

to be reached, NMFS will close the fishery effective upon the date provided in the notification in accordance with paragraph (g)(5) of this section. Upon the effective date in the notification, targeting, retaining on board, transshipping, or landing Pacific bluefin tuna in the Convention Area shall be prohibited through the end of the calendar year, with the exception that any Pacific bluefin tuna already on board a fishing vessel on the effective date of the notice may be retained on board and landed or transshipped within 14 days after the effective date published in the fishing closure notification, to the extent authorized by applicable laws and regulations.

(5) *Announcement and effective dates of in-season actions.* If in-season actions under paragraphs (g)(2) through (4) of this section are needed, NMFS will post a notice on the NMFS web page announcing the in-season action, including effective dates. NMFS will also send emails with notice of the in-season action to affected vessel owners. This action will also be published in the **Federal Register** as soon as practicable. The in-season action will be effective upon whichever is earlier: receipt by email of such notice or publication in the **Federal Register**.

(6) *Reversal of in-season actions.* If an in-season action taken under paragraphs (g)(2) through (5) of this section is based on an overestimate of actual catch, NMFS will reverse that action in the timeliest possible manner, provided NMFS finds that reversing that action is consistent with the management objectives for the affected species. The fishery will be subject to the change in trip limit or reopened effective on the date provided in the notice in accordance with paragraph (g)(5) of this section.

(7) *State of California fish landing receipts.* If landing Pacific bluefin tuna into the State of California, fish landing receipts must be submitted within 24 hours to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in accordance with the requirements of applicable State regulations.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 200124-0029; RTID 0648-XE854]

RTID 0648-XE854

2025 Red Snapper Private Angling Component Accountability Measure in Federal Waters Off Louisiana

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule, accountability measure.

SUMMARY: Based on information provided by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), NMFS has determined that reported landings from Louisiana exceeded the state's 2024 regional management area private angling component annual catch limit (ACL) for Gulf red snapper. Therefore, NMFS reduces the Louisiana 2025 private angling component ACL. This reduction will remain in effect through the remainder of the current fishing year on December 31, 2025.

DATES: This temporary rule is effective from 12:01 a.m., local time, on May 6, 2025, until 12:01 a.m., local time, on January 1, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Frank Helies, NMFS Southeast Regional Office, 727-824-5305, frank.helies@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the Gulf reef fish fishery, which includes red snapper, under the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf (FMP). The Gulf Council prepared the FMP, which was approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and NMFS implements the FMP through regulations at 50 CFR part 622 under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). All red snapper weights discussed in this temporary rule are in round weight.

Through this temporary rule, NMFS implements accountability measures for the red snapper recreational sector private angling component in the Gulf of America (Gulf) off Louisiana for the 2025 fishing year. Executive Order 14172, "Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness" (Jan. 20, 2025), directs that the Gulf of Mexico be renamed the Gulf of America. Consistent with the order, this action

uses Gulf of America to refer the area known as the Gulf of Mexico in the specific regulations at 50 CFR part 622.

In 2015, Amendment 40 to the FMP established two components within the recreational sector fishing for red snapper: the private angling component, and the Federal charter vessel and headboat (for-hire) component (80 FR 22422, April 22, 2015). In 2020, NMFS implemented Amendments 50 A-F to the FMP, which delegated authority to the Gulf states (Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas) to establish specific management measures for the harvest of red snapper in Federal waters of the Gulf by the private angling component of the recreational sector (85 FR 6819, February 6, 2020). These amendments allocated a portion of the private angling ACL to each state, and each state is required to constrain landings to its allocation as part of state management. The Louisiana regional management area private angling component ACL is 934,587 lb (423,922 kg) (50 CFR 622.23(a)(1)(ii)(A)).

Regulations at 50 CFR 622.23(b) require that if a state's red snapper private angling component landings exceed the applicable state's component ACL, then in the following fishing year, that state's private angling ACL will be reduced by the amount of that ACL overage in the prior fishing year. Based on data provided by the LDWF, NMFS has determined that 2024 landings of red snapper from Louisiana for the private angling component, which includes landings for state charter vessels, were 974,219 lb (441,898 kg); which is 39,632 lb (17,977 kg) greater than the 2024 Louisiana ACL of 934,587 lb (423,922 kg). Accordingly, for the 2025 fishing year, this temporary rule reduces the Louisiana 2025 ACL by the amount of the 2024 overage. This reduction results in a revised 2025 private angling ACL for Louisiana of 894,955 lb (405,945 kg). The LDWF is responsible for ensuring that 2025 private angling component landings in the state's regional management area do not exceed the adjusted 2025 Louisiana ACL.

The recreational private angling component ACLs for the other Gulf state management areas for 2025 are unaffected by this temporary rule. The reduction in the 2025 red snapper private angling component ACL for the Louisiana regional management area is effective at 12:01 a.m., local time, on May 6, 2025, and will remain in effect until 12:01 a.m., local time, on January 1, 2026.

