

Fishery Conservation and Management

§ 622.8

Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands, as applicable. Color codes required in all other fisheries are assigned by the RA. The color code must be displayed—

(i) On the port and starboard sides of the deckhouse or hull and, for vessels over 25 ft (7.6 m) long, on an appropriate weather deck, so as to be clearly visible from an enforcement vessel or aircraft.

(ii) In the form of a circle permanently affixed to or painted on the vessel.

(iii) At least 18 inches (45.7 cm) in diameter for vessels over 65 ft (19.8 m) long; at least 10 inches (25.4 cm) in diameter for vessels over 25 ft (7.6 m) long; and at least 3 inches (7.6 cm) in diameter for vessels 25 ft (7.6 m) long or less.

(b) *Duties of operator.* The operator of a vessel specified in paragraph (a) of this section must keep the official number and the color code, if applicable, clearly legible and in good repair and must ensure that no part of the fishing vessel, its rigging, fishing gear, or any other material on board obstructs the view of the official number or the color code, if applicable, from an enforcement vessel or aircraft.

[78 FR 22952, Apr. 17, 2013, amended at 87 FR 56215, Sept. 13, 2022]

§ 622.7 Fishing years.

The fishing year for species or species groups governed in this part is January 1 through December 31 except for the following:

(a) *Allowable octocoral*—October 1 through September 30.

(b) *King and Spanish mackerel.* The fishing year for the king and Spanish mackerel bag limits specified in § 622.382 is January 1 through December 31. The following fishing years apply only for the king and Spanish mackerel quotas specified in § 622.384:

(1) *Gulf migratory group king mackerel*—(i) *Southern zone*—July 1 through June 30.

(ii) *Northern zone*—October 1 through September 30.

(iii) *Western zone*—July 1 through June 30.

(2) *Gulf migratory group Spanish mackerel*—April through March.

(3) *South Atlantic migratory group king and Spanish mackerel*—March through February.

(c) *Wreckfish*—April 16 through April 15.

(d) *South Atlantic greater amberjack*—March 1 through the end of February.

(e) *South Atlantic black sea bass recreational sector*—April 1 through March 31. (Note: The fishing year for the commercial sector for black sea bass is January 1 through December 31).

(f) *South Atlantic yellowtail snapper*—August 1 through July 31.

(g) *Gulf of Mexico yellowtail snapper*—August 1 through July 31.

(h) *Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack recreational sector*—August 1 through July 31. (Note: The fishing year for the commercial sector for greater amberjack is January 1 through December 31).

[78 FR 22952, Apr. 17, 2013, as amended at 79 FR 66322, Nov. 7, 2014; 80 FR 4218, Jan. 27, 2015; 81 FR 45248, July 13, 2016; 81 FR 10311, Feb. 10, 2017; 82 FR 17394, Apr. 11, 2017; 83 FR 13428, Mar. 29, 2018]

§ 622.8 Quotas—general.

(a) *Applicability.* Quotas apply for the fishing year for each species, species group, sector, or sector component unless accountability measures are implemented during the fishing year pursuant to the applicable annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs) sections within subparts B through U of this part due to a quota overage occurring in the previous year, in which case a reduced quota will be specified through notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Annual quota increases are contingent on the total allowable catch for the applicable species not being exceeded in the previous fishing year. If the total allowable catch is exceeded in the previous fishing year, the RA will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to maintain the quota for the applicable species, species group, sector, or sector component from the previous fishing year for following fishing years unless NMF'S determines based upon the best scientific information available that maintaining the quota from the previous year is unnecessary. Except for the quotas for Gulf and South Atlantic