

# Fisherman Feedback: Red Grouper



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council



# What is Fisherman Feedback?



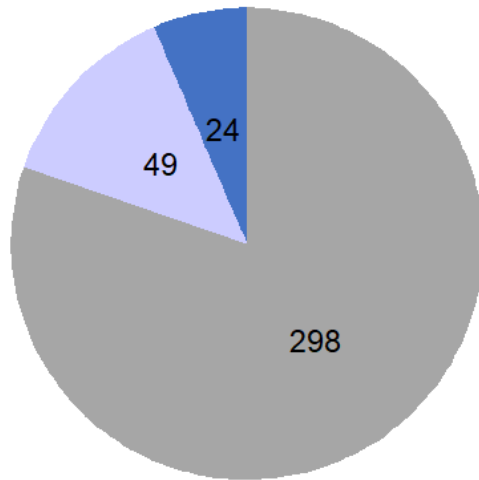
An online tool used to gather information on a fish stock from active fishermen on trends or unusual occurrence's that scientists and managers may not have observed.

- Respondents are voluntary
- The tool is advertised via press release, social media, and the Council's website

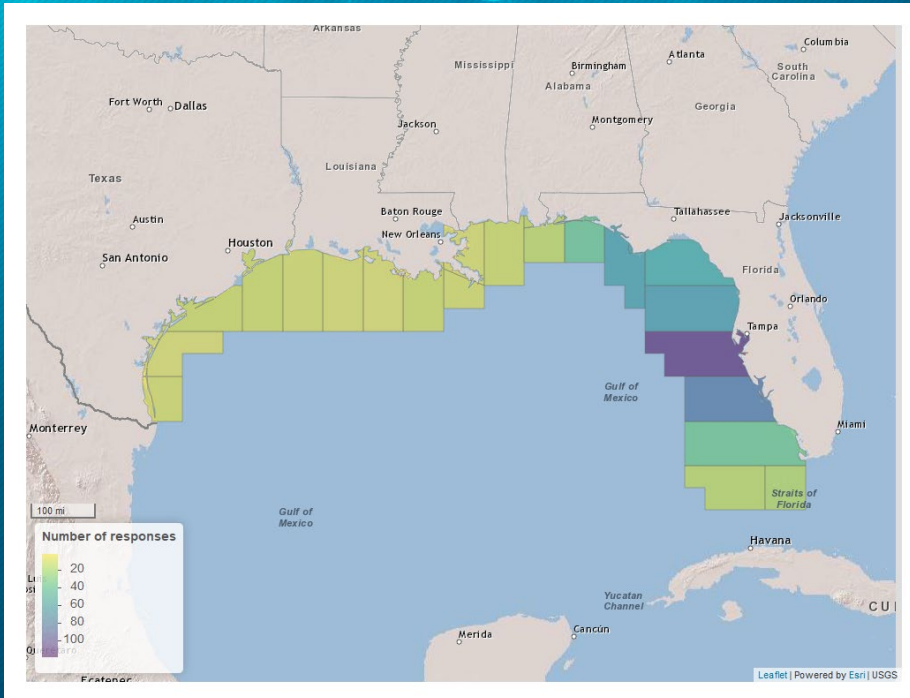
Self-identified with sector. Not limited to a singular response (n=371)

Not limited to a single area (n=526)

Response by Sector



Commercial For-Hire Private Recreational



# Respondents



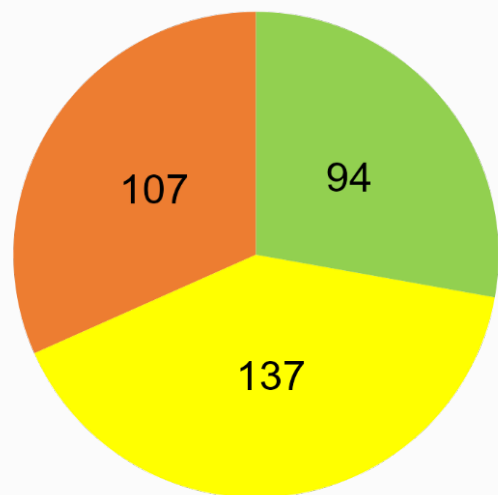
344 Unique responses received between April 24 - May 24, 2024

