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Amendment 11 to the Fishery Management Plan for Spiny Lobster in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic

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Comment from William Rogers

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General Comment

I own a home on Cudjoe Key in the Florida Keys and have for some 25 years. I am an avid diver and fisherman. Each year i witness excessive damage to the reef structure, sea fans, sponges and other sea life because of thousands of lobster traps that are dropped in areas of high coral activity. The traps and the ropes become entangled in the sea life and are destroyed when the traps are pulled. There should be areas designated where the lobsters can only be taken by divers and not traps. We should follow what Spanish Wells, Bahama has done to grow their lobster population. Eliminate any traps that are used around reef structures.