf of Mexico state waters from Oct. 1 through 21

REEF FISH – VERMILION SNAPPER, ATLANTIC, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Oct. 31, 2013)

- Eliminated the November 1 through March 31 recreational closure in Atlantic State Waters

REEF FISH – GROUPE, GULF OF MEXICO, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Oct. 31, 2013)

- Eliminated the Feb. 1 through March 31 recreational closure in Gulf State Waters

REEF FISH , GULF OF MEXICO, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 24, 2014)

- Eliminated the requirement to possess and use venting tools when fishing for reef fish in the Gulf of Mexico

REEF FISH, ATLANTIC, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective March 13, 2014)

- Eliminated language that prohibited captain and crew or for-hire vessels from retaining recreational bag limits of vermillion snappers, groupers and golden tilefish on for-hire trips in state waters of the Atlantic (including Monroe County for grouper and golden tilefish)

REEF FISH, GULF OF MEXICO, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective May 24, 2014)

- Set the recreational harvest season for red snapper in all state waters of the Gulf of Mexico to begin the Saturday before Memorial Day and end July 14.

REEF FISH, REPORTING REQUIREMENT, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Aug. 26, 2014)

- Create a Gulf Reef Fish Data Reporting System for private recreational reef fish anglers to improve data collection.

REEF FISH - GRAY TRIGGERFISH, EXECUTIVE ORDER 15-06, Recreational Harvest Closure in Gulf of Mexico State Waters (Effective Feb. 7, 2015-Dec. 31, 2015)

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14.0036, FAC (Effective May 7, 2015)

- Reduces the red grouper bag limit from 4 fish to 2 fish per person within the grouper aggregate in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico, excluding Monroe County.

REEF FISH, 68B-14.0038, FAC (Effective May 23, 2015)

Modifies the recreational harvest season for red snapper in the Gulf. Set to begin the Saturday before Memorial Day through July 12, Saturdays and Sundays in September and October, as well as Labor Day and Sunday, Nov. 1

REEF FISH, 68B-14.0035, FAC (Effective July 7, 2015)

Sets a 14-inch fork length minimum size limit for gray triggerfish in Atlantic state waters

REEF FISH, 68B-14.00355, FAC (Effective July 7, 2015)

Raises the minimum size limit for the importation and sale of gray triggerfish to 14 inches fork length

REEF FISH - GRAY TRIGGERFISH, EXECUTIVE ORDER 15-33, Atlantic size limits changed to 12 inches fork length and recreational bag limit changed to 10 fish and statewide size limit for importation and sale of 12 inches FL (Effective Nov. 21, 2015-Nov. 1, 2016)

REEF FISH - GREATER AMBERJACK, EXECUTIVE ORDER 15-35, Recreational Harvest Closure in Gulf of Mexico State Waters (Effective Nov. 21, 2015-Dec. 31, 2015)

REEF FISH, 68B-14.0035, FAC (Effective Jan. 24, 2016)

Increases the greater amberjack minimum size limit for recreational harvest from 30 inches to 34 inches fork length for Gulf state waters

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective May 7, 2016)

The season for the recreational harvest and possession of red snapper in all state waters of the Gulf of Mexico shall be Saturdays and Sundays beginning May 7, opening continuously beginning the Saturday before Memorial Day through July 10, resuming for Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from September 1 through October 31 as well as Labor Day, with the season closure beginning November 1 each year.

REEF FISH, 68B-14.0035, FAC (Effective June 1, 2016)

- Increases the recreational minimum size limit for black groupers from 22 to 24 inches total length in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico
- Increases the recreational minimum size limit for gag groupers from 22 to 24 inches total length in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico
- Establishes the recreational season for gag grouper as June 1 through December 31 each year, consistent with Federal Standards

REEF FISH - TIGER GROUPE, 68B-14.001, FAC (Effective July 1, 2016)

- Removes tiger grouper from state management

REEF FISH, 68B-14.0045, FAC (Effective July 1, 2016)

- Requires a valid transferable commercial permit or a trip-limited commercial permit for South Atlantic snapper-grouper shall not apply to the harvest of black snapper, dog snapper, mahogany snapper, schoolmaster, or wenchman for commercial purposes in the Atlantic Ocean.
- The requirement of a valid commercial vessel permit for Gulf reef fish shall additionally not apply to the harvest of coney, graysby, misty grouper, red hind, rock hind, black snapper, dog snapper, mahogany snapper, and schoolmaster for commercial purposes in the Gulf of Mexico.

REEF FISH - GRAY TRIGGERFISH, EXECUTIVE ORDER 16-23, Recreational Harvest Closure in Gulf of Mexico State Waters (Effective Aug. 1, 2016-Dec. 31, 2016)

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, EO 16-33 (Effective Sept. 8, 2016)

Due to the reduction in recreational fishing opportunities caused by hurricane Hermine, extends recreational season of red snapper in Gulf state waters to Nov. 5-6, 11-12, and 25-27.

