

SEDAR 17 Management Information Worksheet Spanish Mackerel

Table 1. General Management Information

Species	Spanish Mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus maculatus</i>)
Management Unit	Southeastern US
Management Unit Definition	The management unit for the Atlantic migratory group of Spanish mackerel extends from 25°20.4' N. lat., which is a line directly east from the Miami-Dade/Monroe County, FL, boundary to the outer limit of the EEZ ¹ to the Mid-Atlantic Council Boundaries ² .
Management Entity	South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Management Contacts SERO / Council	Steve Branstetter, Jack McGovern/ Gregg Waugh
Current stock exploitation status	Not Overfishing
Current stock biomass status	Not Overfished

*Electronic Code of Federal Regulations

1. § 622.2 Spanish mackerel. The boundary separating the Gulf and Atlantic migratory groups of Spanish mackerel is 25°20.4' N. lat., which is a line directly east from the Miami-Dade/Monroe County, FL, boundary to the outer limit of the EEZ.

§ 600.105 (a) New England and Mid-Atlantic Councils. The boundary begins at the intersection point of Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New York at 41°18'16.249" N. lat. and 71°54'28.477" W. long. and proceeds south 37°22'32.75" East to the point of intersection with the outward boundary of the EEZ as specified in the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Table 2. Specific Management Criteria

Criteria	Current		Results from SEDAR 17	
	Definition	Value	Definition	Value
MSST	$MSST = [(1-M) \text{ or } 0.7 \text{ whichever is greater}] * B_{MSY}$	8.5 to 11.1	$MSST = [(1-M) \text{ or } 0.7 \text{ whichever is greater}] * B_{MSY}$	TBD
MFMT	$MFMT = F_{MSY}$ where $F_{MSY} = F_{30\%SPR}$	0.42 (0.38 – 0.48)	F_{MSY}	TBD
MSY	Yield at F_{MSY}	5.242 (4.372 – 6.392) mp	Yield at F_{MSY}	TBD
F_{MSY}	F_{MAX}	0.42 (0.38 – 0.48)	F_{MAX}	TBD
OY	Yield at F_{OY}	Not Specified	Yield at F_{OY}	TBD
F_{OY}	$F_{40\%SPR}$	0.30 (0.27 – 0.34)	$F_{OY} = 65\%, 75\%, 85\% F_{MSY}$	TBD
M	n/a	0.30	M	TBD

Stock Assessment on Spanish and King Mackerel Stocks; 2003 Report of the Mackerel Stock Assessment Panel; SFD 2003.

Table 3. Stock Rebuilding Information

Spanish mackerel is not overfished; no rebuilding plan required.

Table 4. Stock projection information

(This provides the basic information necessary to bridge the gap between the terminal year of the assessment and the year in which any changes may take place or specific alternative exploitation rates should be evaluated.)

Requested Information	Value
First Year of Management	2009
Projection Criteria during interim years should be based on (e.g., exploitation or harvest)	Fixed Exploitation; Modified Exploitation; Fixed Harvest*
Projection criteria values for interim years should be determined from (e.g., terminal year, avg of X years)	Average of previous 3 years

*Fixed Exploitation would be $F = F_{MSY}$ (or $F < F_{MSY}$) that would rebuild overfished stock to B_{MSY} in the allowable timeframe. Modified Exploitation would be allow for adjustment in $F \leq F_{MSY}$, which would allow for the largest landings that would rebuild the stock to B_{MSY} in the allowable timeframe. Fixed harvest would be maximum fixed harvest with $F \leq F_{MSY}$ that would allow the stock to rebuild to B_{MSY} in the allowable timeframe.

First year of Management: Earliest year in which management changes resulting from this assessment are expected to become effective
interim years: those between the terminal assessment year and the first year that any management could realistically become effective.

Projection Criteria: The parameter which should be used to determine population removals, typically either an exploitation rate or an average landings value or a pre-specified landings target.

