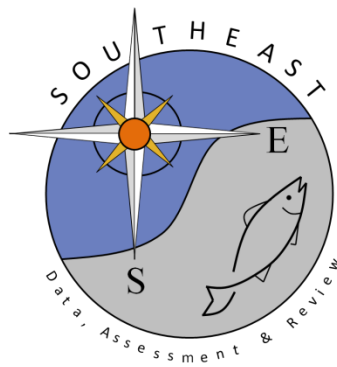


Summary of Management Actions for Caribbean Spiny Lobster  
(*Panulirus argus*) as Documented within the Management History  
Database (1985-2023)

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SEDAR91-AP-01

31 January 2025



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Please cite this document as:

Malone, Gaitlyn. 2025. Summary of Management Actions for Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*) as documented within the Management History Database (1985-2023). SEDAR91-AP-01. SEDAR, North Charleston, SC. 11 pp.

Summary of Management Actions for Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*) as  
Documented within the Management History Database (1985-2023)

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January 24, 2025

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A Management History Database is being compiled, cataloged, and standardized by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) Fisheries Statistics and Sustainable Fisheries Divisions in collaboration with the Cooperative Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Studies (CIMAS) of the University of Miami.

The Management History Database effort involves:

- Identifying Federal Register documentation associated with management actions affecting federally managed species throughout the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and U.S. Caribbean regions.
- Creating standardized records specifying the Fishery Management Plan (FMP), species, jurisdiction, and fishing sector (commercial and recreational) to which each management action is applied.

Once complete, the goal of the database is to provide a comprehensive and standardized record of published management actions to increase the efficiency of fisheries stock assessments, ACL monitoring, and ecosystem approaches. However, the database is still in development and is not yet available to the public. The intention of this working paper is not to replace current management history documents but to provide complementary tables of cited regulations.

We queried a prototype of the database for records related to Caribbean Spiny Lobster. The records associated with bag limits, size limits, prohibited gear, and closures were reviewed and are summarized here.

## Contents

Table 1. Recreational bag limit regulations contained within the Management History Database for Caribbean Spiny Lobster.....	4
Table 2. Size limit regulations for the commercial fishery and recreational and commercial fisheries combined (All) contained within the Management History Database for Caribbean Spiny Lobster.....	4
Table 3. Gear restrictions for commercial and commercial and recreational fisheries combined (All) contained within the Management History Database for Caribbean Spiny Lobster.....	5
Table 4. Closure regulations for Caribbean Spiny Lobster contained within the Management History Database.....	7

Table 1. Recreational bag limit regulations contained within the Management History Database for Caribbean Spiny Lobster.

Region Affected	Fishery	Start Year	Effective Date	End Date	Bag Limit	FR Reference(s)	Amendment Number or Rule Type
Caribbean	Recreational	2012	01/30/2012	Ongoing	3 per person per day	<a href="#">76 FR 82413</a>	Final Amendment 5
		2012	01/30/2012	Ongoing	10 per vessel per day	<a href="#">76 FR 82413</a>	Final Amendment 5

Table 2. Size limit regulations for the commercial fishery and recreational and commercial fisheries combined (All) contained within the Management History Database for Caribbean Spiny Lobster.

Region Affected	Fishery	Start Year	Effective Date	End Date	Size Limit	Length Type	FR Reference(s)	Amendment Number or Rule Type
Caribbean	All	1985	01/01/1985	Ongoing	3.5 inches <sup>1</sup>	Minimum Carapace Length	<a href="#">49 FR 50049</a>	Final Original FMP
Caribbean	Commercial	2009	02/11/2009	Ongoing	6 ounce <sup>2</sup>	Tail Weight	<a href="#">74 FR 1148</a>	Final Amendment 4

<sup>1</sup>Size limit applies to non-egg-bearing spiny lobster

<sup>2</sup>Size limit applies to imported spiny lobster

Table 3. Gear restrictions for commercial and commercial and recreational fisheries combined (All) contained within the Management History Database for Caribbean Spiny Lobster.

