



NOAA
FISHERIES

**Southeast
Regional
Office**

South Atlantic Red Snapper 2015 Season

South Atlantic Council Meeting
Key West, Florida

June 2015

Background

- SEDAR-24 (2010) determines stock is Overfished, 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 equals the acceptable biological catch in 2013 (ABC_{yr-2}) or 2014 (ABC_{yr-1}) and estCSR equals the estimated closed season removals in 2013 ($estCSR_{yr-2}$) or 2014 ($estCSR_{yr-1}$).

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)
estimates and special state-specific surveys by NCDMF,
SCDNR, GADNR, and FWC.



Table 1. Summary of MRIP (converted to MRFSS equivalent) and state survey estimates of red snapper landings and discards from 2014 from the charter and private boat sectors. Cells highlighted in yellow were selected for estimating the final landings and discards in Table 2.

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								
	3								
	4	173	41		14	371		5073	
	5					747			
	6								
NC Total		173	41	0	14	1118	0	5073	0
SC	1								
	2						29		
	3		3				242	1565	
	4		46	596	76		184	1675	
	5						73		
	6						53	334	
SC Total		0	49	596	76	0	581	3574	0
GA	1								
	2					42		447	
	3					166		11367	
	4	328	150	1195	106		75	1948	265
	5								
	6								
GA Total		328	150	1195	106	208	75	13762	265
FLE	1			1356		33		18463	
	2					1725		1836	
	3			735		5923		48006	
	4	6635	2377	93824	22213	16190	2871	157006	9960
	5					3870		1477	
	6			393		13863		38927	
FLE Total		6635	2377	96308	22213	41604	2871	265715	9960

Source: SEFSC (2015). Total removals of red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) in 2014 from the U.S. South Atlantic. Miami, FL. 11 pp.

2015 ABC

Variable	Number of Fish (2014)
ABC	106,000
Commercial Landings	10,827
Commercial Dead Discards	14,000
Recreational Headboat Landings	2,952
Recreational Headboat Dead Discards	19,111
Recreational Charter Landings	2,749
Recreational Charter Dead Discards	17,870
Recreational Private Landings	25,982
Recreational Private Dead Discards	112,369
Total Removals	205,859

2014 ABC = 106,000 fish

2014 Total Removals = 205,859 fish

2015 ACL = 0 fish



What's Next?

No season in 2015

SEDAR-41 stock assessment anticipated April 2016

NMFS will monitor 2015 removals and apply
Amendment 28 formula to determine 2016 ACL.



Questions?