Table 5. Quota Calculation Details

Quota Detail	Value
Current Quota Value	Commercial quota set at 3.87 mp. Recreational allocation set at 3.17 mp.
Next Scheduled Quota Change	None scheduled
Annual or averaged quota ?	annual
If averaged, number of years to average	n/a

How is the quota calculated - conditioned upon exploitation or average landings?

A 2000 seasonal adjustment of harvest levels established a TAC of 7.04 million pounds for Atlantic group Spanish mackerel. This value is based on framework procedures, which specify the Council may not set TAC to exceed the best point estimate of MSY by more than 10 percent. The estimate of MSY from the 1999 Assessment Panel Report is 6.4 million pounds with a range of 5.7 to 7.5 million pounds. With a 7.04 million pound TAC, the commercial allocation is 3.87 million pounds (55%) and the recreational allocation is 3.17 million pounds.

Does the quota include bycatch/discard estimates?

The quota is not adjusted for bycatch estimates.

Are there additional details of which the analysts should be aware to properly determine quotas for this stock?

Table 6. Federal Regulatory and FMP History

Description of Action	FMP/Amendment	Effective Date
Established TAC of 27 MP; limited purse seine harvest to 300,000 lbs in Atlantic and 300,000 lbs in Gulf; minimum size limit for Rec/Comm is 12 inches FL except for incidental catch allowance of 5% of the total catch by weight aboard;	Original FMP (SAFMC 1982) 48 FR 5274	February 4, 1983
Final Rule for Amendment 1. Provided framework procedure for pre-season adjustment of TAC. TAC of 27 mp for Atlantic, purse seine harvest to 300,000 lbs in Atlantic and 300,000 lbs in Gulf and a minimum size limit for the commercial and recreational sectors are 12 inches FL or 14 inches TL.	50 FR 34846 Amendment 1 (SAFMC 1985)	August 28, 1985
Emergency rule beginning January 1, 1987 through March 31, 1987 would divide 3.716 mp quota into three areas with 1.869 mp going to the Atlantic. The Atlantic boundary was bounded by the NC/VA border and a line directly east of the Dade/Monroe County, Florida boundary to the seaward boundary of the EEZ. The emergency action also established a bag limit of 4 Spanish mackerel per trip and allowed sale of recreationally caught Spanish mackerel under the bag limit.	52 FR 290	January 5, 1987
Spanish mackerel commercial fishery was closed January 14, 1987 to March 31, 1987 because 1.869 mo quota was met.	52 FR 2113	January 20, 1987
90 day extension of January 1, 1987 to March 31, 1987 emergency rule for Spanish mackerel.	52 FR 10762	April 3, 1987
Revised MSY, recognized two migratory groups, set TAC at 2.9 mp, established commercial (2.2 mp, 76%) and recreational (0.7 mp, 24%) allocations for TAC, established April 1 to March 31 fishing year, established Dade/Monroe county line as the migratory group boundary, and set commercial quotas and bag limits. A bag limit of 4 fish in FL and 10 in NC, SC, and GA. Charterboat permits were required and it was clarified TAC must be set below the upper range of the ABC.	52 FR 23836 Amendment 2 (SAFMC 1987)	June 25, 1987
Framework action – commercial allocation is 2.36 mp and recreational allocation is 0.74 mp, bag limits is 4 fish from FL and 10 fish north of FL.	52 FR 25012	July 2, 1987
Bag limit for Atlantic Spanish mackerel set to 0 for remainder of year because 0.74 mp recreational allocation was reached.	52 FR 35720	September 23, 1987
Final Rule on technical amendment that allows catch of Spanish mackerel under minimum size limit equal to 5% by weight of total catch or Spanish mackerel on board.	52 FR 36578	September 30, 1987
Commercial fishery for Atlantic Spanish mackerel closed December 29, 1987 because 2.36 mp quota met.	52 FR 49415	December 31, 1987
Framework action changed TAC to 4.0 mp for Atlantic Spanish mackerel with 0.96 mp allocated to the recreational sector and 3.04 mp allocated to the commercial sector.	53 FR 25611	July 8, 1988
Bag limit for Atlantic Spanish mackerel reduced to 0 on October 3, 1988 for remainder of year because recreational allocation of 0.96 mp was reached.	53 FR 39097	October 5, 1988
Commercial fishery for Atlantic Spanish mackerel closed December 29, 1988 because the 3.04 mp quota was reached.	54 FR 153	January 4, 1989
Effective April 1, 1989, TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel	54 FR 24920	June 12, 1989

