Red Snapper Allocation in the Gulf of Mexico
Outline

- Management Context
- Allocation Policy
- Allocation between Gulf States
  - Regional Management
- Allocation between Sectors
  - Commercial/Recreational Allocation
- Allocation within a Sector
  - Recreational Sector Separation
Management Context

- Recovery of red snapper stock
- Eastward expansion of red snapper
- Dissatisfaction with federal management
- Mistrust of recreational landings data
- Requests for more state control
- Less restrictive management within state waters
Developed to facilitate future allocation and reallocation of fisheries resources between or within fishery sectors. The allocation policy includes:

- Principles based on existing regulatory provisions;
- Procedures to request and initiate (re)allocation, (re)allocation review frequency; and
- Suggested methods for determining (re)allocations.
Reef Fish Amendment 39 considers regional management of recreational red snapper:

- establish EEZ boundaries between States
- allocate recreational quota between States
- delegate some management authority to the states (e.g., bag and size limits, season)
- Council will revisit Amendment 39 in October
Recreational Red Snapper Landings by state

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Alabama</th>
<th>Florida</th>
<th>Louisiana</th>
<th>Mississippi</th>
<th>Texas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1986-2012</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-2012</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2012</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>51.0%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Projected Recreational Red Snapper Landings by State (percent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Outside of Federal Season</th>
<th>Percent of Recreational Quota Landed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State waters open (days)</td>
<td>Landings (percent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>64.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>86.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>58.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf of Mexico</td>
<td></td>
<td>50.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Allocation between Sectors

- **Recreational Sector Management**
  - Open access (private anglers)
  - States adopt less restrictive measures
  - Shorter federal fishing seasons
  - Sizeable overages in recent years

- **Commercial Sector Management**
  - Commercial reef fish permit moratorium
  - Individual Fishing Quota program since 2007
  - Potential for year-round fishing
  - Commercial harvests consistently below quota
Recreational & Commercial Fishing Seasons and Regulations

- **1990:** 7 per angler/day
- **1995:** 5 per angler/day
- **1998:** 4 per angler/day
- **2004:** For-hire Permit moratorium
- **2007:** IFQ program
- **2007:** 2 per angler/day; 0 bag limit for-hire capt& crew
- **2014:** 20% buffer put on quota via Emergency Rule

**RS Endorsement:** 2,000-lb trip limit; all others: 200-lb

**Permit moratorium begins:** 1,000-lb trip limit
Differences between annual red snapper landings and quotas by sector, 1990 – 2013.
Proportions of red snapper landed by each sector & the commercial/recreational split of the quota
Allegation between Sectors

Reef Fish Amendment 28 would reallocate the red snapper quota between the commercial and recreational sectors to:

- Increase net benefits from red snapper fishing
- Increase stability of the recreational sector, which has experienced shorter seasons
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternatives</th>
<th>Commercial Sector</th>
<th>Recreational Sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status Quo</td>
<td>5.610</td>
<td>51.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 2</td>
<td>5.280</td>
<td>48.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 3</td>
<td>5.060</td>
<td>46.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 4</td>
<td>4.510</td>
<td>41.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative 5</td>
<td>5.121</td>
<td>46.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 6</td>
<td>4.651</td>
<td>42.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative 7</td>
<td>5.350</td>
<td>48.6</td>
</tr>
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</table>
The SE SSC moves to accept the analytical methodology developed by the SEFSC for application to the evaluation of the change in economic benefits associated with reallocation of GOM red snapper as proposed in RF Amendment 28.

The SE SSC encourages the Council to look at first best i.e., incentive based mechanisms vs. second best, i.e. regulatory actions when making allocation decisions away from the current allocation.
Socioeconomic SSC Recommendations on Red Snapper Allocation

- The SE SSC moves to encourage the Council to utilize experimental methods to test the efficacy of alternative incentive-based institutions.

- The SE SSC moves to have the Council consider the suite of other socio-economic net benefits, such as impacts to communities, value chains, and regulatory wealth transfers, that aren’t captured in the Agar/Carter study.

- The SE SSC encourages the Council to consider the limitations of the data utilized in the SEFSC analysis for reallocation, for Amendment 28.
Allocation within a Sector

- **Private Recreational Anglers**
  - No limit on number of participants
  - Red snapper harvests outside of federal season
  - Account for increasing portion of the quota

- **Federal For-hire Operators**
  - Moratorium on reef fish for-hire permits
  - Limited to harvest during federal season
  - Declining percentage of recreational quota
  - Unstable business environment
Recreational Red Snapper Landings by Mode (percent)

Gulf-wide

For-hire
Private & State guideboats

Proportion of annual landings by each mode

Year

Permit moratorium
Reef Fish Amendment 40-Sector Separation would:

- Provide a basis for flexible management tailored to each component
- Reduce the likelihood of quota overruns
- Establish distinct federal for-hire and private angling components
- Allocate recreational quota between components
- Adjust season closure provisions
## Red Snapper Allocations and Estimated 2014 Season Lengths (by component)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative</th>
<th>Allocation (%)</th>
<th>Federal Season Lengths (days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For-Hire</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Status Quo</td>
<td>9**</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (1986-2013)(a)</td>
<td>50.1</td>
<td>49.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (1991-2013)</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>51.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 (1996-2013)</td>
<td>45.9</td>
<td>54.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 (2001-2013)</td>
<td>41.9</td>
<td>58.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (2006-2013)(b)</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td>62.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 [0.5(a)+0.5(b)]</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>56.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 (2011-2013)</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>70.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 (1986-2003)</td>
<td>54.3</td>
<td>45.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reef Fish Amendment 40-Sector Separation is scheduled for final action in October.

Council has appointed an advisory panel to design a limited access privilege program for the for-hire component.
Thank You