

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 622 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 622--FISHERIES OF THE CARIBBEAN, GULF OF MEXICO, AND SOUTH ATLANTIC

1. The authority citation for part 622 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

2. In § 622.7, add paragraph (f) to read as follows:

Comment [AB1]: Action 2, Alternative 2, Preferred Sub-alternative 2c; and Alternative 3, Preferred Sub-alternative 3c.

§ 622.7 Fishing years.

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

3. In § 622.30, revise paragraph (a) to read as follows:

Comment [AB2]: Action 1, Preferred Alternative 5.

§ 622.30 Required fishing gear.

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(a) *Non-stainless steel circle hooks*. Non-stainless steel circle hooks are required when fishing with natural baits, except that non-stainless steel J-hooks may be used when commercial fishing for yellowtail snapper with natural baits in an area south of a line extending due west from 25°09' N. lat. off the west coast of Monroe County, Florida, to the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic intercouncil boundary, specified in § 600.105(c).

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