

Science, Service, Stewardship



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NOAA

South Atlantic Red Grouper Discards

Southeast Fisheries Science Center

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Commercial discards

Red grouper discards from the commercial fishery were calculated for SEDAR 53

Available data:

Discard data are from fisher reported logbooks (20% sample of vessels with federal fishing permits)

- Those data provided discard rates

- Data were sufficient to calculate rates from the vertical line fishery

- Discards from other gears were very few and assumed to be inconsequential to the assessment results

Total effort, reported by fishers to the coastal logbook program, was used along with discard rates to calculate total discards from the fishery for the years 1993-2015 (no effort data prior to 1993)



Commercial discards

Discard calculation

GLMs used to identify factors with statistically significant effects on discard rates

Data stratified by those significant factors:

- Year
- Region (FL Keys, SE FL – SC, NC)
- Days at sea (1, 2-3, 4+)
- Number of crew (1, 2, 3+)
- Red grouper season (open/closed)

Discards calculated for each year/region/days/crew/season stratum as:

Discards per stratum = stratum specific discard rate*stratum specific fishing effort



Commercial
vertical line
red grouper
discards

Year	Closed Season (numbers of fish)	Open Season (numbers of fish)	Total Discards (numbers of fish)
1993		14,898	14,898
1994		20,478	20,478
1995		17,164	17,164
1996		17,394	17,394
1997		21,122	21,122
1998		14,730	14,730
1999		12,451	12,451
2000		12,762	12,762
2001		11,649	11,649
2002		22,038	22,038
2003		10,953	10,953
2004		10,994	10,994
2005		10,266	10,266
2006		4,975	4,975
2007		8,619	8,619
2008		2,002	2,002
2009		1,487	1,487
2010	1,129	1,426	2,556
2011	386	1,347	1,734
2012	1,237	378	1,615
2013	5,218	12,794	18,012
2014	3,502	7,436	10,938
2015	5,033	13,716	18,750