

Trade Adjustment Assistance Workshops Scheduled For Registered Fishermen

The LSU AgCenter has announced the availability of training workshops for shrimp fishermen enrolled in the Trade Adjustment Assistance program. The Trade Adjustment Assistance program provides technical training and financial assistance to producers who have been negatively impacted by imports. To be eligible, shrimp fishermen had to have applied for the program thru their local Farm Service Agency office during one of two available signup periods. The first signup period ended on Sept. 23, 2010, and the second signup period ended on Dec. 23, 2010.

Louisiana Shrimp. Photo credit: Paula Ouder

Fishermen enrolled in the program are required to complete technical training before they are eligible for financial assistance. Fishermen must complete an initial

orientation, 12 hours of intensive technical training, and an initial business plan before they are eligible for up to \$4,000 in financial assistance. Fishermen can then choose to complete a more comprehensive, long-term business plan which would make them eligible for up to an additional \$8,000 in financial assistance.

The workshops being announced are for producers who applied for the program during the second signup period. Producers who applied during the first signup period where previously offered this training during November and December. These workshops provide fishermen an opportunity to receive the initial orientation training and the first three hours of intensive technical training. Additional workshops will be offered in March and April 2011 to provide the additional training required.

Fishermen unable to attend a workshop or feel comfortable with receiving training online can register with the national Trade Adjustment Assistance program website at www.TAAforFarmers.org. Once registered, fishermen can gain access to the online training courses. They can then complete the training course and receive credit towards the program just as those fishermen that attend a workshop. Regardless of whether a fisherman receives the training by attending a workshop or completes the online training, they have until March 23, 2011, to complete the initial orientation training. Failure to complete the initial orientation training prior to the March 23 deadline will result in the fishermen being dropped from the program.





With nearly 1,000 fishermen applying for the Trade Adjustment Assistance program during the second signup period, fishermen wishing to attend one of the scheduled workshops are required to pre-register. Fishermen can pre-register by contacting Lynda Shoalmire (lshoalmire@agcenter.lsu.edu or 225-578-2363) or Todd Cooper (tcooper@agcenter.lsu.edu or 225-578-6312) with the LSU AgCenter. Fishermen must have pre-register by Monday, Feb. 21, 2011.

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council February Update

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council met in Gulfport, Mississippi Feb. 7-10 to address numerous fishery issues, including a re-run assessment for gag and an amendment to address crew size limits on dually permitted vessels. Some highlights from the week are noted below:

Gag

The council asked staff to prepare an interim rule for consideration during the April council meeting that sets the 2011 recreational season for gag from Sept. 16 through Nov. 15. This request was made after the council reviewed the results of a re-run of the 2009 gag update assessment. The re-run adjusted the size distribution of undersized released fish in the recreational fishery and used newly available observer data to estimate discards in the commercial fishery. The result was a slight increase in the total allowable catch for 2011, from 1.01 to 1.28 million pounds. That means 781,000 pounds (61 percent) for the recreational sector and 499,000 pounds (39 pounds) for the commercial sector.

The 781,000 pound recreational allocation allows enough catch for a two-month fall season, provided Florida adopts a consistent closed season by June 1. Without Florida consistency, it is projected the entire recreational allocation will be caught in state waters, leaving no allocation available for federal waters. The Sept. 16 through Nov. 15 recreational season is contingent upon Florida consistency.

For the commercial sector, a major unknown factor is the levels of dead discards due to the small amount of gag individual fishing quota (IFQ) available, and whether commercial fishermen can successfully avoid catching gag while fishing for red grouper. Because the grouper IFQ system has only been in place for one year, the commercial sector has not established a track record to demonstrate how successfully fishermen can avoid catching fish for which they do not have IFQ shares. As a result, the council set the 2011 commercial quota at a precautionary level of 430,000 pounds. This includes the 100,000 pounds previously released via interim rule at the beginning of the year.

The council also continued work on Draft Reef Fish Amendment 32 to establish a rebuilding plan for gag, which has been declared by NOAA Fisheries to be overfished and undergoing overfishing. Amendment 32 will be implemented in 2012 and should allow for an increase in the 2012 total allowable catch of gag, provided that the 2011 catches from recreational and commercial fishing do not exceed the levels needed to rebuild.

