



NOAA
FISHERIES

**Southeast
Regional
Office**

South Atlantic Red Snapper 2017 Season

South Atlantic Council Meeting
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

June 2017

Background

- SEDAR-24 (2010) and SEDAR 41 (2016) determines stock is Overfished and Undergoing Overfishing
- Amendment 17a (2010) closes fishery in 2011
- Amendment 28 (2012) established:
 - (1) a process to determine if a red snapper fishing season will occur each year, which would include specification of the allowable harvest and season lengths for the commercial and recreational sectors;
 - (2) an equation to determine the annual catch limit (ACL) amount for each sector; and
 - (3) management measures if fishing is allowed.



Background

Amendment 28 specified the following formulas for calculating the ACL for red snapper each fishing year:

$$\text{If total removals}_{yr-1} > ABC_{yr-1}, \text{ then } ACL_{yr} = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{If total removals}_{yr-1} < ABC_{yr-1}, \text{ then} \quad (2)$$

$$ACL_{yr} = \left(\frac{ABC_{yr-2} - estCSR_{yr-2}}{ABC_{yr-2}} + \frac{ABC_{yr-1} - estCSR_{yr-1}}{ABC_{yr-1}} \right) / 2 \times ABC_{yr}$$

where:

ABC = acceptable biological catch

$estCSR$ = estimated closed season removals

$yr-2$ = 2015 values

$yr-1$ = 2016 values



Data Sources

Commercial landings from FL, GA, SC, NC

Commercial discards from delta-lognormal model
expansion of commercial discard logbook self-
reported discards

Headboat landings and discards from self-reported
logbooks with some auditing by biological samplers
and at-sea observers

Recreational charter and private boat landings and
discards from back-converted (MRIP→MRFSS).



Summary of MRFSS (converted from MRIP) estimates of red snapper landings and discards from 2016 from the charter and private sectors.

*South Carolina had a charter logbook survey in 2016 and reported no landings and 1,509 discards. These results were not used to predict 2017 season.

State	Wave	LANDINGS (N) AB1				DISCARDS (N) B2			
		CHARTER		PRIVATE		CHARTER		PRIVATE	
		"MRFSS"	State Survey	"MRFSS"	State Survey	"MRFSS"	State Survey	"MRFSS"	State Survey
NC	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	-	-	-	62	-	85	-
	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,607	-
	4	-	-	-	-	21	-	4,052	-
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	571	-
	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,220	-
NC Total		-	-	-	-	83	-	12,536	-
SC	1	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-
	2	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-
	3	-	-	-	-	317	*	546	-
	4	-	-	-	-	-	*	75	-
	5	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-
	6	-	-	-	-	-	*	2,298	-
SC Total		-	-	-	-	317	-	2,919	-
GA	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	245	-
	3	-	-	-	-	278	-	-	-
	4	-	-	-	-	1,450	-	1,007	-
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GA Total		-	-	-	-	1,728	-	1,252	-
FLE	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	98,564	-
	2	-	-	-	-	31,597	-	12,034	-
	3	81	-	-	-	9,106	-	229,498	-
	4	-	-	-	-	5,149	-	52,233	-
	5	-	-	-	-	65,914	-	21,751	-
	6	-	-	-	-	3,658	-	347,069	-
FLE Total		81	-	-	-	115,425	-	761,148	-
Grand Total		81				117,553		777,855	

2016 ABC, Landings, and Dead Discards

Variable	Number of Fish (2016)
ABC	121,000
Commercial Landings	418
Commercial Dead Discards	27,365
Recreational Headboat Landings	331
Recreational Headboat Dead Discards	27,270
Recreational Charter Landings	81
Recreational Charter Dead Discards	48,197
Recreational Private Landings	0
Recreational Private Dead Discards	303,363
Total Removals	407,025

2016 ABC = 121,000 fish

2016 Total Removals = 407,025 fish

2017 ACL = 0 fish



A close-up photograph of a red snapper fish, characterized by its vibrant red scales and large, prominent eyes. The fish is shown from a side profile, facing right, with its mouth slightly open. A fishing hook is visible, hooked into the lower lip of the fish. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly water or a fishing net, with numerous white water droplets and splashes surrounding the fish, suggesting it has just been caught or is being moved. The word "Questions?" is written in a light blue, sans-serif font with a thin black outline, positioned on the left side of the image, partially overlapping the fish's body.

Questions?

Comparison of MRFSS and MRIP Landings, Discards, and Dead Discards

Data provided in numbers of fish

	MRFSS		MRIP	
	Charter	Private	Charter	Private
Landings	81	0	63	0
Discards	117,553	777,853	96,909	674,651
Dead Discards	48,197	303,363	39,733	263,114

Majority of the Discards (98%) came from East Florida

Proportional Standard Error for Discards from East Florida in 2016 by Wave and Mode

Wave	Charter	Private
Jan/Feb	57.3	63.9
Mar/Apr	65.4	69.7
May/Jun	32.4	28.7
Jul/Aug	83	37.8
Sep/Oct	55.3	91.4
Nov/Dec	81	54.3

State versus Federal landings of 2016 SA Red Snapper

	State	Federal
Commercial Landings	33%	67%
Recreational Landings	0%	100*

*Landings were provided in percentages to protect confidentiality



Different Discard Mortality Rates

	SEDAR 24	SEDAR 41
Commercial =	0.48	0.38
Charter/Headboat =	0.41	0.285
Private =	0.39	0.285
 Total Removals	 407,025 Fish	 296,695 Fish

In both cases the removals exceed the 2016 ABC (121,000 Fish)

ABCs and Removals through time

Year	Removals (fish)	ABC (fish)
2011	61,406	64,000
2012	80,516	86,000
2013	72,881 (w/ FL survey) 97,563 (w/ MRIP)	96,000
2014	205,859	106,000
2015	276,729	114,000
2016	407,025	121,000



Allowable Removals (numbers of fish)	Total Removals (numbers of fish)	Commercial Fishing Season	Recreational Fishing Season	
2012	86,000	Commercial= 13,317 HB= 4,606 Charter= 9,264 Private= 53,329 Total= 80,516	September 17-24; Reopened November 13-21 and December 12-19 (22 days)	Sept 14-17, and Sept 21-24 (6 days)
2013	96,000	Commercial=16,779 HB=20,683 Charter (MRFSS)=5,254 Charter (FL study)=5,395 Private (MRFSS)=54,847 Private (FL study)=29,919 Total (w/ MRFSS)=97,563 Total (w/ FLstudy)=72,776	August 26- October 8 (43 days)	August 23 – August 26 (3 days)
2014	106,000	Commercial=24,827 HB=22,063 Charter=20,619 Private=138,350 Total=205,859	July 14 – September 9 (57 days)	Jul 11-14, Jul 18- 21, Jul 25- 27 (7 days)

