

Florida Sea Grant Return 'Em Right Update  
SAFMC Outreach and Communications Advisory Panel  
May 2026

- Return 'Em Right has officially had over 50,000 anglers complete the online training on barotrauma and best release practices.
- Beginning mid-May, the program will be transitioning to a gear distribution model that requires anglers to cover shipping and handling costs. This change ensures the gear is getting in the hands of anglers that intend to use it while allowing the program to reach more anglers.
- Return 'Em Right was approved for expansion via the [Open Ocean Restoration Plan 4](#), allowing the program to provide some support to the South Atlantic and Caribbean, as well as expand to other species for discard mortality education. Plans are still in the works for the timing of when and how this will happen, but **the first step is likely opening up the reef fish/barotrauma education module and gear distribution to South Atlantic anglers this summer.**
  - Language about requirements/regulations in the education module will be generic and tell people to check FishRules for their location-specific regulations that support best release practices.