was increased to 6 mp with 1.44 mp allocated to the recreational sector and 4.56 mp allocated to the commercial sector.		
Prohibited drift gill net for coastal pelagics and purse seines for the overfished group of mackerels.	54 FR 29561 Amendment 3 (SAFMC 1989)	July 13, 1989
Reallocated Atlantic group Spanish mackerel equally between recreational and commercial fishermen. TAC = 6.0 mp.	54 FR 38526 Amendment 4 (SAFMC 1989)	September 19, 1989
Framework action changed TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel to 5.0 mp, 3.14 mp allocated to the commercial sector and 1.86 mp allocated to the recreational sector.	55 FR 25986	June 26, 1990
Extended the management area for the Atlantic groups of mackerels through the MAFMCs area of jurisdiction, revised the definition of overfishing, redefined recreational bag limits as daily limits, and deleted a provision specifying that bag limit caught mackerel may be sold. Size limit for Spanish mackerel is 12 " FL or 14" TL. Bag limit is 4 fish from area off FL and 10 fish north of FL.	55 FR 29370 Amendment 5 (SAFMC 1990)	July 19, 1990
Closed commercial fishery for Atlantic Spanish mackerel on January 25, 1991 because 3.14 mp commercial quota was met.	56 FR 3422	January 30, 1991
TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel increased to 7.0 mp with 3.5 mp allocated to commercial sector and 3.5 mp allocated to recreational sector. Bag limit is 10 fish for areas north of FL and 5 fish for FL.	56 FR 29920	July 1, 1991
Closed commercial fishery for Atlantic Spanish mackerel on December 17, 1991 because 3.5 commercial quota was reached.	56 FR 66001	December 20, 1991
Proposed Rule to increase bag limit in FL for Atlantic Spanish mackerel to that adopted by the state of FL but not to exceed 10 fish.	57 FR 33924	July 31, 1992
Specified rebuilding periods for overfished mackerel stocks, provided for commercial Atlantic Spanish mackerel possession limits, discontinued the reversion of the bag limit to 0 when the recreational quota is filled, modified the recreational fishing year to the calendar year, changed commercial permit requirements to allow qualification in one of three preceding years, and changed all size limits to fork length only. Minimum size limit is 12 inches FL. In northern zone, boats are restricted to possession limits of 3,500 pounds. In southern zone trip limit are 1,500 pounds per vessel per day during April 1 to November 30. From December 1 until 80% of quota is taken: unlimited harvest on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 1,500 pounds per vessel per day on Tuesday and Thursday; 500 pounds per vessel per day on Saturday and Sunday. Trip limit 1,000 pounds per vessel per day when 80% of quota is reached. Adjusted quota for Spanish mackerel is 3.25 mp.	57 FR 58151 Amendment 6 (SAFMC 1992)	December 9, 1992
Trip limit reduced to 1,000 pounds per day in Southern zone on January 7, 1993 because 80% of the quota had been reached.	58 FR 4093	January 13, 1993
Trip limit reduced to 500 pounds per day in Southern zone on February 20, 1993 because 100% of the adjusted commercial allocation was reached.	58 FR 11198	February 24, 1993