To help assure that the rebuilding plan stays on track, the council directed staff to include alternatives for recreational quota closure authority for the NOAA Fisheries Regional Administrator, and overage adjustments if a sector exceeds its allocation. This is similar to the quota closure authority and overage adjustments of the greater amberjack fishery, which is also under a rebuilding plan.

The council also streamlined the amendment by removing several alternatives that were intended to address bycatch, and by moving a section on data collection and monitoring programs out of Amendment 32 and into a

more appropriate amendment. In addition, alternatives to increase the recreational bag limit of red grouper will be added to the amendment. Public hearings on Amendment 32 will be scheduled around the Gulf coast this spring or summer.

Goliath Grouper

The council received a summary of a new stock assessment on goliath grouper. The assessment showed that the goliath grouper stock has clearly improved since the moratorium was implemented in 1990. However, questions still remain about the stock. For example, there is a lack of information about the basic biology of the goliath grouper, such as how long they can live. Estimates range anywhere from 37 years to 80 years.

Another unknown is whether goliath grouper change sex like gag and some other grouper species. Also, the assessment, which was conducted by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, focused on the south Florida portion of the stock. While that area is the center of abundance, goliath grouper are found throughout the Gulf of Mexico and in the Caribbean, and information about the status of the stock in areas not covered by the assessment is lacking. Because of the biological uncertainties and the limited geographic scope of the assessment, the council's Scientific and Statistical Committee was unable to set a level of acceptable biological catch. Instead, they recommended that the moratorium be continued through 2015, and that during this period, a coordinated scientific sampling plan be produced to address the data needs.

The Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission will review the assessment during its February meeting and may consider some sort of limited harvest of goliath in state waters.

Crew Size Limit for Dually Permitted Vessels

The council approved a draft scoping document to address the crew size requirements for vessels with both federal commercial and charter reef fish permits, as well as actions to address issues related to the income qualification requirement for federal commercial permit holders. Scoping meetings will be held in the spring. Scoping is the process of identifying issues, potential impacts, and reasonable alternatives associated with the issue at hand. It provides the first and best opportunity for the public to make suggestions or to raise issues and concerns before the Council begins developing an amendment.

Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Finance Program Availability

New provisions of the existing Federal Fisheries Finance Program allow for some Gulf fishermen to apply for loans to purchase IFQ shares under certain conditions; however, the council must submit a formal request to participate in the program, as well as define the following terms: Entry-level fishermen and fishermen who fish from a small vessel

The council agreed to send letters to the Secretary of Commerce requesting participation in the Fishery Finance Program, which could provide financing to qualified fishermen to purchase Red Snapper and Grouper/Tilefish shares. The council also and chose the following definitions and additional guidelines to accompany its request.

• Red snapper quota share - a permit granting the owner dedicated access to harvest a specific percentage of commercial red snapper quota.

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- Grouper/tilefish quota share a permit granting the owner dedicated access to harvest a specific percentage of the corresponding grouper/tilefish commercial quota.
- Red Snapper entry-level fisherman a federal commercial reef fish permit holder who has not purchased, previously held or currently hold red snapper quota shares in excess of the percentage of shares that produces 4,000 pounds gutted weight of quota allocation.
- Grouper/Tilefish entry-level fisherman a federal commercial reef fish permit holder who has not purchased, previous held, or currently hold grouper/tilefishshares in excess of the percentage of shares that produces 8,000 pounds gutted weight of quota allocation.
- Red snapper small vessel fishermen federal commercial reef fish permit holders who fish from a vessel whose length as defined in the reef fish permit is less than or equal to 45 feet and who have not purchased, previously held, or currently hold red snapper shares in excess of percentage of shares that produces 4,000 pounds gutted weight of red snapper quota allocation.
- Grouper/tilefish small vessel fishermen federal commercial reef fish permit holders who fish from a vessel whose length as defined in the reef fish permit is less than or equal to 45 feet and who have not purchased, previously held, or currently hold grouper/tilefish shares in excess of percentage of shares that produces 8,000 pounds gutted weight of red snapper quota allocation.

The council also specified that; federal commercial reef fish permit holders may refinance existing debts associated with previous quota share purchases, providing the above qualifications criteria are met at the time of the loan application; financing be limited to a maximum red snapper quota share equivalent to 4,000 pounds gutted weight and a maximum aggregated grouper/tilefish quota share equivalent to 8,000 pounds gutted weight; and applicants be limited to those who hold quota shares representing no more than 12,000 pounds combined in both IFQ programs.

