NOAA Fisheries reminds fishermen there is a seasonal prohibition on fishing for or possession of mutton and lane snapper from 12:01 a.m., local time, April 1 through 11:59 p.m., June 30, each year in the U.S. Caribbean federal waters. The U.S. Caribbean federal waters consist of those waters extending from the nine nautical mile seaward boundary of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the three nautical mile seaward boundary of the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands out to 200 nautical miles offshore.

This action complies with regulations implemented under Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to address required provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and is necessary to protect these resources. The Caribbean Fishery Management Council, in cooperation with NOAA Fisheries, developed the amendment.

To receive fishery bulletins via e-mail, please sign up through Constant Contact at http://bit.ly/HQDUEU. You may also sign up for Constant Contact by visiting our Web site http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov (sign-up option is located on the left side of the page). The electronic copy of the bulletin will be delivered to you faster than the paper copy, is in color, features informational links, and reduces paper use.

This bulletin provides only a summary of the information regarding the existing regulations. Any discrepancies between this bulletin and the regulations as published in the Federal Register will be resolved in favor of the Federal Register.