Commercial TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel increased to 9 mp with 4.5 mp commercial and 4.5 mp recreational. The initial change in the trip limit occurs when 75% of the quota is met instead of 80%.	58 FR 40613	July 29, 1993
Trip limit reduced to 1,000 pounds per day on December 22, 1993 because 75% of the quota had been met.	58 FR 68327	December 23, 1993
Trip limit reduced to 500 pounds per day on February 18, 1994.	59 FR 8868	February 24, 1994
Effective April 1, 1994, TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel is increased to 9.2 mp (4.6 mp commercial and 4.6 mp recreational).	59 FR 40509	August 9, 1994
Trip limit reduced to 1,000 pounds per day on January 29, 1995 because 75% of the quota had been met.	60 FR 4866	January 25, 1995
Effective April 1, 1995, TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel increased to 9.4 mp (4.7 mp commercial and 4.7 mp recreational).	60 FR 39698	August 3, 1995
Reduce TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel to 7.0 mp (3.5 mp commercial and 3.5 mp recreational). Modify trip regime for commercial vessels off Florida east coast: Nov 1 rather than Dec 1 start for unlimited harvest season and increase the Saturday-Sunday daily trip limit from 500 to 1,500 pounds during that season, and increase the daily trip limit from 1,000 to 1,500 pounds for all days of the week during the period that follows the unlimited season and continues until the adjusted quota is taken.	62 FR 23671	May 1, 1997
Effective with the fishing year that began April 1, 1997, increase the TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel to 8.0 mp (4.0 mp commercial, 4.0 mp recreational).	62 FR 53278	October 14, 1997
Reduce trip limit to 1,500 pounds per day on December 16, 1997.	62 FR 66304	December 18, 1997
Modified requirements for a king or Spanish mackerel permit, set the OY target to 40% static SPR for the Atlantic, and modified the seasonal framework adjustment measures.	63 FR 10561 Amendment 8 (SAFMC 1994)	March 4, 1998
Reduce trip limit to 1,500 pounds per day on February 10, 1999.	64 FR 7556	February 16, 1999
Decrease the TAC for Atlantic Spanish mackerel from 8.0 mp to 6.6 mp and change the allocation from 50/50 to 55% commercial (3.63 mp) and 45% recreational (2.97 mp).	64 FR 45457	August 20, 1999
Allowed the retention and sale of damaged, legal sized king and Spanish mackerel within established trip limits.	64 FR 16336 Amendment 9 (SAFMC 1998)	March 28, 2000
Increase TAC from 6.06 mp to 7.04 mp for Atlantic Spanish mackerel with 3.87 mp commercial and 3.17 mp recreational. The trip limit from April 1 to November 30 would be 3,500 lb; from December 1 until 75% of the adjusted quota is taken there would be no trip limit on Monday through Friday and on Saturday and Sunday the trip limit would be 1,500 lbs. The recreational bag limit is increased from 10 to 15 fish per person per day. MSY = 5.7-7.5 mp, Bmsy = 12.2-15.8, MSST = 8.5-11.1, MFMT = 0.38-0.48. Effective June 12, 2000.	65 FR 41015	July 3, 2000
Addressed Sustainable Fishery Act definitions.	Amendment 11 (SAFMC 1999)	December 1999
Reduce Atlantic Spanish mackerel trip limit to 1,500 lbs per day from March 1, 2004 to March 31, 2004.	69 FR 9969	March 3, 2004
Reduce trip limit for Atlantic Spanish mackerel to 1,500 lbs	70 FR 5569	February 3, 2005

from February 1, 2005 to March 31, 2005.		
Changed the fishing year for Atlantic group Spanish mackerel to March 1 through February 28/29.	70 FR 39187 Amendment 15 SAFMC (2004)	July 7, 2005
Reduce Atlantic Spanish mackerel trip limit to 1,500 lbs from February 5, 2007 to February 28, 2007.	72 FR 5345	February 6, 2007
Change start date for commercial trip limit of the Atlantic Spanish mackerel in southern zone (off FL) to March 1. Effective March 12, 2008.	73FR439	January 3, 2008

Table 7a. State Regulatory History – North Carolina and South Carolina as provided by the state management agencies.

