Overview of Stock Status
Spanish Mackerel, *Scomberomorus maculatus*

Management Considerations:

**Condition:** Rebuilt; Not overfished and overfishing is not occurring

**FMP Stock Rebuilding Goals:** Biomass threshold = \((1-M) \times B_{MSY}\)

**FMP Status:**
Complementary management with the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) approved in 1990. The Omnibus Amendment to the Interstate FMPs for Spanish Mackerel, Spot, and Spotted Seatrout, approved in August 2011, updates the Spanish Mackerel FMP with compliance measures and Commission standards, as well as modifies the Commission’s management program so that it is consistent with federal management in the exclusive economic zone. The plan also provides mechanisms to review and track federal management changes. The South Atlantic Board passed Addendum I (modifying minimum size for select gear types and seasons) to the Omnibus Amendment for Spanish Mackerel, Spot, and Spotted Seatrout in August 2013.

**Primary Management Measures:**
The annual catch limit (ACL) was set at 5.29 million pounds in the most recent Amendment 18 to the Federal FMP. The ACL is allocated on a 55/45 basis between the commercial and recreational fisheries. The commercial fishery is controlled mainly through an annual quota and trip limits, while the recreational fishery is primarily managed through a maximum bag limit of 15 fish and at least a minimum size limit of 12” fork length (between NY and FL and consistent with federal measures) or 14 inches total length. In addition, both Amendment 18 and the Omnibus Amendment include accountability measures for payback of overages if the total ACL is exceeded and the stock is overfished.

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