REEF FISH - GREATER AMBERJACK, EO 16-30 (Effective Sept. 10, 2016)

Due to the closure of federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico effective August 1, 2016, closes the recreational season for greater amberjack in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico

REEF FISH - BAHAMAS, 68B-14.006, FAC (Effective Sept. 13, 2016)

Creates an exception allowing recreational anglers to land reef fish as fillets instead of as whole fish, provided the reef fish were recreationally harvested in The Bahamas and specific conditions are met

REEF FISH - GRAY TRIGGERFISH, EXECUTIVE ORDER 16-50, Atlantic Gray Triggerfish Size Limits and Recreational Bag Limit, and Statewide Size Limit for Importation and Sale (Effective Nov. 9-17, 2016)

REEF FISH - GRAY TRIGGERFISH , 68B-14, FAC (Effective Nov. 17, 2016)

- Reduces the recreational and commercial minimum size limits to 12 inches fork length for harvest in the Atlantic Ocean and statewide importation and sale
- Creates a recreational bag limit of 10 fish in Atlantic state waters

REEF FISH - GRAY TRIGGERFISH , 68B-14, FAC (Effective Nov. 17, 2016)

Clarifies that the recreational and commercial minimum size limit that was approved by the Commission in Sept. 2016 for Atlantic gray triggerfish is measured by fork length

REEF FISH - MUTTON SNAPPER, 68B-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 2017)

- Increases the recreational, commercial, importation and sale minimum size limits to 18 inches
- Reduces the recreational bag limit to five fish per person within the 10-fish snapper aggregate bag limit
- Replaces the May – June commercial trip limit in all state waters with a five fish per person/day limit from April – June in Atlantic state waters
- Establish a 500-pound commercial vessel limit for the remainder of the year (July – March) in Atlantic state waters

REEF FISH - HOGFISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 2017)

- Sets the state management boundary for Gulf and Atlantic hogfish regulations at 25°09' North Latitude in the Gulf of Mexico
- Increases Gulf minimum size limit to 14 inches FL and Atlantic minimum size limit to 16 inches FL
- Sets minimum size limit for importation and sale at 14 inches FL
- Sets recreational bag limit of one fish in the Atlantic
- Sets May 1 – Oct. 31 recreational harvest season in the Atlantic

REEF FISH - GRAY TRIGGERFISH, EXECUTIVE ORDER 16-55, 2017 Recreational Harvest Closure of Gray Triggerfish in State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Effective Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2017)

REEF FISH - YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective March 15, 2017)

Exempts commercial harvesters in the Gulf of Mexico south of 25 degrees 09 minutes north latitude from the requirement to use stainless steel circle hooks when fishing for yellowtail snapper on hook-and-line gear with natural baits.

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective May 23, 2017)

The season for the recreational harvest and possession of red snapper in all state waters of the Gulf of Mexico shall be Saturdays and Sundays beginning the first Saturday in May; each day of the week beginning the Saturday before Memorial Day through the Sunday following July 4; Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from September 1 through October 31 as well as Labor Day.

REEF FISH – BLACK SEA BASS, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective May 30, 2017)

- Increases the black sea bass recreational bag limit in the Atlantic from 5 to 7 fish

- Requires buoy line marking for commercial Atlantic black sea bass traps

REEF FISH – GAG GROUPEL, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective Aug. 31, 2017)

- Adds Sept. 1 – Dec. 31 to the recreational harvest season for gag grouper all waters of Franklin, Wakulla, Jefferson, and Taylor counties, including Indian Pass, Apalachicola Bay, and the Steinhatchee River (Big Bend region)

REEF FISH - GRAY TRIGGERFISH , 68B-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 16, 2018)

Clarifies that the recreational and commercial minimum size limit for Gulf gray triggerfish is measured by fork length

REEF FISH, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective May 25, 2018)

- Requires charter, headboat, and saltwater fishing guide operations that target or harvest certain reef fish in Gulf of Mexico state waters (excluding Monroe County), to report their intention to harvest or attempt to harvest the following species: red snapper, vermilion snapper, gag grouper, red grouper, black grouper, gray triggerfish, greater amberjack, lesser amberjack, banded rudderfish, or almaco jack
- This requirement would not apply to vessels fishing under a valid federal Gulf of Mexico Charter/Headboat Permit for Reef Fish.

