




**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
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**OCT 8 2009**

F/SER25:JCM

MEMORANDUM FOR: Bonnie Ponwith, Ph.D.  
Director, Southeast Fisheries Science Center

FROM: Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.   
Regional Administrator

SUBJECT: Data Analyses Request for Amendment 17A to the Fishery  
Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South  
Atlantic Region (Amendment 17A)

This memorandum requests data analyses for an action being considered in Amendment 17A.

Amendment 17A includes actions to end overfishing and establish a rebuilding plan for red snapper. The amendment specifies a number of rebuilding strategies based on constant fishing mortality projections at  $F_{40\%SPR}$ ,  $F_{Rebuild}$ ,  $85\%F_{40\%SPR}$ ,  $75\%F_{40\%SPR}$ , and  $65\%F_{40\%SPR}$ . At their September 2009 meeting, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council requested rebuilding strategies that consider very high recruitment as defined in the document entitled Red Snapper Projections VI dated July 23, 2009..3

I request projections of spawning stock biomass, recruitment, landings, discards, and probability of stock recovery from 2007 to  $T_{MAX}$  that considers very high recruitment for fishing mortality rates  $F_{Current}$ ,  $F_{40\%SPR}$ ,  $F_{Rebuild}$ ,  $85\%F_{40\%SPR}$ ,  $75\%F_{40\%SPR}$ , and  $65\%F_{40\%SPR}$ . I also request a table similar to Table 4.1 from the document entitled Red Snapper Projections V dated March 19, 2009, showing estimated status indicators, and related quantities associated with the  $F_{MSY}$  proxy of  $F_{40\%SPR}$  with very high recruitment for  $F_{MSY}$ ,  $SSB_{MSY}$ ,  $D_{MSY}$ ,  $MSST$ ,  $F_{2006}/F_{MSY}$ ,  $SSB_{2006}/SSB_{MSY}$ , and  $SSB_{2006}/MSST$ . The table should also include yield at  $65\%F_{MSY}$ ,  $75\%F_{MSY}$ ,  $85\%F_{MSY}$ ,  $F_{Rebuild}$ , and  $F_{MSY}$  when stock is at equilibrium. I request the task be completed by November 6, 2009 if possible.

cc: Dr. Erik Williams  
Dr. Tom Jamir