Sector Separation Removed from Generic Amendment for Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures
The council selected preferred alternatives for the generic Annual Catch Limits/Accountability Measures
amendment, and removed sector separation from the generic ACL/AM amendment. The ALC/AM amendment
is scheduled to be finished in June, and removing sector allocation from its current amendment and initiating a
new amendment will allow for more thorough consideration of the issue by both the council and the public.

The council also selected preferred alternatives that remove yellowtail snapper and mutton snapper from the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan. They removed the level of dead discards from the ACL/ACT control rule as a source of management uncertainty.

A complete list of motions will be made available on the council website. Public hearings will be scheduled around the Gulf coast in the spring, with meeting dates and locations to be announced in the coming weeks.

Allocation

The council added to its April agenda a discussion relative to the development of Reef Fish Amendment 28. Amendment 28 deals with grouper allocation.

Continuing to Turn Problem Fish into Nutritious Dish for Haitians in Need

Asian carp have gained notoriety for overtaking the Illinois River, which connects the Mississippi River to Lake Michigan have made inroads into the lower Mississippi, Red and Ouachita rivers and the Atchafalaya Basin. These filter feeders are now a common incidental catch in the hoop nets of Louisiana's commercial freshwater fishermen. Two species – the silver and bighead carp – also happen to be delicious, but there are numerous challenges in establishing a market for their flaky, white flesh.

Now, it appears the problem fish have the potential to become a solution for earthquake weary Haitians. In an innovative pilot project, researchers at Louisiana Sea Grant and the LSU AgCenter successfully produced canned Asian carp pleasing to the Haitian palate. Ultimately, the product could deliver a high-quality protein to people in need, be a boon to fishermen, provide a new opportunity for canneries, and reduce the population of an unwanted invasive species. The project began when Fisheries Specialist Julie Anderson with Louisiana Sea Grant and the LSU AgCenter met Bill Horan, Operation Blessing International's president and chief operating officer. Operation Blessing is a non-denominational Christian humanitarian organization providing disaster aid in the United States and 23 other countries.

"There are so many people in Haiti who are protein starved and would love to have fish," Horan said. "The favorite fish meal is a canned sardine in tomato sauce. We have a children's home with 47 disabled orphans. We thought that would be a good place with the kids and the staff to try the carp." The fish was a hit, and Operation Blessing would like to move forward by purchasing enough canned carp to fill a 40-foot shipping container. It's a tall order that Louisiana Sea Grant and the LSU AgCenter are now working to meet.

"It was great to connect with Bill and Operation Blessing. This is an exciting opportunity to use an underutilized and sometimes misunderstood fish to feed people in need," Anderson said. "We quickly marshaled resources at LSU to create this pilot project. We are now looking for ways to expand production."

The test run produced about 75 cans of fish. Anderson sent bighead and silver carp packed with and without sauce, and Operation Blessing workers delivered them to St. Damien Pediatric Hospital in Port-Au-Prince. The four fish preparations were sampled by about 20 people. David Darg, Operation Blessing's director of Disaster Relief reported, "We had the cooks from the hospital in on the test, and they were very impressed. The conclusion is that they could serve this to people breakfast, lunch and dinner with no complaints." Researchers are now seeking funding, seafood suppliers capable of providing a large quantity of carp and a commercial cannery that can produce the estimated 42,000 small cans or 5,500 gallon cans required to fill the shipping container.

"At this point, the 40-foot container is our next 'sample," Anderson explained. "Operation Blessing will collect some data for us and themselves about shelf life, how widely it's received, basic nutrition and ways it's served. As long as it all goes well, then they will plan to continue the project into the future and possibly into the domestic food bank area."

- Paula Ouder, Louisiana Sea Grant

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Recruiting Applicants for Fishery Advisory Panels

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is soliciting applications for seats currently available on its advisory panels. Working at the grass roots level, advisory panel members provide information and guidance in the development and implementation of federal fishery management plans. Advisory panels are composed of individuals who are engaged in the harvest of, or are knowledgeable and interested in the conservation and management of the fishery or group of fishes to be managed. Members include recreational and commercial

fishermen, seafood dealers and processors, conservationists, scientists and concerned citizens. Advisory panel members serve for two years and can reapply for their positions. AP members generally meet no more than once or twice each year and are compensated for travel and per diem expenses for all meetings. Applications are now being solicited for the following Advisory Panels:

