

Tripletail and Sheepshead
PROPOSED RULE LANGUAGE

Final Public Hearing
Agenda Item 12A

April 26, 2018

CHAPTER 68B-49: TRIPLETAIL

68B-49.001 Designation as a Restricted Species; Applicability of Rules to State and Federal Waters.

(1) Tripletail is hereby designated a restricted species pursuant to Section 379.101(32), F.S.

(2) The regulations in this chapter apply in all Florida Waters and in adjacent federal waters.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History—New 1-1-96, Amended 1-1-98, Formerly 46-49.001, Amended 7-1-06, 9-1-13, _____.

68B-49.003 Size Limit; Landed in Whole Condition Requirement.

(1) Size Limit – A person may not harvest or possess within or without land from Florida Waters, or land possess in or on Florida Waters a tripletail that is less than 18 45 inches in total length.

(2) Landed in Whole Condition Requirement – A person harvesting tripletail shall land each tripletail in whole condition. A person may not possess within or without in or on Florida Waters a tripletail that has been beheaded, sliced, divided, filleted, ground, skinned, scaled, or deboned. This provision will not be construed to prohibit evisceration (gutting) of a tripletail, or removal of gills from a tripletail.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History—New 1-1-96, Amended 1-1-98, Formerly 46-49.003, Amended 9-1-13, _____.

68B-49.004 Bag and Vessel Limits; Bycatch Allowance.

(1) Recreational Bag Limit – A recreational harvester may not harvest or possess within or without land from Florida Waters or land more than 2 tripletail per day or possess in or on Florida Waters more than 2 tripletail.

(2) Commercial Limits –

(a) Commercial Bag Limit – A commercial harvester may not harvest or possess within or without land from Florida Waters or land more than 10 tripletail per day, or possess in or on Florida Waters more than 10 tripletail.

(b) Commercial Vessel Limit – The commercial harvesters aboard a vessel within or without in or on Florida Waters may not collectively possess more than 10 tripletail, regardless of the number of ~~licensed or license exempt~~ persons onboard. This provision will not be construed to authorize harvest or possession of tripletail in excess of the applicable bag limits.

(c) No change.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History—New 9-1-13, Amended _____.

68B-49.006 Allowed and Prohibited Gear and Method of Harvest; Bycatch Exception.

(1) Allowed Gear and Method of Harvest – A person may harvest a tripletail within or without from Florida Waters only by or with the use of hook and line gear.

(2) Prohibited Gear and Method of Harvest –

(a) A person may not harvest a tripletail within or without from Florida Waters with gear or methods that are not expressly permitted in subsection (1).

(b) A person may not use a multiple hook in conjunction with live or dead natural bait to harvest or attempt to harvest tripletail within or without from Florida Waters.

- (c) A person may not harvest within or without ~~from~~ Florida Waters a tripletail by spearing or snagging the tripletail.
- (3) No change.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History–New 9-1-13, Amended _____.

CHAPTER 68B-59: SHEEPSHEAD

68B-59.001 Designation as Restricted Species; Applicability of Rules to State and Federal Waters.

- (1) Sheepshead are hereby designated as restricted species pursuant to Section 379.101(32), F.S.
- (2) The regulations in this chapter apply in all Florida Waters and in adjacent federal waters.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History–New 9-1-13, Amended _____.

68B-59.003 Size Limit; Landed in Whole Condition Requirement.

(1) Size Limit – A person may not harvest or possess within or without ~~land from~~ Florida Waters or land ~~possess in or on~~ Florida Waters, a sheepshead that is less than 12 inches in total length.

(2) Landed in Whole Condition Requirement – A person harvesting sheepshead shall land each sheepshead in whole condition. A person may not possess within or without ~~in or on~~ Florida Waters a sheepshead that has been beheaded, sliced, divided, filleted, ground, skinned, scaled, or deboned. This provision will not be construed to prohibit evisceration (gutting) of a sheepshead or removal of gills from a sheepshead.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History–New 9-1-13, Amended _____.

68B-59.004 Bag and Vessel Limits; Bycatch Allowance.

(1) Recreational Limits –

(a) Recreational Bag Limit – A recreational harvester may not harvest or possess within or without ~~land from~~ Florida Waters or land more than 10 ~~15~~ sheepshead per day, or possess in or on Florida Waters more than 15 ~~sheepshead~~.

(b) Seasonal Recreational Vessel Limit – During the months of March and April, no more than 50 sheepshead may be collectively possessed by recreational harvesters aboard a vessel within or without Florida Waters, regardless of the number of persons onboard. This provision will not be construed to authorize harvest or possession of sheepshead in excess of the applicable bag limits.

(2) Commercial Limits –

(a) No change.

(b) Sheepshead Bycatch Allowance – A commercial harvester may not harvest or possess within or without ~~land from~~ Florida Waters or land more than 50 pounds ~~lbs~~ of sheepshead per day or possess in or on Florida Waters more than 50 lbs of sheepshead, pursuant to subsection 68B-59.006(3), F.A.C., as incidental bycatch of gear that is being used to lawfully harvest another target species.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History–New 9-1-13, Amended _____.

68B-59.006 Allowed and Prohibited Gear and Methods of Harvest; Bycatch Exception.

(1) Allowed Gear and Method of Harvest – A person may harvest or attempt to harvest a sheepshead within or without ~~from~~ Florida Waters only by or with the use of beach or haul seine, cast net, hook and line gear, or by spearing.

(2) Prohibited Gear and Method of Harvest –

(a) A person may not harvest or attempt to harvest a sheepshead within or without ~~from~~ Florida Waters with gear or methods that are not expressly permitted in subsection (1).

(b) A person may not use a multiple hook in conjunction with live or dead natural bait to harvest or attempt to harvest a sheepshead within or without ~~from~~ Florida Waters.

(c) A person may not harvest or attempt to harvest a sheepshead within or without ~~from~~ Florida Waters by snagging the sheepshead or land a sheepshead so harvested.

(3) No change.

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History–New 9-1-13, Amended _____.