



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

Managing fishery resources in the U.S. federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico



Council Update

2010 Deadline for Implementation

ACLs and AMs must be in place by 2010 for stocks subject to overfishing



ACLs AMs

For the Gulf Council that includes:

- red snapper
- greater amberjack
- gray triggerfish
- gag

AMs and ACLs – Implementation Status

The Gulf Council began moving forward with the implementation of AMs and ACLs even before NOAA Fisheries finished implementing its guidelines.



Actions to date include

- Reef Fish Amendment 27/Shrimp Amendment 14 revises the red snapper rebuilding plan to address overfishing
- Reef Fish Amendment 30A addresses overfishing of greater amberjack and gray triggerfish and includes ACLs and AMs
- Reef Fish Amendment 30B addresses the overfished status of gag grouper and includes ACLs and AMs

Red Snapper

Joint Reef Fish
Amendment 27/Shrimp
Amendment 14 addresses
overfishing and bycatch
issues in both the red
snapper directed fishery
and the shrimp fishery.



Greater Amberjack

Reef Fish Amendment 30A provides the Regional Administrator authority to close the fishery in-season if annual landings for a sector exceed the specified annual TAC.



Gray Triggerfish - Recreational

Reef Fish

Amendment 30A uses a multi-year running average of recreational landings to determine if catch limits are exceeded.

If exceeded, the season length will be reduced in the following fishing year.



Gray Triggerfish – Commercial

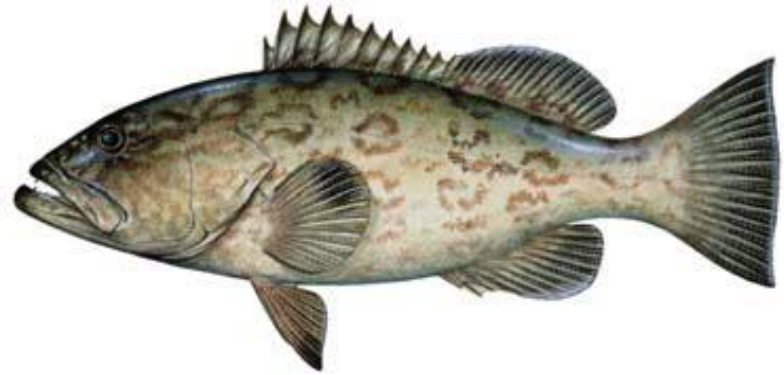
Annual landings will be compared to annual catch limits.

If the commercial quota is projected to be met then the RA will close the fishery during the season.

If commercial landings exceed the annual catch limit, then the quota in the subsequent season will be reduced by the amount the catch limit was exceeded in the previous year.

Commercial Shallow-Water Grouper (SWG) includes gag

If landings reach or are projected to reach the red grouper, gag, or SWG quota then the



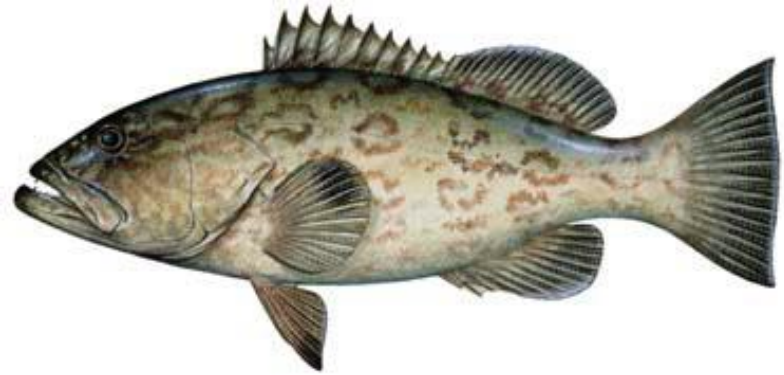
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries will file a notification closing the commercial SWG fishery.

Commercial SWG *continued* includes gag

In addition, if commercial red grouper, gag, or SWG landings exceed the respective annual catch limits then the AA will file a notification maintaining the prior year red grouper, gag, or SWG commercial quota in the following fishing year.

Recreational SWG includes gag

If recreational landings exceed the red grouper or gag ACLs the AA will file a notification maintaining the prior year red grouper or gag target catch level.



Recreational SWG *continued* includes gag

The notification will also reduce the length of the recreational SWG fishing season in the following year by the amount necessary to ensure recreational gag and red grouper landings do not exceed the recreational target catch level for that fishing year.

2011 ACLs and AMs Deadline

A generic comprehensive ACL/AM amendment will address the remaining stocks in the Gulf Council's FMPs, with the exception of coastal migratory pelagics, which will likely be included in a joint plan with the South Atlantic Council.

An IPT is forming (Rick, what exactly is the task of the IPT?)

Fully anticipate implementation before the 2011 deadline.

Concerns

- Ability to monitor recreational catches to determine when to implement AMs
- Compatibility of AMs and current management measures – disparity in sector reductions via AMs active or reactive
- Notification and enforcement – Active AMs
- Environmental effects
- Changes to social and economic characteristics

Questions?