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required under 50 CFR 622.23(b) which was issued pursuant to section 304(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and opportunity for public comment on this action. Such procedures are unnecessary because the rule implementing the post-season ACL adjustment authority has already been subject to notice and comment, and all that remains is to notify the public of the ACL overage adjustment to reduce the private angling component ACLs for the Louisiana regional management area. Such procedures are contrary to the public interest because a failure to implement the ACL overage adjustment immediately may result in confusion among the public about what ACL is in effect for Louisiana for the 2025 fishing year. This action is based on the best scientific information available.

For the aforementioned reasons, there is also good cause to waive the 30-day delay in the effectiveness of the action under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3).

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: May 1, 2025.

Kelly Denit,

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Part 635**

[Docket No. 220919-0193; RTID 0648-XE816]

**Atlantic Highly Migratory Species;
Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries;
General Category and Harpoon
Category Retention Limit Adjustments**

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; retention limit adjustments.

SUMMARY: NMFS is adjusting the daily retention limits for the bluefin tuna (BFT) General and Harpoon categories. Specific to the General category, NMFS is adjusting the daily retention limit for

the month of June from the default of three large medium or giant BFT to one large medium or giant BFT. This daily retention limit applies to Atlantic Tunas General category (commercial) permitted vessels and Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Charter/Headboat permitted vessels with a commercial sale endorsement when fishing commercially for BFT. This daily retention limit will be effective for the month of June or until further modified. Specific to the Harpoon category, NMFS is modifying the daily retention limit from the default of no more than 10 large medium and giant BFT to 5 large medium or giant BFT. The incidental catch limit of two large medium BFT per vessel per day/trip remains unchanged. These retention limits apply to Atlantic Tunas Harpoon category permitted vessels for the remainder of the 2025 Harpoon category fishing season, which concludes on November 15, 2025, or until further modified.

DATES: The adjusted retention limit for the General category will be effective June 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025 or until NMFS announces via a notice in the **Federal Register** another adjustment to the retention limit. The adjusted retention limit for the Harpoon category will be effective from June 1, 2025, through November 15, 2025, or until NMFS announces via a notice in the **Federal Register** another adjustment to the retention limit.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larry Redd, Jr., larry.redd@noaa.gov, or Ann Williamson, ann.williamson@noaa.gov, by email or by phone at 301-427-8503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Atlantic BFT fisheries are managed under the 2006 Consolidated Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan (HMS FMP) and its amendments, pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act; 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) and consistent with the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA; 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). ATCA is the implementing statute for binding recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). The HMS FMP and its amendments are implemented by regulations are at 50 CFR part 635. Section 635.27(a) divides the U.S. BFT quota, established by ICCAT and as implemented by the United States among the various domestic fishing categories, per the allocations established in the HMS FMP and its amendments. NMFS is required under the Magnuson-Stevens Act at 16 U.S.C. 1854(g)(1)(D) to provide U.S. fishing vessels with a reasonable

opportunity to harvest quotas under relevant international fishery agreements such as the ICCAT Convention, which is implemented domestically pursuant to ATCA.

On January 20, 2025, President Trump issued Executive Order (E.O.) 14172 (Restoring Names that Honor American Greatness). As part of the order, the Gulf of Mexico is renamed as the Gulf of America. Consistent with the order, this action uses Gulf of America for all references to the area known as the Gulf of Mexico in the specific regulations at 50 CFR part 635.

As described in § 635.27(a), the current baseline U.S. BFT quota is 1,316.14 metric tons (mt) (not including the 25 mt ICCAT allocated to the United States to account for bycatch of BFT in pelagic longline fisheries in the Northeast Distant Gear Restricted Area). The baseline quota for the General category is 710.7 mt. The General category baseline quota is suballocated to different time periods. Relevant to this action, the baseline subquota for the June through August time period is 355.4 mt. As described at § 635.23(a)(2), the month of June has a default General category daily retention limit of three large medium or giant BFT (measuring 73 inches (185 cm) curved fork length (CFL) or greater) per vessel per day/trip while all other open months (*i.e.*, January through March and July through December) have a retention limit of one large medium or giant BFT. The General category daily retention limit applies to General category permitted vessels and to HMS Charter/Headboat permitted vessels (when fishing commercially for BFT) (§ 635.23(a)(2)).

The Harpoon category baseline quota is 59.2 mt. As described in § 635.23(d)(1), the overall default Harpoon category daily retention limit is no more than 10 large medium or giant BFT, combined, per vessel per day/trip. As described in § 635.23(d)(2), the incidental daily catch limit is no more than two large medium BFT (*i.e.*, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) to less than 81 inches (206 cm) CFL) per vessel per day/trip. As an example, if the vessel owner/operator retains two large medium BFT during a day/trip under these default retention limits, they may retain a maximum of 8 giant BFT on that same day/trip.

Adjustment of General and Harpoon Category Daily Retention Limits

NMFS may increase or decrease the General or Harpoon category daily retention limits after considering the regulatory determination criteria under § 635.27(a)(7). For the General category, NMFS may adjust the daily retention