

INNOVATIVE RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Components Overview

September 16- 17, 2018
Charleston, SC

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RECREATIONAL REPORTING

- Accurate and timely data → crucial to any recreational approach
- Angler involvement – interest in providing data and collaborating on data collection
- SAFMC considering required or voluntary recreational reporting in Snapper Grouper Amendment 46

RECREATIONAL REPORTING

MyFishCount (SAFMC)

- Voluntary recreational reporting for red snapper launched in 2017
- Website or app
- # caught, # discarded, method of discard, weight, length, depth, area
- Program expanded in 2018 for all recreational species

BAROTRAUMA REDUCTION

- Discards and release mortality- negative effects on stock and rec fishing opportunities
- Venting and descending devices can help reduce release mortality
- Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 29 includes requirement for venting devices, circle hooks and rig limit

Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)

- NMFS can issue EFP for fisheries-related research, including pilot management programs
- EFP exempts the program from specified regulatory requirements
- An EFP could be used for a pilot approach to be tested and evaluated

Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)

- Gulf Council red snapper state management: EFP for each state, issued by NMFS
- Recreational participants are exempt from the federal accountability measures for Gulf red snapper
- Each state has an allocation of the Gulf red snapper recreational annual catch limit
- Each state provided a plan including seasons, bag/size limits, monitoring and closures when the state's allocation is met
- EFP allows the states to demonstrate their capability in managing red snapper harvest
- EFPs valid through Dec 31, 2019; Gulf Council working on amendments to establish an ongoing state management program