Description of Action	State	Effective Date
1500 pounds max per day, land and sell aggregate king and Spanish mackerel combined	NC	08/04/80
2000 pounds max per day, land and sell aggregate king and Spanish mackerel combined	NC	10/01/81
3500 pounds max per day, land and sell aggregate king and Spanish mackerel combined	NC	10/01/82
Proclamation authority established to specify areas, seasons, quantity, means/methods, size limits	NC	12/01/87
Creel limit: 10 fish/person/fishing trip by hook and line	NC	6/15/88
Creel limit: 10 fish/person/fishing trip by hook and line unless person is in possession of Federal Permit to fish on Spanish mackerel quota. Charter boats with federal Coastal migratory Charter Permit shall not exceed 10 fish per person with more than 3 person on board including captain and mate.	NC	6/22/88
All coastal waters closed to harvest and retention of king and Spanish mackerel taken by any method. Proclamation expires 3/31/89	NC	3/7/89
Creel limit: 10 fish/person/dishing trip by hook and line unless person is in possession of Federal Permit to fish on Spanish mackerel quota. Charter boats with federal Coastal migratory Charter Permit shall not exceed 10 fish per person with more than 3 person on board including captain and mate. Creel limits do not apply to commercial fishermen using nets. Proclamation expires 3/31/90	NC	5/9/89
Creel limit: 10 fish/person/dishing trip by hook and line unless person is in possession of Federal Permit to fish on Spanish mackerel quota. Charter boats with federal Coastal migratory Charter Permit shall not exceed 10 fish per person with more than 3 person on board including captain and mate. Creel limits do not apply to commercial fishermen using nets.	NC	4/1/90
It is unlawful to have a purse gill net on board a vessel when taking or landing Spanish or King Mackerel.	NC	1/1/91
Commercial season closes, reopens 4/1/92	NC	1/5/92
12 inch FL minimum size.	NC	2/15/94
Creel limit: 10 fish/person/dishing trip by hook and line unless person is in possession of Federal Permit to fish on Spanish mackerel quota. Charter boats with federal Coastal migratory Charter Permit shall not exceed 10 fish per person with more than 3 person on board including captain and mate. Creel limits do not apply to commercial fishermen using nets except as specified by NCAC 3M/.0301.	NC	2/15/94
Proclamation authority for hook and line deleted. Entered into rule: Creel limit: 10 fish/person/dishing trip by hook and line unless person is in possession of Federal Permit to fish on Spanish mackerel quota. Charter boats with federal Coastal migratory Charter Permit shall not	NC	3/1/96

exceed 10 fish per person with more than 3 person on board including captain and mate		
Temporary rule change: Recreational purpose wording added and commercial gear working changed to commercial fishing operation. 12 inch minimum size Creel limit: 10 fish per person per day if taken by hook & line or for recreational purpose Holders of valid federal permits may exceed creel limit. Charterboats with valid federal permits shall not exceed 10 fish per person while fishing with more than 3 persons on board including captain and mate.	NC	7/1/99
It is unlawful to possess more than 15 Spanish mackerel per person per day taken for recreational purposes. It is unlawful to possess more than 15 Spanish mackerel per person per day in the Atlantic Ocean beyond three miles in a commercial fishing operation except for persons holding a valid National Marine Fisheries Service Spanish Mackerel Commercial Vessel Permit.	NC	4/1/01
Full consistency with federal regulations	SC	06/88-2007

Table 7b. State Regulatory History - North Carolina through Florida for Spanish mackerel as of 1990 as recorded in the Fishery Management Plan for Spanish Mackerel, Fishery Management Report No. 18, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, November 1990.

