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MESSAGE:

PLEASE READ THIS- IT WILL MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY

In Ref to the Mutton Snappers:

I've heard talk about the amt of muttons being reduced to as little as 3 per person. Basically, the only place there is and has ever been a lot of muttons is in the lower keys. They don't want to give up "their" muttons because Miami has 10 million people. I think most people (except commercial fishermen) understand that fish need to spawn so why not take away JUST THE SPAWNING AREA's during the two months of the spawn? It is EXTREMELY RARE for any recreational anglers to limit out on muttons, not because they are rare, because they don't aggregate other than during the spawn. IF IF IF you decided to bring the limit down, THE LEAST you should do is give the guys that go to the Tortugas AND PAY to sleep on the island a two days limit. NOT ONE MORE MUTTON will be harvested than is being harvested right now! For example, if you bring the limit down to 5 p/p and we're allowed a 2 day limit, the max we could land is 10 which is what we currently are allowed. Because the Tortugas is a 2 day trip, the people going through that expense are still allowed to catch a decent amt of fish. The Rangers at the Tortuga's now give you a receipt for camping. We'd be happy and none of us fish Rileys Hump because it's closed year round. We are the 1/2 of 1/2 of 1%. Don't penalize us because we are willing to fish harder than someone off of Miami. By your own admission, there is NO problems with the numbers of muttons or overfishing WHICH I AGREE, at least in the keys.