

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, 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 § 622.32, paragraph (b)(1)(iv) is revised to read as follows:

§ 622.32 Prohibited and limited-harvest species.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*

(iv) No person may fish for or possess on board a fishing vessel a Caribbean queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ, except from November 1 through May 31 in the area east of 64°34' W. longitude which includes Lang Bank east of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

\* \* \* \* \*

3. In § 622.39, paragraph (e)(2) is revised to read as follows:

§ 622.39 Bag and possession limits.

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) \* \* \*

**Comment [AC1]:** This is a reg clean up revision from the regulation implemented in Reg Am 1. The placement of "except from November 1 through May 31" was moved from the last clause of the sentence to the second clause of the sentence.

(2) Bag limit. The bag and possession limit for queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ is 6 per person per day, not to exceed 24 per vessel per day, whichever is less.

\* \* \* \* \*

4. In § 622.44, paragraph (e) is revised to read as follows:

§ 622.44 Commercial trip limits.

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) Caribbean queen conch--(1) Applicability. The trip limit of paragraph (e)(2) of this section applies to a vessel that has at least one person on board with a valid commercial fishing license issued by Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands. If not one person on board the vessel has a valid commercial fishing license issued by Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands, the bag and possession limit specified in § 622.39(e)(2) applies.

(2) The trip limit for queen conch in or from the Caribbean EEZ is 150 queen conch if one licensed commercial fisher is on board the vessel and 200 queen conch if more than one licensed commercial fisher is on board the vessel.

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**Comment [AC2]:** If Action 2, Alt 2 is selected as the preferred alternative, this revision would be made. If Alt 3 or 4 is selected, these numbers would be revised.

**Comment [AC3]:** If Action 1, Alt 3 is selected as the preferred alternative, this revision would be made.