State	Bag Limit	Size Limit	Other
NC	10 fish	none	3,500 lb commercial trip limit
SC	10 fish	12" FL min.	Season closes with EEZ closure
GA	10 fish	12" FL min.	Recreational season open 3/16-11/30; 5% size tolerance by weight on trawlers
FL	5 fish	12" FL min.	1,850,000 lb quota for power assisted gill nets; season: Dec 15-Oct31. 205,000lb quota for all other forms of commercial fishing gears; season: Nov 1-Oct 31. 3 1/2 inch minimum stretched mesh.

Table 7c. State Regulatory History - New York through Florida, for Spanish Mackerel at specific times as taken from annual ASMFC FMP Reviews for Spanish Mackerel.

As of December 1995

State	Bag Limit	Size Limit	Other
NY	10 fish	14" TL min.	3,500 lb commercial trip limit
NJ	10 fish	14" TL min.	
DE	10 fish	14" TL min.	
MD	10 fish	14" TL min.	Declaration allowing regulation through framework. Gill net mesh sizes for Chesapeake Bay.
VA	10 fish	14" TL min.	Size limit exemption for pound net fishery; closure when quota reached; 3500 lb trip limit.
NC	10 fish	12" FL min.	3,500 lb commercial trip limit (Spanish and king mackerel combined); finfish excluder devices required in shrimp trawls. Purse gill net prohibition.
SC	10 fish	12" FL min.	3,500 lb commercial trip limit tracking by reference the federal FMP.
GA	10 fish	12" FL min.	Season closed December 1 - March 15.
FL	10 fish	12" FL min.	3 1/2 inch minimum mesh size, 600 yd. maximum length net. Commercial daily trip limits: 1,500 lb April 1 - November 30; December 1 until 75% of adjusted quota reached-unlimited harvest on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 1,500 lb per vessel per day on Tuesday and Thursday; 500 lb per vessel per day on Saturday and Sunday; >75% adjusted quota until quota fulfilled-1,000 lb per vessel per day; >100% of adjusted quota-500 lb per vessel per day.

As of September 1998

State	Bag Limit	Size Limit	Other
NY	10 fish	14" TL min.	3,500 lb. commercial trip limit
NJ	10 fish	14" TL min	
DE	10 fish	14" TL min	
MD	10 fish	14" TL min	Declaration allowing regulation through framework. Gill net mesh sizes for Chesapeake Bay
VA	10 fish	14" TL min	Size limit exemption for pound net fishery; closure when quota reached; 3,500 lb. trip limit
NC	10 fish	12" FL min	3,500 lb. commercial trip limit (Spanish and king mackerel combined); finfish excluder devices required in shrimp trawls. Purse gill net prohibition.

SC	10 fish	12" FL min	3,500 lb. commercial trip limit tracking by reference the federal FMP.
GA	10 fish	12" FL min	Season closed December 1 - March 15.
FL	10 fish	12" FL min	3½ " minimum mesh size, 600 yd. maximum length net. Commercial daily trip limits: 1,500 lb. April 1 - November 30; December 1 until 75% of adjusted quota reached - unlimited harvest on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 1,500 lb. per vessel per day on Tuesday and Thursday; 500 lb. per vessel on Saturday and Sunday; >75% adjusted quota until quota filled - 1,500 lb. per vessel per day; > 100% of adjusted quota - 500 lb. per vessel per day.

