



PRESS RELEASE

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Deep 7-Bottomfish Fishing Season to Open under New Quota September 1

HONOLULU (26 August 2009) Starting September 1, 2009, fishermen will once again be able to fish for and retain seven commonly caught deep-bottomfish species from the main Hawaiian Islands (MHI). Known as the “Deep 7,” they include onaga or ulaula koae (long-tail snapper), opakapaka (pink snapper), ehu (squirrelfish snapper), hapuupuu (seabass), lehi (sliver jaw jobfish), gindai (snapper) and kalekale (snapper).

The 2009-2010 fishing season will also operate under a new proposed Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 254,050 lbs for commercial fishermen, and the season will close to both commercial and non-commercial fishing when the TAC is reached, or August 31, 2010, whichever comes first. Non-commercial fishermen are still required to obtain a permit from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and report their catches if fishing in federal waters and are restricted to bag limits for the deep 7 bottomfish species. The Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) bottomfish fishery is managed under a Federal limited-entry program and catch quotas, therefore, it is not subject to these rules.

For more information on the regulations, call NMFS (808 944-2200), Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources (808 587-0100) or the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (808 522-8220).

The Deep 7 Bottomfish Species:



Ehu, or ula'ula
(*Pristipomoides zonatus*)



Gindai
(*Pristipomoides zonatus*)



Hapu'upu'u
(*Epinephelus guernus*)



Kalekale
(*Pristipomoides sieboldii*)



Lehi
(*Aphareus rutilans*)



Onaga, or ula'ula koa'e
(*Etelis coruscans*)



Opakapaka, Pink Snapper
(*Pristipomoides filamentosus*)

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