REEF FISH – GREATER AMBERJACK, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective April 30, 2018)

- Prohibits the harvest and possession of greater amberjack in all Gulf state waters November 1 through April 30 and June 1 through July 31, each year

REEF FISH – GAG GROUPEL, CH 68B-14, FAC (Effective July 23, 2018)

- Federal consistency increasing the commercial minimum size limit from 22 to 24 inches total length for gag grouper in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

REEF FISH – RED SNAPPER, EO 18-19 Recreational Season for Red Snapper in State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Effective April 18, 2018 – Jan. 1, 2019)

- Sets the 2018 recreational red snapper season for state waters of the Gulf of Mexico as June 11, 2018 through July 20, 2018
- Red Snapper Closed Seasons. Except for persons harvesting red snapper for commercial purposes pursuant to Rule 68B-14.0045, FAC, no person shall harvest in or from state waters of the Gulf of Mexico any red snapper outside of the open season identified in this Order

REEF FISH – RED SNAPPER, EO 18-25 Possession of Red Snapper in or on State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico During the Federal For-Hire Season (Effective May 31 – July 23, 2018)

- Vessels for hire that possess aboard the vessel a valid federal Gulf of Mexico Charter/Headboat Permit for Reef Fish pursuant to 50 C.F.R. §622.20(b), while fishing for other species in or on state waters, may be in possession of red snapper that were legally harvested in adjacent EEZ waters during the federal season for recreational harvest by the federal for-hire component

- The federal season for recreational harvest by the federal for-hire component is 12:01 a.m. June 1, 2018 local time through 12:01 a.m. local time July 22, 2018 pursuant to 83 FR 17623
- Except for persons harvesting red snapper for commercial purposes pursuant to Rule 68B-14.0045, FAC, no person shall harvest in or from state waters of the Gulf of Mexico any red snapper outside of the open season identified in Executive Order 18-19

REEF FISH, 68B-14, FAC (Effective Jan. 1, 2019)

- Rule 68B-14.0045 FAC is modified to reference federal Gulf IFQ regulations, which are outlined in the new rule 68B-14.0046, FAC

REEF FISH – RED SNAPPER, EO 19-05 Recreational Season for Red Snapper in State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Effective Feb. 20, 2019 – Jan. 1, 2020)

- Sets the 2019 recreational red snapper season for state waters of the Gulf of Mexico as June 11, 2019 through July 12, 2019
- Red Snapper Closed Seasons. Except for persons harvesting red snapper for commercial purposes pursuant to Rule 68B-14.0045, F.A.C., no person shall harvest in or from state waters of the Gulf of Mexico any red snapper outside of the open season identified in this Order

REEF FISH – RED SNAPPER, EO 19-05 (Effective Feb. 20, 2019)

- Sets the 2019 recreational red snapper season for state waters of the Gulf of Mexico as June 11, 2019 through July 12, 2019

REEF FISH – RED SNAPPER, EO 19-13 Possession of Red Snapper in or on State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico During the Federal For-Hire Season (Effective April 22 – Aug. 2, 2019)

- Vessels for hire that possess aboard the vessel a valid federal Gulf of Mexico Charter/Headboat Permit for Reef Fish pursuant to 50 C.F.R. §622.20(b), while fishing for other species in or on state waters, may be in possession of red snapper that were legally harvested in adjacent EEZ waters during the federal season for recreational harvest by the federal for-hire component
- The federal season for recreational harvest by the federal for-hire component is 12:01 a.m. June 1, 2019 local time through 12:01 a.m. local time Aug. 2, 2019 pursuant to 84 FR 8825
- Except for persons harvesting red snapper for commercial purposes pursuant to Rule 68B-14.0045, FAC, no person shall harvest in or from state waters of the Gulf of Mexico any red snapper outside of the open season identified in Executive Order 19-05

REEF FISH – GRAY TRIGGERFISH, EO 19-15 (Effective May 11, 2019 – Jan. 1, 2020)

- Closes recreational season for gray triggerfish in Gulf state waters for remainder of 2019 season

REEF FISH – GREATER AMBERJACK, EO 19-16 (May 3, 2019 – June 1, 2019)

- Closes recreational season for greater amberjack in Gulf state waters through May 31, 2019

REEF FISH, 68B-14, FAC (Effective July 1, 2019)

- Designates blueline tilefish as a restricted species
- Sets 20-inch minimum size limit for Atlantic commercial harvest of Almaco jack
- Removes minimum size limits for blackfin, queen, and silk snapper
- Removes outdated commercial vessel limit and season for Atlantic red porgy

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, EO 19-36 Extended Recreational Season for Red Snapper in State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Effective Sept. 30, 2019)

Adds additional days (October 12 and 13; October 19 and 20; October 26 and 27) to the 2019 recreational season for red snapper in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

REEF FISH - RED SNAPPER, EO 19-42 Extended Recreational Season for Red Snapper in State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Effective Oct. 23, 2019)

Adds additional days (November 2 and 3) to the 2019 recreational season for red snapper in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

REEF FISH - LANE SNAPPER, EO 19-47 Recreational Harvest Closure of Lane Snapper in State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Effective Dec. 13, 2019)

- Closes recreational harvest of lane snapper, effective 12:01 a.m. local time, December 13, 2019, and remain closed through the remainder of 2019
- All recreational harvest and possession of lane snapper shall be prohibited in or on state waters of the Gulf of Mexico during this time

RESTRICTED SPECIES LICENSE ENDORSEMENT

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Pursuant to section 120.74, Florida Statutes, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has published its **2019**
Agency Regulatory Plan.