As of October 2001

State	Recreational	Commercial	Notes
NY	14"; 15 fish	14"	3,500 lb. commercial possession limit/vessel
NJ	14"; 10 fish	14" TL	
DE	14" TL; 10 fish	no fishery	
MD	14"; 15 fish	14"	Declaration allowing regulation through framework; gill net mesh sizes for Chesapeake Bay
PRFC	14"; 15 fish	14"	
VA	14" TL; 15 fish	14" TL	Size limit exemption for pound net fishery; closure when quota reached; 3,500 lb. trip limit
NC	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	3,500 lb. commercial trip limit (Spanish and king mackerel combined); finfish excluder devices required in shrimp trawls. Purse gill net prohibition.
SC	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	Federal commercial harvest restrictions apply; federal permit required to exceed bag limit; state license required to land/sell.
GA	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	Commercial landings from state waters limited to bag limits; gillnets/longline gear prohibited in state waters; state waters closed December 1 - March 15 for harvest of Spanish mackerel; commercial landings (3,500 lb. trip limit) from EEZ by federally permitted vessels allowed throughout year as long as the federal quota remains open.
FL	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	3½ " minimum mesh size, 600 yd. maximum length net; Commercial daily trip limits: 1,500 lb. April 1 - November 30; December 1 until 75% of adjusted quota reached - unlimited harvest Mon-Fri, 1,500 lb. per vessel/day Sat-Sun; >75% adjusted quota until quota filled - 1,500 lb. per vessel/day; > 100% of adjusted quota - 500 lb. per vessel/day.

As of October 2002

State	Recreational	Commercial	Notes
NY	14"; 15 fish	14"	3,500 lb. commercial possession limit/vessel
NJ	14"; 10 fish	14" TL	
DE	14" TL; 10 fish	no fishery	
MD	14"; 15 fish	14"	Declaration allowing regulation through framework; gill net mesh sizes for Chesapeake Bay
PRFC	14"; 15 fish	14"	
VA	14" TL; 15 fish	14" TL	Size limit exemption for pound net fishery; closure when quota reached; 3,500 lb. trip limit
NC	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	3,500 lb. commercial trip limit (Spanish and king mackerel combined); finfish excluder devices required in shrimp trawls. Purse gill net prohibition.
SC	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	Federal commercial harvest restrictions apply; federal permit required to exceed bag limit; state license required to land/sell.
GA	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	Commercial landings from state waters limited to bag limits; gillnets/longline gear prohibited in state waters; state waters closed December 1 - March 15 for harvest of Spanish mackerel; commercial landings (3,500 lb. trip limit) from EEZ by federally permitted vessels allowed throughout year as long as the federal quota remains open.
FL	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	3½ " minimum mesh size, 600 yd. maximum length net; Commercial daily trip limits: 1,500 lb. April 1 - November 30; December 1 until 75% of adjusted quota reached - unlimited harvest Mon-Fri, 1,500 lb. per vessel/day Sat-Sun; >75% adjusted quota until quota filled - 1,500 lb. per vessel/day; > 100% of adjusted quota - 500 lb. per vessel/day.

As of October 2004

State	Recreational	Commercial	Notes
NY	14"; 15 fish	14"	3,500 lb. commercial possession limit/vessel
NJ	14"; 10 fish	14" TL	
DE	14" TL; 10 fish	no fishery	
MD	14"; 15 fish	14"	Declaration allowing regulation through framework; gill net mesh sizes for Chesapeake Bay
PRFC	14"; 15 fish	14"	
VA	14" TL; 15 fish	14" TL	Size limit exemption for pound net fishery; closure when quota reached; 3,500 lb. trip limit
NC	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	3,500 lb. commercial trip limit (Spanish and king mackerel combined); finfish excluder devices required in shrimp trawls. Purse gill net prohibition.

SC	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	Federal commercial harvest restrictions apply; federal permit required to exceed bag limit; state license required to land/sell.
GA	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	Commercial landings from state waters limited to bag limits; gillnets/longline gear prohibited in state waters; state waters closed December 1 - March 15 for harvest of Spanish mackerel; commercial landings (3,500 lb. trip limit) from EEZ by federally permitted vessels allowed throughout year as long as the federal quota remains open.
FL	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	3½ " minimum mesh size, 600 yd. maximum length net; Commercial daily trip limits: 1,500 lb. April 1 - November 30; December 1 until 75% of adjusted quota reached - unlimited harvest Mon-Fri, 1,500 lb. per vessel/day Sat-Sun; >75% adjusted quota until quota filled - 1,500 lb. per vessel/day; > 100% of adjusted quota - 500 lb. per vessel/day.

