



SOUTHEAST FISHERY BULLETIN
(Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic)

FB15-078

Susan Gerhart
727-824-5305

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NOAA Fisheries Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Changes to King Mackerel Management
Comment period ends November 6, 2015

NOAA Fisheries is seeking public comment on Framework Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region. NOAA Fisheries is also seeking public comment on the proposed rule to implement the management measures contained in the amendment. Framework Amendment 3 proposes to make the following changes to commercial regulations on king mackerel harvested by gillnets in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf):

- Increase the trip limit from 25,000 pounds to 45,000 pounds.
- Add an accountability measure to reduce the annual catch limit in the year following an overage.
- Modify electronic reporting requirements to improve timeliness of reporting while reducing redundancy for dealers.
- Implement a landings requirement to renew a gillnet permit.

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has submitted Framework Amendment 3 to NOAA Fisheries for review, approval, and implementation. The proposed rule published on October 6, 2015. Comments will be accepted through November 6, 2015. We will address all comments specifically directed to either the amendment or the proposed rule in the final rule.

For more information on Framework Amendment 3, please visit the NOAA Southeast Fisheries Web site at http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_sa/cmp/2015/framework_am3/index.html.

An electronic copy of the amendment is available at that Web site or from the e-Rule Making Portal www.regulations.gov.

How to Submit Comments

NOAA Fisheries must receive comments on these documents no later than November 6, 2015. You may submit comments on the amendment or the proposed rule, identified by "NOAA-NMFS-2015-0101", by one of the following methods:

Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2015-0101>, click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments. Mail written comments to Susan Gerhart, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on the regulations.gov Website without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NOAA Fisheries will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

About Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional Fishery Management Councils established by the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The Council prepares fishery management plans, which are designed to manage fishery resources within the 200-mile limit of the Gulf of Mexico.



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[Charlene Ponce](#)

Public Information Officer

888-833-1844 ext. 229