



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 National Marine Fisheries Service
 Northeast Region
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Small Entity Compliance Guide

2007 Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Specifications

The 2007 Specifications and Management Measures for Atlantic mackerel, squid, and butterfish will be effective on March 1, 2007. Until then, 2006 quotas and management measures will be in effect.

Final 2007 Specifications for Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish				
Specifications	<i>Loligo</i> Squid (mt)	<i>Illex</i> Squid (mt)	Mackerel (mt)	Butterfish (mt)
<i>Max OY</i>	26,000	24,000	N/A ¹	12,175
<i>ABC</i>	17,000	24,000	186,000	4,545
<i>IOY</i>	16,490 ²	24,000	115,000 ³	1,681
<i>DAH</i>	16,490	24,000	115,000 ⁴	1,681
<i>DAP</i>	16,490	24,000	100,000	1,681
<i>JVP</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>TALFF</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>RQ</i>	510	0	0	0
<p><i>1 - Not applicable; 2 - Excludes 510 mt for RQ; 3 - IOY may be increased during the year, but the total ABC will not exceed 186,000 mt;</i> <i>4 - Includes 15,000 mt of Atlantic mackerel recreational harvest</i></p> <p><i>Maximum Optimum Yield (Max OY), Allowable Biological Catch (ABC), Initial Optimum Yield (IOY), Domestic Annual Harvest (DAH), Domestic Annual Processing (DAP), Joint Venture Processing (JVP), Total Allowable Levels of Foreign Fishing (TALFF), and Research Set-Asides (RQ)</i></p>				

NMFS will summarize Atlantic mackerel, *Loligo*, and *Illex* landings from dealer reports on a weekly basis and post this information on the Northeast Regional Office website at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov> (Click on “Fisheries Statistics”, and then click on “Quota Monitoring and Analysis.”)

Atlantic Mackerel

If the Regional Administrator determines that 80,500 mt will be landed during the 2007 fishing year, the Regional Administrator will make available additional quota for a total IOY to 186,000 mt. If an inseason adjustment of the IOY is warranted, the Regional Administrator will notify the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the inseason adjustment will be effective upon publication in the *Federal Register*.

Loligo Squid

In 2007, the annual *Loligo* squid DAH is sub-divided into trimester periods, as follows: Trimester I (January - April) 43 percent or 7,090.7 mt; Trimester II (May - August) 17 percent or 2,803.3 mt; and Trimester III (September - December) 40 percent or 6,596.0 mt. The trimester allocation of *Loligo* quota is for 2007 only; the Council intends to re-assess *Loligo* quota allocation for 2008 based on the performance of the fishery in 2007.

The directed *Loligo* squid fishery will close when 90 percent of the DAH is harvested in Trimesters I and II, and when 95 percent of the DAH is harvested in Trimester III. Any underage from Trimesters I and II will be applied to Trimester III, and any overage from Trimesters I and II will be subtracted from Trimester III.

Incidental Possession Limit Clarification

During a closure of the directed mackerel fishery, the possession limit for mackerel is 10 percent, by weight, of the total amount of fish on board.

For vessels that have been issued a *Loligo* OR butterfish incidental catch permit or

during a closure of the directed fishery, the possession limit for *Loligo* and butterfish is 2,500 lb each.

For vessels that have been issued an *Illex* incidental catch permit OR during a closure of the directed fishery, the possession limit for *Illex* is 10,000 lb.

Vessels may not land more than these limits and may only land once during any single calendar day, which is defined as the 24 – hour period beginning at 0001 hours and ending at 2400 hours.

At-Sea Processor Reporting Requirement Clarification

As a point of clarification, at-sea processors are bound by the same reporting requirements as shore-based processors.

Additional Information

This permit holder letter summarizes changes to Atlantic mackerel, squid, and butterfish specifications and management measures for the 2007 fishing year, but is not a substitute for the actual regulations. The full text of the regulations is available by visiting our website (address provided above). If you have questions about 2007 regulations, please phone 978-281-9315.

You may also receive permit holder letters by e-mail, including closure notices, by visiting our website and clicking on “Permit Holder Letters.” This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996.

This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region.