As of October 2005

State	Recreational	Commercial	Notes
NY	14" TL; 15 fish	14" TL	3,500 lb. commercial possession limit/vessel
NJ	14" TL; 10 fish	14" TL	
DE	14" TL; 10 fish	14" TL	Gill net and drift net restrictions
MD	14" TL; 15 fish	14" TL	Declaration allowing regulation through framework; gill net mesh sizes for Chesapeake Bay
PRFC	14" TL; 15 fish	14" TL	Closure when quota reached
VA	14" TL; 15 fish	14" TL	Size limit exemption for pound net fishery; closure when quota reached; 3,500 lb. trip limit
NC	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	3,500 lb. commercial trip limit (Spanish and king mackerel combined); finfish excluder devices required in shrimp trawls. Purse gill net prohibition.
SC	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	Federal commercial harvest restrictions apply; federal permit required to exceed bag limit; state license required to land/sell.
GA	12" FL; 15 fish	12" FL	Commercial landings from state waters limited to bag limits; gillnets/longline gear prohibited in state waters; state waters closed December 1 - March 15 for harvest of Spanish mackerel; commercial landings (3,500 lb. trip limit) from EEZ by federally permitted vessels allowed throughout year as long as the federal quota remains open.
FL	12" FL; 15 fish Transfer at sea prohibited.	12" FL	3½ " minimum mesh size, 600 yd. maximum length net. Commercial daily trip limits: 3,500 lb. April 1 - November 30; December 1 until 75% of adjusted quota reached - 3,500 lb. per vessel/day Mon-Fri, 1,500 lb. per vessel/day Sat-Sun; >75% adjusted quota until quota filled - 1,500 lb. per vessel/day; > 100% of adjusted quota - 500 lb. per vessel/day.

In 2006

Notes: commercial license required to sell Spanish mackerel in all states; other general gear restrictions apply to the harvest of Spanish mackerel.

State	Recreational	Commercial
NY	14" TL, 15 fish	14" TL. 3,500 lb. trip limit
NJ	14" TL, 10 fish	14" TL.
DE	14" TL, 10 fish	14" TL.
MD	14" TL, 15 fish	14" TL.
PRFC	14" TL, 15 fish	14" TL. Closure when quota reached.
VA	14" TL, 15 fish	14" TL; size limit exemption for pound net fishery. 3,500 lb. trip limit. Closure when quota reached.
NC	12" FL, 15 fish	12" FL. 3,500 lb. trip limit (Spanish and king mackerel combined). Purse gill nets prohibited.
SC	12" FL, 15 fish	12" FL, 15 fish
GA	12" FL, 15 fish	12" FL. State waters: 15 fish limit, closure from December 1 - March 15. 3,500 trip limit in federal waters. Closure when quota reached.
FL	12" FL, 15 fish	12" FL. Trip limits: April 1 – Nov. 30 - 3,500 lb.; Dec. 1 until 75% of adjusted quota reached - 3,500 lb. Mon-Fri. & 1,500 lb. Sat-Sun; >75% adjusted quota until quota filled -1,500 lb.; > 100% of adjusted quota - 500 lb.

Table 8. Annual Regulatory Summary

Commercial Fishery Regulations			Recreational Fishery Regulations	
Effective Date	Size Limit	Quota	Size Limit	Possession Limit
See Table 6 for annual regulatory summary of Federal regulatory history.				

References

Stock Assessment on Spanish and King Mackerel Stocks; 2003 Report of the Mackerel Stock Assessment Panel; SFD 2003.

Fishery Management Plan for Spanish Mackerel, Fishery Management Report No. 18, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, November 1990.