



HOT SHEET – AUGUST 2013

(Valid through August 31, 2013)

Issues covered in this posting:

[Red Snapper Atlantic](#), [Gray Triggerfish](#), [Spiny Lobster](#), [South Florida Workshops](#), [Red Snapper Gulf](#), [Greater Amberjack](#), [Permit](#), [Season Updates](#), [Events](#)

Issue: RED SNAPPER

→Atlantic Federal

Action: Recreational red snapper season open Aug. 23-25

Information: Recreational red snapper season will be open Aug. 23 through 25 in federal Atlantic waters. The bag limit for the federal season will be one fish per person, per day with no minimum size limit.

Recreational harvest of red snapper is open year-round in state waters of the Atlantic and the bag limit in state waters is two fish per person per day with a 20 inch minimum size limit.

During the federal recreational red snapper season opening, recreational anglers will be able to transit from open federal waters through state waters but vessels possessing red snapper under 20" must travel through state waters without stopping and must have fishing gear stowed.

Links for more information:

[Red Snapper Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

[Atlantic Red Snapper Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

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Issue: GRAY TRIGGERFISH

→Gulf

Action: Recreational and commercial harvest reopens Aug. 1; new limits in effect

Information: The recreational and commercial harvest of gray triggerfish opens in Gulf of Mexico state and federal waters Aug. 1.

When the gray triggerfish season reopens, new bag and trip limits will also be in effect in Gulf state and federal waters. The recreational bag limit will be two fish per person, per day, and the commercial limit will be 12 fish per trip.

The minimum recreational and commercial size limit for gray triggerfish in Gulf of Mexico state and federal waters is 14 inches fork length, which is measured from the tip of the fish's closed mouth to the center of the fork in the tail.

Links for more information:

[Gray Triggerfish Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

[Reef Fish Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

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FWC Division of Marine Fisheries Management

Issue: SPINY LOBSTER

Action: Recreational and commercial season opens Aug. 6

Information: Recreational and commercial spiny lobster season opens Aug. 6 and runs through March 31, closing on April 1.

The bag limit is six per person, per day. The carapace of the spiny lobster must be larger than 3 inches to be harvested. Spiny lobster must be measured in the water and possession of a measuring device is required at all times. Lobster must be landed in whole condition. Eggbearing lobster may not be harvested. Harvesters cannot use any device that could puncture, penetrate or crush the shell of the lobster.

A recreational fishing license and a lobster permit are required for recreational harvest unless exempt from the recreational license requirements.

Harvest is prohibited in Everglades National Park, Dry Tortugas National Park, the Biscayne Bay-Card Sound Spiny Lobster Sanctuary, certain coral formations within John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park and the no-take areas in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Recreational trapping is prohibited.

Links for more information:

[Lobster Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

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Issue: SOUTH FLORIDA WORKSHOPS

Action: Share your thoughts on South Florida fishery management

Five workshops have been planned to gather public comments on marine fisheries regulations and issues in South Florida, two of which will be held in August. The other three were held in July in Dania Beach, Key Largo and Key Colony Beach.

FWC, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council are hosting the meetings. Goals are to identify fishery management issues that are specific to South Florida and possible ways to better coordinate state and federal fisheries management in this region.

Schedule:

All meetings are from 5 to 8 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

Aug. 1 - Key West: Harvey Government Center, 1200 Truman Avenue, 2nd Floor

Aug. 5 - Marco Island: Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort, 400 S. Collier Boulevard

Links for more information:

[Workshop Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

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Issue: RED SNAPPER

→Gulf

Action: Season likely to reopen in October

FWC Division of Marine Fisheries Management

Information: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council recently approved a recreational red snapper supplemental season beginning Oct. 1, 2013, (assuming quota is still available after accounting for harvest during the June federal season) in federal waters. The season would be open until the quota is projected to be met. According to current estimates from NOAA Fisheries, the fall supplemental season is estimated to remain open for 21 days. The FWC will consider opening state waters of the Gulf of Mexico for the fall supplemental season at the September FWC meeting in Pensacola.

Links for more information:

[Gulf Snapper Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

[Reef Fish Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

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Issue: GREATER AMBERJACK

→Gulf

Action: Recreational season opens Aug. 1

Information: The recreational harvest of greater amberjack opens Aug. 1 in Gulf of Mexico state and federal waters.

The minimum size limit for recreationally caught greater amberjack in Gulf of Mexico state and federal waters is 30 inches fork length. Recreational anglers may take one greater amberjack per person, per day.

Links for more information:

[Greater Amberjack Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

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Issue: PERMIT

Action: Recreational harvest inside the Special Permit Zone reopens Aug. 1

Information: Recreational harvest of permit will open Aug. 1 inside the Special Permit Zone, which includes all state and federal waters south of Cape Florida in the Atlantic and south of Cape Sable in the Gulf.

The minimum size limit within the Special Permit Zone is 22 inches with a bag limit of 1 fish per person, per day and a vessel limit of no more than two fish per day.

Permit may be harvested by hook and line only in state waters and by hook and line and spearing in federal waters.

Links for more information:

[Permit Information](#) [MyFWC.com]

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Issue: SEASON UPDATES

Action: Upcoming recreational season openings and closures for August-September

Information: The following species have upcoming season openings/closures: (May not include all harvest openings/closures. View [regulations online at MyFWC.com](#) for more.)

FWC Division of Marine Fisheries Management

Aug. 1 – Permit (Special Permit Zone) opens
Greater Amberjack (Gulf) opens
Gray Triggerfish (Gulf) opens

Aug. 6 – Spiny Lobster opens

Sept. 1 – Snook (Atlantic and Gulf) opens

Sept. 25 – Bay Scallop closes

Links for more information:

[FWC Permit](#) [MyFWC.com]
[FWC Amberjack](#) [MyFWC.com]
[FWC Triggerfish](#) [MyFWC.com]
[FWC Spiny Lobster](#) [MyFWC.com]
[FWC Snook](#) [MyFWC.com]
[FWC Bay Scallops](#) [MyFWC.com]
[FWC Recreational Regulations](#) [MyFWC.com]

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JULY-AUGUST 2013 EVENTS

[Aug. 1: South Florida Issues Workshops – Key West](#)
[Aug. 5: South Florida Issues Workshops – Marco Island](#)
[Sept. 5-6: FWC Commission Meeting – Pensacola](#)
[Sept. 14-15: Florida Sportsman Expo – Tampa](#)
[Sept. 21: Kids' Fishing Clinic – Jensen Beach](#)
[Sept. 28: FWC Wildlife Alert Run Wild 5K - Tallahassee](#)

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