Region Affected	Fishery	Gear Type	Start Year	Effective Date	End Date	Gear/Harvesting Restrictions	FR Reference(s)	Amendment Number or Rule Type
Caribbean	All	All	2005	11/28/2005	Ongoing	Prohibited fileting fish at sea	<a href="#">70 FR 62073</a>	Final
						Reef fish vessels required to recover anchor by its crown		
		Explosives	1985	01/01/1985	Ongoing	Prohibited for spiny lobster	<a href="#">49 FR 50049</a>	Final Original FMP
		Gillnets or Trammel Nets	2005	11/28/2005	Ongoing	Prohibit gillnets or trammel net for reef species <sup>1</sup>	<a href="#">70 FR 62073</a>	Final Amendment 2
		Hookah <sup>2</sup>	1997	01/13/1997	Ongoing	Prohibited hookah gear for harvesting conch	<a href="#">61 FR 65481</a>	Final Original FMP
		Poison	1985	01/01/1985	Ongoing	Prohibited for spiny lobster	<a href="#">49 FR 50049</a>	Final Original FMP
		Pots and Traps	1985	01/01/1985	09/19/1991	Include one degradable panel and/or door	<a href="#">49 FR 50049</a>	Final Original FMP
			1986	09/22/1986	09/13/1991	Minimum mesh size 1 1/4"	<a href="#">50 FR 34850</a>	Final Original FMP
			1991	09/14/1991	Ongoing	Minimum mesh size 2"	<a href="#">55 FR 46214</a>	Final Amendment 1

Region Affected	Fishery	Gear Type	Start Year	Effective Date	End Date	Gear/Harvesting Restrictions	FR Reference(s)	Amendment Number or Rule Type
	All	Pots and Traps	1991	09/20/1991	11/14/1993	Include two degradable panels on opposite sides	<a href="#">56 FR 48755</a>	Final
			1993	11/15/1993	11/27/2005	Include two degradable panels (sides no longer specified)	<a href="#">58 FR 53145</a>	Final Amendment 2
			2005	11/28/2005	Ongoing	Include one degradable panel	<a href="#">70 FR 62073</a>	Final
		Slurp Gun and Dip Nets	1993	11/15/1993	11/28/2005	Allow only slurp gun and hand-held dip nets for aquarium trade	<a href="#">58 FR 53145</a> <a href="#">70 FR 62073</a>	Final Amendment 2 Final
		Spear	1985	01/01/1985	Ongoing	Prohibited for spiny lobster	<a href="#">49 FR 50049</a>	Final Original FMP
	Commercial	Spear	2010	12/02/2010	Ongoing	Allow spear fishing for reef fish in the commercial sector	<a href="#">75 FR 67247</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment
Caribbean Closed areas <sup>3</sup>	All	Bottom gears <sup>4</sup>	2005	11/28/2005	Ongoing	Prohibited year-round	<a href="#">70 FR 62073</a>	Final
Caribbean Bajo de Sico	All	Anchoring	2010	12/02/2010	Ongoing	Anchoring by fishing vessels prohibited year-round	<a href="#">75 FR 67247</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment

<sup>4</sup>Gill nets and trammel nets used to fish other species must be tended at all times



<sup>2</sup>Lang Bank (St. Croix) only starting 11/28/2005

<sup>3</sup>Bajo de Sico, Abrir La Sierra, Tourmaline, Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation Area, Lang Bank, Hind Bank Marine Conservation District, and Grammanik Bank

<sup>4</sup>Pots, traps, bottom longlines, gillnets, trammel nets

Table 4. Closure regulations for Caribbean Spiny Lobster contained within the Management History Database.

