

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 622 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 622--FISHERIES OF THE CARIBBEAN, GULF OF MEXICO, AND SOUTH ATLANTIC

1. The authority citation for part 622 continues to read as follows:

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

2. In § 622.38, revise paragraph (c) to read as follows:

§ 622.38 Bag and possession limits.

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(c) *Possession limits for vessels with a valid Federal charter vessel/headboat permit for reef fish.* A person, or a vessel in the case of speckled hind or warsaw grouper, on a trip that spans more than 30 hours may possess, at any time during the trip, no more than two daily bag limits, provided such trip is on a vessel that is operating as a charter vessel or headboat, the vessel has two licensed operators aboard, each passenger is issued and has in possession a receipt issued on behalf of the vessel that verifies the date and time of departure of the trip, and the entire trip occurs on days when the harvest and possession of the applicable reef fish species are allowed.

Commented [SS1]: Gulf reef fish bag and possession limits

Commented [SS2]: Preferred option

Commented [SS3]: preferred sub option (b)

Commented [SS4]: Based on Committee, 10/21, to include the date/time of departure.

Commented [SS5]: the legal days text

3. In § 622.382, revise paragraph (a)(2) to read as follows:

§ 622.382 Bag and possession limits.

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(a) * * *

(2) *Possession limits.* (i) *Possession limits for vessels with a valid Federal charter vessel/headboat permit for Atlantic coastal migratory pelagic fish.* A person who is on a trip that spans more than 24 hours may possess no more than two daily bag limits, provided such trip is on a vessel that is operating as a charter vessel or headboat, the vessel has two licensed operators aboard, and each passenger is issued and has in possession a receipt issued on behalf of the vessel that verifies the length of the trip.

(ii) Possession *limits for vessels with a valid Federal charter vessel/headboat permit for Gulf coastal migratory pelagic fish.* A person who is on a trip that spans more than 30 hours may possess, at any time during the trip, no more than two daily bag limits of Gulf king and Spanish mackerel, provided such trip is on a vessel that is operating as a charter vessel or headboat, the vessel has two licensed operators aboard, each passenger is issued and has in possession a receipt issued on

Commented [SS6]: preferred option for Gulf for-hire vessels.

Commented [SS7]: preferred sub option (b)

behalf of the vessel that verifies the date and time of departure of the trip, and the entire trip occurs on days when the harvest and possession of the applicable coastal migratory pelagic species are allowed.

Commented [SS8]: Based on Committee, 10/21, to include the date/time of departure.

Commented [SS9]: the legal days text

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