- · Ad Hoc Aquaculture
- · Ad Hoc Data Collection
- · Ad Hoc Mackerel LAPP
- · Ad Hoc Reef Fish LAPP
- Coastal Migratory Pelagics
- · Coral
- · Ad Hoc Grouper IFQ
- · Florida / Alabama Habitat Protection
- · Mississippi / Louisiana Habitat Protection
- · Texas Habitat Protection
- · Law Enforcement
- Outreach & Education
- · Red Drum
- · Ad Hoc Review Panel for Red Drum
- · Red Snapper
- · Reef Fish
- SEDAR NGO
- · Shrimp
- · Spiny Lobster
- · Stone Crab
- · VMS

Anyone interested in serving on any of these panels should submit a letter and resume to:

Phyllis Miranda Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council 2203 N. Lois Avenue Suite 1100 Tampa, FL 33607

Materials may also be faxed to: 813-348-1711; or emailed to phyllis.miranda@gulfcouncil.org. Resumes and letters should be received no later than close of business April 5.

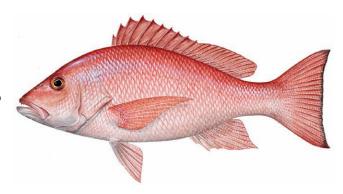
Advisory panel members will be selected during the next meeting of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management council, scheduled for April 11-14 in Orange Beach, Ala.

NOAA CHANGES IN THE GULF:

Comments Sought on a Proposed Rule to Increase the Red Snapper Quotas in the Gulf of Mexico

NOAA Fisheries Service is seeking public comment on a proposed rule that would adjust the commercial and recreational red snapper quotas in the Gulf of Mexico from 3.542 and 3.403 million pounds (MP) to 3.66

and 3.525 MP in 2011, respectively. A recent red snapper assessment update projected overfishing (rate of removal is too high) ended in 2009, and therefore, the total allowable catch can be increased from the existing 6.945 MP to 7.185 MP. This action was evaluated in a regulatory amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico. The proposed rule publishes in the *Federal Register* on Feb. 22, 2011, with the comment period ending March 24. If the amendment is approved, the final rule may contain NOAA Fisheries Service's estimated projection for the number of days in the 2011 recreational fishing season.



Red snapper. Illustration credit: Diane Rome Peebles

Request for Comments: Written comments on this proposed rule to increase the red snapper commercial and recreational quotas must be received no later than March 24, 2011, to be considered by NOAA Fisheries Service. See the addresses section for information on where and how to submit comments. All comments received by NOAA Fisheries Service will be addressed in the final rule.

Addresses: Electronic copies of the proposed rule or the regulatory amendment may be obtained from the e-Rulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's website at www.gulfcouncil.org or from NOAA Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, Sustainable Fisheries Division, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33701-5505. You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- Electronic Submissions: Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: www.regulations.gov. Enter the following docket number into the "Search" box: NOAA-NMFS-2011-0018. All comments received are part of the public record and will generally be posted to www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter, may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. NOAA Fisheries Service will accept anonymous comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect or Adobe PDF file formats only.
- Mail: Richard Malinowski, NOAA Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, Sustainable Fisheries Division, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33701-5505.

 Comments received through means not specified in this bulletin will not be considered.

Closure of the Western Gulf of Mexico Zone to Commercial King Mackerel Fishing

The western Gulf of Mexico zone is closed to commercial king mackerel fishing, effective 12:00 noon (local time) Feb. 11, 2011, through June 30, 2011. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service has determined the 2010/2011 western zone commercial quota of 1.01 million pounds of king mackerel has been reached. With this action, commercial king mackerel fishing is prohibited in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico from the U.S./ Mexico border to the Alabama/Florida boundary.

Closure of the western Gulf of Mexico zone to commercial king mackerel fishing complies with regulations implemented under the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of



King mackerel. Illustration credit: Diane Rome Peebles

Mexico and South Atlantic and is necessary to protect the Gulf group king mackerel resource. In cooperative actions, Gulf states (Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama) are expected to close commercial harvest of king mackerel concurrently in adjoining state waters. During the closure period, no person aboard a vessel for which a commercial permit for king mackerel has been issued may fish for or

retain king mackerel in or from federal waters of the closed zone. There is one exception, however, for a person aboard a charter vessel or headboat. A person aboard a vessel that has a valid charter/headboat permit for coastal migratory pelagic fish and a commercial king mackerel permit may continue to retain king mackerel in or from the closed subzone under the two-fish daily bag limit, provided the vessel is operating as a charter vessel or headboat. Charter vessels or headboats that hold a commercial king mackerel permit are considered to be operating as a charter vessel or headboat when they carry a passenger who pays a fee or when more than three persons are aboard, including operator and crew.

