

African Pompano (*Alectis ciliaris*)

Description:

African pompano is a member of the jack family (Carangidae). Its body is deep and compressed and can be metallic-blue with a white belly. Juveniles have long thread-like rays at front dorsal and anal fins (yellow arrows) that disappear as they grow. In young individuals, these elongated rays look similar to the tentacles of some jellyfishes.

Gulf Stock Characteristics: (myfwc.com; fishbase.org)

- Natural mortality rate (M): Unknown
- Female sexual maturity: Unknown
- Maximum weight: ~50 lbs (23 kg) ww
- Maximum length: ~42 inches (107 cm) FL
- Discard mortality: Unknown

Life History and Distribution:

African Pompano occur in tropical and subtropical waters around the world. Although there is very little data, it is suggested it spawns during spring and summer months. Juveniles are pelagic while adults can be found near reefs, wrecks, and ledges to depths of 200 ft (60 m). Its diet includes squid, small crabs, and other fishes. From 2000 – 2020, the majority of the landings in the Gulf of Mexico came from the recreational sector, mostly from Florida and Alabama. Also, during this timeframe, African Pompano landings were more frequent in federal waters.

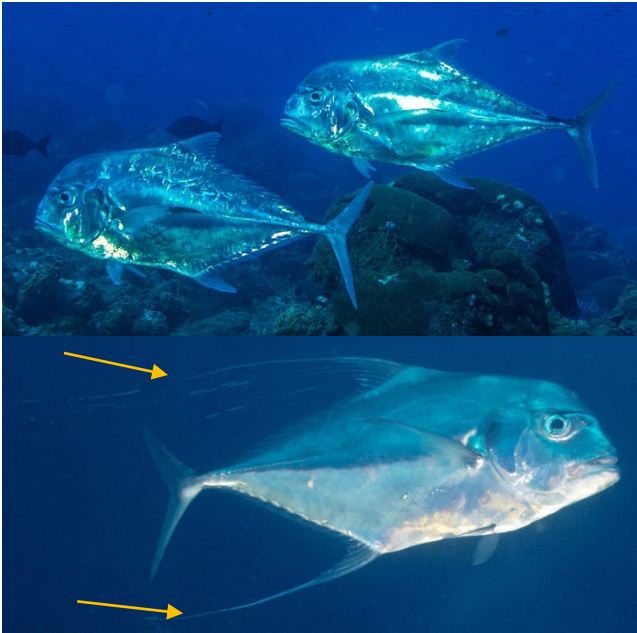
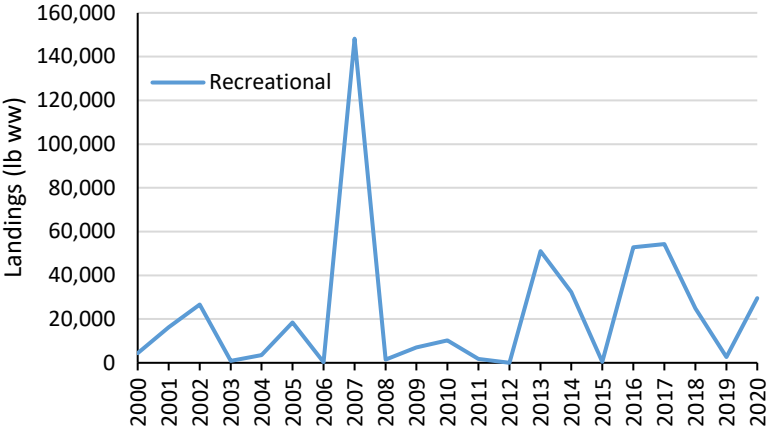
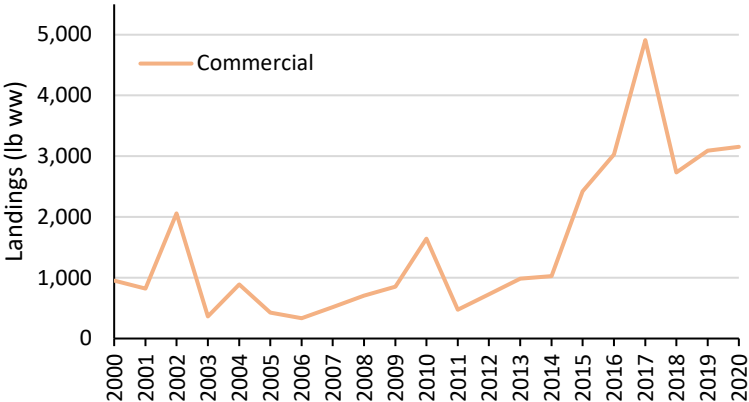


Photo credit: FGBNMS



Federal Regulations:

There are no federal regulations for African Pompano. The State of Florida has extended its recreational regulations into federal waters for vessels registered in the that state. The recreational fishing season for Florida anglers is year-round with a 24-inch fork length minimum size limit and a daily recreational bag limit of 2 per harvester, not to exceed 2 per vessel. See the [Florida Administrative Code](#) for accurate regulations.