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# Council Coordination Committee

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# Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Management



# Regional Management of Recreational Red Snapper

- Red snapper would remain a federally managed species subject to federal conservation goals.
- Council would allocate the recreational quota to states or regions and set the size limit.



# Regional Management of Recreational Red Snapper

States or regions would choose their season and bag limit and would monitor their quota, giving states flexibility, but not necessarily more fishing days.



# Allocation

Current allocation is 51% Commercial  
49% Recreational

Purpose:

- Increase net benefits from red snapper fishing
- Increase the stability of the red snapper component of the reef fish fishery
- Recreational sector that has experienced consistently shorter seasons.



# Days-at-Sea Pilot Program

- Give for-hire vessels a specific number of days to fish.
  - Vessel owners could choose when to fish
  - Can better plan for business



# Days-at-Sea

- Issues to consider:
  - Voluntary or mandatory?
  - Open to all permit holders or a sample of permit holders?
  - Electronic reporting?
  - VMS or other tracking device?
  - Bag limits or trip limits?



# Inter-Sector Trading

Council initiated a document that looks at inter-sector trading of red snapper IFQ shares

- Both sectors could acquire and fish red snapper shares and allocation
- May help supplement the recreational red snapper season
- May improve stability in the for-hire sector
- May result in a more efficient allocation of red snapper between sectors



# Tags

## Initiated discussions with States

- Are states supportive?
- What processes are necessary to begin a fish tag system?
- Individual or vessel permit system?
- Do we use for quota limitation or data collection?



# Emergency Rule

- Council requested an emergency rule that gives the Regional Administrator authority to reduce the recreational red snapper season in the EEZ off of those states that implement less restrictive regulations by the amount necessary to account for the additional harvest that will occur as a result of having non-compatible regulations.

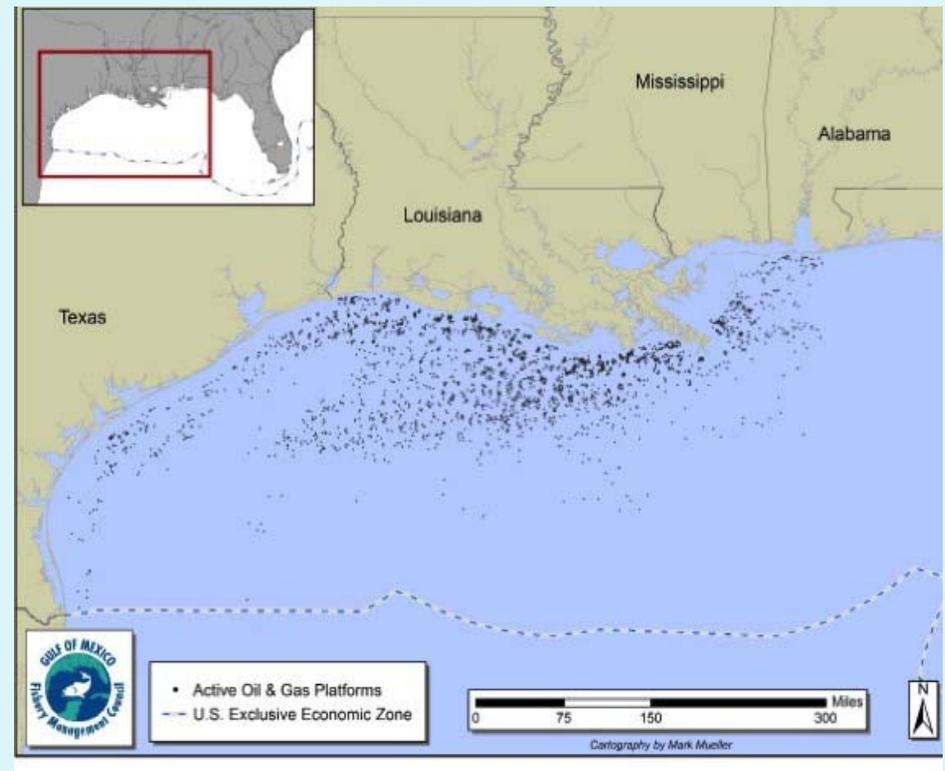


# State Boundaries Extended into Federal Waters



# EFH Amendment 4 - Designating Artificial Substrate as Essential Fish Habitat

- Current manner and rate of removal effecting reef fish populations and habitat
- Council sent letters to BOEM expressing concern
- Initiated EFH Amendment 4



# Other Issues

## New Since April Update

- Contractual Services for the for-hire sector
- Definition & Intent of For-Hire Fishing in the EEZ
- Electronic reporting for for-hire charter vessels and commercial logbook reporting
- Electronic reporting for head boats
- Regional management for recreational gag harvest
- Shrimp Amendment to develop cost sharing program for electronic logbook program
- Shrimp Amendment 15 - Revise Overfished Definitions/Royal Red Shrimp Quota



# Other Issues

## Also under development/discussion:

- Allocation
- LAPP Program
- Red Snapper IFQ 5-Year Review & Transferability
- Mackerel and cobia joint amendments with South Atlantic Council
- Reallocation of King Mackerel
- King Mackerel Tournament Sales
- Designation of Petroleum Platforms and Artificial Reefs as Essential Fish Habitat
- Sector Separation
- Grouper Allocation
- Default Status Determination Criteria



# Other Issues

Since April Update - Council has taken final action on:

- 2013 Red Snapper Quotas and Bag Limits
- Vermilion and Yellowtail Snapper Annual Catch Limits, and Venting Tool Requirements
- Post-Season Recreational Accountability Measures for Shallow-water Grouper and Generic Framework Procedure
- 2013 Gag Season, Split Season & Elimination of Shallow-Water Grouper Closure
- Gray Triggerfish Rebuilding Plan
- Dealer Permits and Electronic Reporting