Region Affected	Start Year	End Year	Start Day	End Day	Restriction During Closure	FR Reference(s)	Amendment Number or Rule Type
Caribbean Red Hind Spawning Aggregation West of Puerto Rico - Abrir La Sierra Bank	1996	1996	12/7	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">61 FR 64485</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment
	1997	Ongoing	1/1	2/28	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">61 FR 64485</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment
	1997	Ongoing	12/1	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">61 FR 64485</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment

Region Affected	Start Year	End Year	Start Day	End Day	Restriction During Closure	FR Reference(s)	Amendment Number or Rule Type
Caribbean Red Hind Spawning Aggregation West of Puerto Rico - Bajo De Sico	1996	1996	12/7	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">61 FR 64485</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment
	1997	2010	1/1	2/28	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">61 FR 64485</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment
	1997	2009	12/1	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">61 FR 64485</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment
	2010	2010	12/2	12/31	Fishing for reef fish prohibited	<a href="#">75 FR 67247</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment

<b>Region Affected</b>	<b>Start Year</b>	<b>End Year</b>	<b>Start Day</b>	<b>End Day</b>	<b>Restriction During Closure</b>	<b>FR Reference(s)</b>	<b>Amendment Number or Rule Type</b>
Caribbean Red Hind Spawning Aggregation West of Puerto Rico - Bajo De Sico	2011	Ongoing	1/1	3/31	Fishing for reef fish prohibited	<a href="#">75 FR 67247</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment
	2011	Ongoing	10/1	12/31	Fishing for reef fish prohibited	<a href="#">75 FR 67247</a>	Final Regulatory Amendment
Caribbean Grammanik Bank Reef Fish Fishery Management Area	2005	Ongoing	2/1	4/30	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">70 FR 62073</a>	Final Amendment 2
Caribbean Hind Bank Marine Conservation District (MCD) Reef Fish Fishery Management Area	1989	1989	12/6	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">54 FR 50624</a>	Emergency Interim Rule

<b>Region Affected</b>	<b>Start Year</b>	<b>End Year</b>	<b>Start Day</b>	<b>End Day</b>	<b>Restriction During Closure</b>	<b>FR Reference(s)</b>	<b>Amendment Number or Rule Type</b>
Caribbean Hind Bank Marine Conservation District (MCD) Reef Fish Fishery Management Area	1990	1999	1/1	2/28	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">54 FR 50624</a>	Emergency Interim Rule
	1990	1999	12/1	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">55 FR 46214</a>	Final Amendment 1
	2000	Ongoing	1/1	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">64 FR 60132</a>	Final
Caribbean Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation Reef Fish Fishery Management Area	1994	Ongoing	3/1	6/30	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">58 FR 53145</a>	Final Amendment 2
Caribbean Red Hind Spawning Aggregation East of St. Croix Reef Fish Fishery Management Area	1993	Ongoing	12/1	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">58 FR 53145</a>	Final Amendment 2

<b>Region Affected</b>	<b>Start Year</b>	<b>End Year</b>	<b>Start Day</b>	<b>End Day</b>	<b>Restriction During Closure</b>	<b>FR Reference(s)</b>	<b>Amendment Number or Rule Type</b>
Caribbean Red Hind Spawning Aggregation East of St. Croix Reef Fish Fishery Management Area	1994	Ongoing	1/1	2/28	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">58 FR 53145</a>	Final Amendment 2
Caribbean Red Hind Spawning Aggregation West of Puerto Rico - Tourmaline Bank	1993	Ongoing	12/1	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">58 FR 53145</a>	Final Amendment 2
	1994	Ongoing	1/1	2/28	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">58 FR 53145</a>	Final Amendment 2
Caribbean St. Croix Management Area  Caribbean Puerto Rico Management Area	2013	2013	12/19	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">78 FR 18247</a>	Temporary Rule Accountability Measure
	2016	2016	12/10	12/31	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">81 FR 34283</a>	Temporary Rule Closure
	2017	2017	9/7	9/30	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">82 FR 31489</a>	Temporary Rule Closure
	2021	2021	8/22	9/30	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">86 FR 40787</a>	Temporary Rule Closure
	2022	2022	7/12	9/30	All fishing prohibited	<a href="#">87 FR 38008</a>	Temporary Rule Closure