On reading the DEIS for Amendment 17A, one number that stands out to me is the difference in landing of snapper grouper vs. the effort taken. A 28% reduction in landing from 1997 to 2006 that coincides with a one third reduction in the amount of effort and a 37% reduction in days at sea indicates that the amount of fish landed per effort increased. The recreational fishing community in NE Florida has taken many steps to improve the offshore fishery for snapper grouper over the last 25 years, at a great personal expense to its members. Disallowing them from fishing on the structure that they legally created amounts to, in my opinion, the government seizing the product of their labor without reimbursement. A permanent or long-term closure of the snapper grouper fishery will have a substantial negative impact on the economy and lives of many individuals and communities in NE Florida.