

# Fishery Performance Report Questionnaire

## Spiny Lobster

Spiny Lobster Advisory Panel  
May 2018



The Spiny Lobster Advisory Panel (AP) is being asked to provide information to develop a fishery performance report (FPR) for spiny lobster. The purpose of the FPR is to assemble information from AP members' experience and observations on the water and in the marketplace to complement scientific and landings data. The FPR for spiny lobster will be provided to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Socio-Economic Panel (SEP) to complement material being used in assessments and to inform future South Atlantic Council management.

The AP is asked to provide the following information about spiny lobster based on their expertise, as appropriate:

1. Catch levels over the past 5 years:
  - When/where are the lobster available, and has this changed?
  - Has the size of the lobster changed?
  - Have there been effort shifts to/from spiny lobster?
2. Current management measures:
  - Is the 3-inch minimum carapace length for the commercial and recreational sectors appropriate? If not, why?
  - Is the 12-lobster per person bag limit during Florida's special recreational fishing season appropriate (excluding Monroe County)? If not, why?
  - Is the 2-lobster per person bag/possession limit off NC, SC, and GA appropriate? If not, why?
  - Is the current ACL appropriate? If not, why?
  - Are there new management measures that the Council should consider?
  - Are there existing management measures that should be changed?
3. Environmental conditions and ecology:
  - Have you noticed any unique effects of environmental conditions on spiny lobster?
  - Have you noticed a change in abundance of spiny lobster over the past 5 years?
4. Social and economic influences:
  - For the commercial sector, how has price and demand for spiny lobster changed?
  - How has participation in the recreational spiny lobster fishery changed?
  - What communities are dependent on the spiny lobster fishery?
  - Have changes in infrastructure (docks, marinas, fish houses) affected fishing opportunities for spiny lobster?
  - How have fishermen and communities adapted to changes in the spiny lobster fishery?
5. Other:
  - What else is important for the Council to know about spiny lobster?