During the closure, no king mackerel caught in the closed zone may be purchased, bartered, traded or sold. This includes recreational and tournament-caught fish. The prohibition of sale, however, does not apply to trade in king mackerel that were harvested, landed ashore and bartered, traded, or sold before the closure and held in cold storage by a dealer or processor.

If you would like to receive these fishery bulletins via e-mail as soon as they are published, e-mail us at: SERO. Communications.Comments@noaa.gov.

Reminder to Federal Fisheries Permit Holders Regarding Control Dates

NOAA Fisheries Service reminds fishermen purchasing federal permits required to participate in the commercial or for-hire fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf), South Atlantic, or U.S. Caribbean of existing control dates that may limit their participation in these fisheries in the future.

What is a Control Date? A control date is a date that may be used by a fishery management council or by NOAA Fisheries Service in establishing eligibility criteria for determining levels of future access to fisheries, or sectors of fisheries. The establishment or revision of control dates does not commit the council or NOAA Fisheries Service to any particular management regime. The council may or may not make use of these control dates as part of the qualifying criteria for participation in any management program. Fishermen are not guaranteed future participation in the fishery, regardless of their entry date or intensity of participation in the fishery before or after the control dates under consideration. The council also may choose to take no further action to control entry or access to the fishery, and rescind the control dates.

Publication of the control dates informs fishermen that the council is considering management measures in its jurisdictional area that could limit eligibility in the fishery. Implementation of any program would require preparation of an amendment to the fishery management plan and publication of a notice of availability and proposed rule with pertinent public comment periods.

The current control dates are summarized below with a reference to their publication in the *Federal Register* (*FR*). If no date of publication is listed behind the FR citation, then the date is identical to the bolded date. A

complete list of all control dates can be found on the Southeast Regional Office Web site: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/

March 29, 2001 - Control date for the for-hire (charter and headboats) in the Gulf reef fish and coastal migratory pelagic fisheries. [66 FR 32312, June 14, 2001]

Dec. 6, 2003 - Control date for the Gulf commercial penaeid shrimp fishery. [69 FR 10189, March 4, 2004]

Dec. 10, 2003 - Control date for the South Atlantic commercial penaeid shrimp fishery. [69 FR 10189, March 4, 2004]

March 8, 2007 - Control date for the for-hire (charter and headboat) components of South Atlantic fisheries. [72] FR 60794, October 26, 2007]

Dec. 5, 2007 - Control date for the commercial fisheries for dolphin and wahoo in the South Atlantic. [72 FR 68551]

Dec. 31, 2008 - Control date for the commercial reef fish fishery in the Gulf. [74 FR 11577, March 18, 2009]

March 24, 2009 - Control date for the reef fish, queen conch, and spiny lobster fisheries of the U.S. Caribbean. [74 FR 32528, July 8, 2009]

June 30, 2009 - Control date for eligibility of catch histories for limitations on participation in the king mackerel component of the Gulf coastal migratory pelagic fishery. [75 FR 12169, March 15, 2010]

March 31, 2010 - Control date for eligibility of catch histories for limitations on participation in the Spanish mackerel component of the Gulf coastal migratory pelagic fishery. [75 FR 12169, March 15, 2010]

Sept. 17, 2010 - Control date for the snapper-grouper fishery in the South Atlantic. [75 FR 5325]

Sept. 17, 2010 - Control date for the coastal migratory pelagic fishery in the South Atlantic. [75 FR 5326]

NOAA CHANGES IN THE ATLANTIC:

Atlantic Group Spanish Mackerel Trip Limit Reduced for Commercial Vessels Fishing in the Southern **Zone** (Florida)

The daily vessel trip limit for commercial vessels fishing for Atlantic group Spanish mackerel in federal waters of the southern zone is adjusted to 1,500 pounds, effective 6 a.m. local time, Feb. 22, 2011. The southern zone extends from 30°42'45.6" N. latitude (a line directly east

Spanish mackerel. Illustration credit: Diane Rome Peebles

from the Georgia/Florida boundary) to 25°20.4' N. latitude (a line directly east from the Miami-Dade/Monroe County, Florida, boundary).

