

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Meeting  
April 19, 2017  
Consent Agenda Item #2  
Atlantic Fishery King Mackerel – Draft Rule Language

**68B-30.002 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

(1) “Atlantic fishery” means ~~all Florida waters of the Atlantic Ocean north of a line extending due east of the Miami-Dade/Monroe county line designated as follows; and all king mackerel in those waters (consistent with the Federal Standard established in 50 C.F.R. § 622.369(a) as of TBD - - );~~ Between November 1 and March 31 of the following years, the Atlantic fishery consists of all Florida waters in the Atlantic Ocean north of a line extended due east from the coastal boundary between Volusia and Flagler counties (29 deg. 25 min. N. latitude). Between April 1 and October 31 of each year, the Atlantic fishery consists of all Florida waters in the Atlantic Ocean and all Florida waters in the Gulf of Mexico south of a line extended due west from the coastal boundary between Monroe and Collier Counties (25 deg. 48 min. N. latitude).

(2) through (4) No change.

*Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History–New 3-15-87, Amended 11-1-88, 1-1-98, Formerly 46-30.002, Amended - - .*

**68B-30.003 Commercial Harvest Limits; Recreational Bag Limit; Gear Specifications.**

(1) Commercial Harvest Limits. Persons holding a Florida resident, nonresident, or alien saltwater products license with a restricted species endorsement and a federal commercial permit to harvest king mackerel from the Atlantic Migratory Group, may harvest king mackerel from the Atlantic fishery upon the following conditions:

(a) The season for harvest of king mackerel from the Atlantic fishery has not been closed pursuant to Rule 68B-30.004, F.A.C.; and,

(b) Persons harvesting king mackerel for commercial purposes from the Atlantic fishery shall be subject to commercial vessel limits in adjacent federal waters pursuant to 50 C.F.R. § 622.385(a)(1) (as of TBD - - ) unless adjacent federal Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) waters are closed to commercial harvest of king mackerel. ~~The following commercial daily vessel harvest limits shall apply in the indicated counties. During the specified periods, no more than the applicable commercial daily vessel harvest limit shall be possessed aboard any vessel subject to this subsection.~~

~~1. Persons harvesting king mackerel in the state waters of Nassau, Duval, St. Johns, and Flagler Counties shall be subject to a year round commercial vessel limit of 3,500 pounds per vessel, per day.~~

~~2. Beginning April 1, and continuing through October 31 each year, persons harvesting king mackerel in the state waters of Volusia County, shall be subject to a commercial vessel limit of 3,500 pounds per vessel, per day.~~

~~3. Beginning April 1, and continuing through October 31 each year, persons harvesting king mackerel in the state waters of Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, and Dade Counties, shall be subject to a commercial vessel limit of 75 king mackerel per vessel, per day.~~

~~4. Beginning April 1, and continuing through October 31 each year, persons harvesting king mackerel in the state waters of Monroe County, shall be subject to a commercial vessel limit of 1,250 pounds per vessel, per day.~~

(2) through (5) No change.

*Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History–New 3-15-87, Amended 11-1-88, 1-1-97, 1-1-98, Formerly 46-30.003, Amended 12-21-00, 10-12-15, - - .*

**68B-30.006 Other Prohibitions.**

(1) through (3) No change.

(4) Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit the sale of king mackerel harvested pursuant to 50 C.F.R. 622.379(b) (as of TBD - - ).

*Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History–New 3-15-87, Formerly 46-30.006, Amended 10-12-15.*

Note: Effective date will be the same as the federal effective date if possible.