After 75 percent of the adjusted quota of Atlantic group Spanish mackerel has been reached, a 1,500 pound per day vessel trip limit will apply through the end of the fishing year.

NOAA Fisheries Service has determined 75 percent of the adjusted quota for Atlantic group Spanish mackerel has been taken. Accordingly, the 1,500 pound per day commercial trip limit applies to Spanish mackerel in the southern zone effective 6 a.m., local time, Feb. 22, 2011, through Feb. 28, 2011, unless changed by further notification in the *Federal Register*.

Beginning March 1, 2011, the start of the 2011-2012 fishing year, the trip limit will be 3,500 pounds per day. Based on the 7.04 million pound total allowable catch for Atlantic group Spanish mackerel, the commercial quota is 3.87 million pounds. In the southern zone, the seasonally variable trip limits are based on an adjusted quota of 3.62 million pounds.

Florida East Coast Subzone Closing to the Commercial Harvest of Gulf Group King Mackerel

The commercial sector harvesting Gulf group king mackerel in the Florida east coast subzone is closed, effective 12:01 a.m. (local time) Feb. 26, 2011, through March 31, 2011. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service has determined the 2010/2011 commercial quota of 1,040,625 pounds of king mackerel from this zone will be reached by this date. With this action, the Gulf group king mackerel commercial sector is closed in federal waters from the Flagler/Volusia County line to the Miami-Dade/Monroe County line in Florida until April 1, 2011. Beginning April 1, the boundary between Atlantic and Gulf groups of king mackerel shifts south and west to the Monroe/Collier County boundary on the Florida west coast. From April 1 through October 31, fish harvested along east coast of Florida, including all of Monroe County, are considered to be Atlantic group king mackerel.

Closure of the commercial king mackerel sector in the Florida east coast subzone complies with regulations implemented under the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic and is necessary to protect the Gulf group king mackerel resource. In cooperative actions, the state of Florida is expected to close commercial harvest of king mackerel concurrently in adjoining state waters. During the closure period, no person aboard a vessel for which a commercial permit for king mackerel has been issued may fish for or retain king mackerel in or from federal waters of the closed subzone. There is one exception for a person aboard a charter vessel or headboat. A person aboard a vessel that has a valid charter/headboat permit for coastal migratory pelagic fish and a commercial king mackerel permit may continue to retain king mackerel in or from the closed subzone under the two-fish daily bag limit, provided the vessel is operating as a charter vessel or headboat.

Charter vessels or headboats that hold a commercial king mackerel permit are considered to be operating as a charter vessel or headboat when they carry a passenger who pays a fee or when more than three persons are aboard, including operator and crew. During the closure, no king mackerel caught in the closed subzone may be purchased, bartered, traded or sold. This includes recreational and tournament-caught fish. The prohibition of sale, however, does not apply to trade in king mackerel that were harvested, landed ashore and bartered, traded, or sold before the closure and held in cold storage by a dealer or processor.

Louisiana Shrimp Watch

At press time, the January 2011 data has not been made available by NOAA. We hope to include January and February in the next issue.

The Gumbo Pot

Silverfin Steak & Fresh Berries

Courtesy of Chef Philippe Parola www.chefphilippe.com

Ingredients:

- 4 Silver carp steaks
- 1 or 2 oz each raspberries, blueberries and seedless grapes
- 2 Tbsp pecan oil
- 2 oz unsalted butter
- 2 Tbsp heavy cream
- 3 oz white wine
- 1 lemon and 2 oranges for juice.

Seasoning to taste

Instructions:

Preheat oil and butter in a skillet until very hot. Place seasoned Silverfin steaks in skillet. Brown both sides. Add white wine, juice from lemon and orange. Bring to a boil. Add all the fresh berries. Bake for 12 minutes at 325 degrees. When serving, top with sauce and berries. 4 servings



For more information, contact your local extension agent:



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Research and Extension Programs

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We would like to hear from you! Please contact us regarding fishery questions, comments, or concerns you would like to see covered in the Lagniappe. Anyone interested in submitting information, such as articles, editorials, or photographs pertaining to fishing or fisheries management is encouraged to do so.

Please contact Lagniappe editor Julie Anderson at janderson@agcenter.lsu.edu

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