- 6 responses were dropped because they were not relevant to red grouper

# Overall Response Sentiment



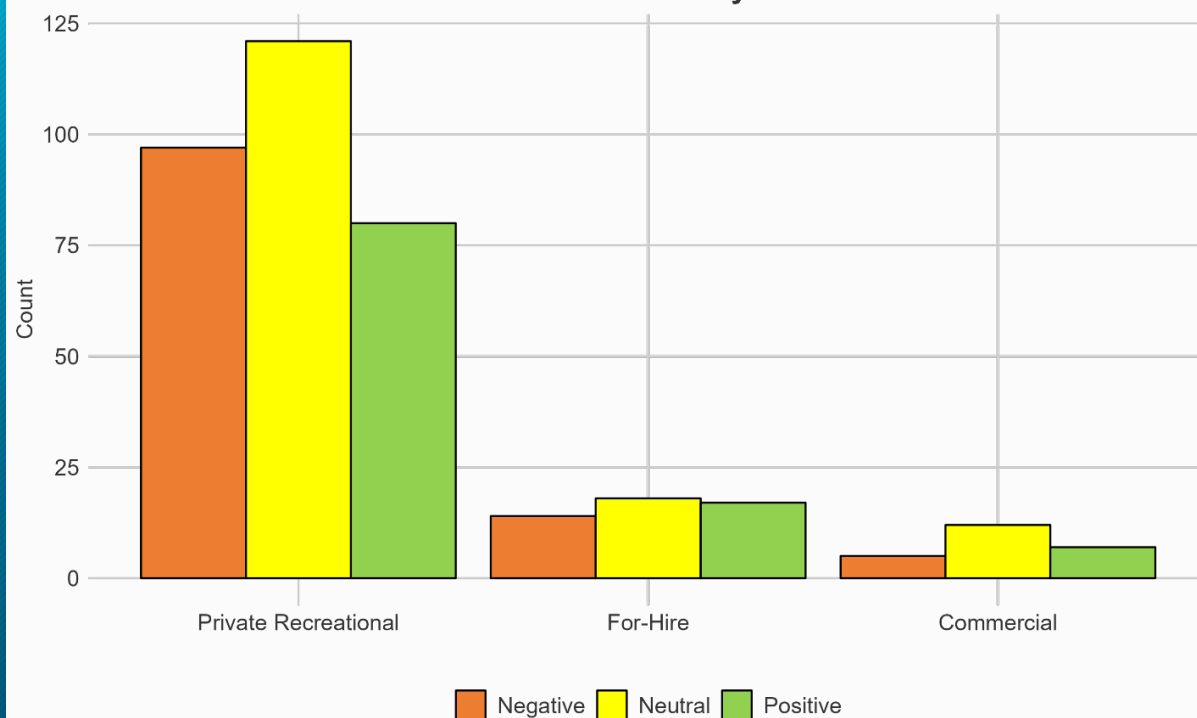
### Final Overall Sentiment



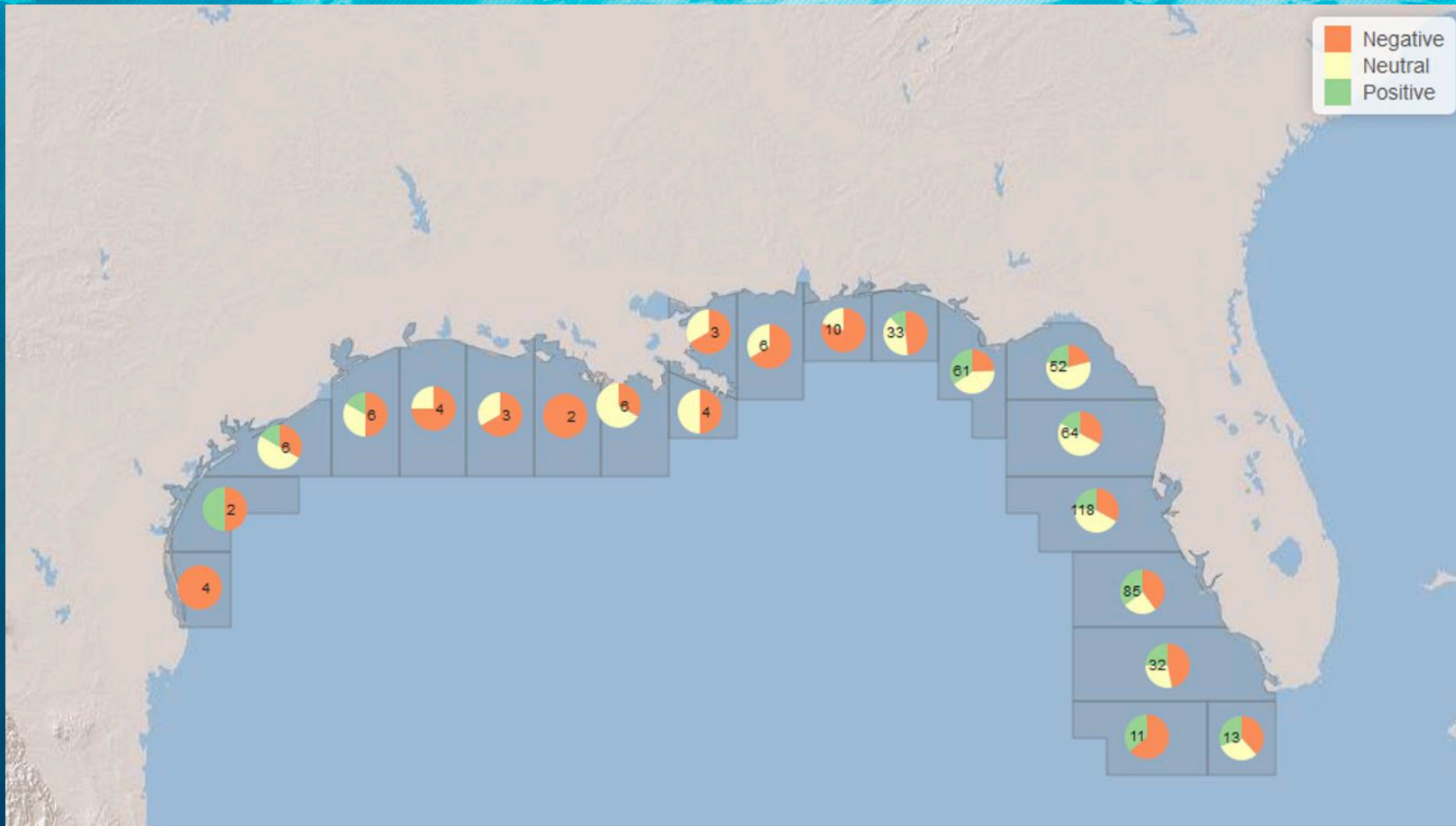
Legend: Negative (orange), Neutral (yellow), Positive (green)

*Number of responses indicating positive, negative, or neutral sentiment (n=338) classified by manual analysis*

### Overall Sentiment By Sector



Number of responses indicating positive, negative, or neutral sentiment sorted by self-selected sector (n=371)



# Overall Response Sentiment

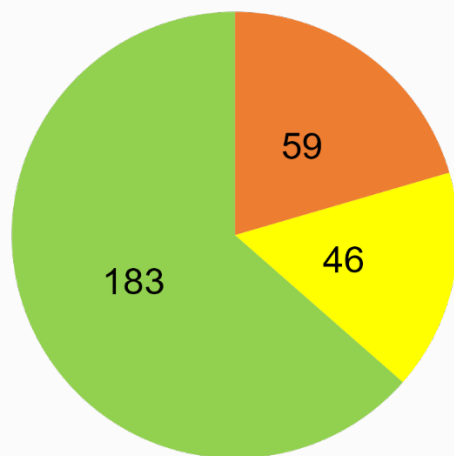
Each comment was analyzed for sentiment (n=338) and linked to self-selected areas (n=525)



# Stock Condition Sentiment



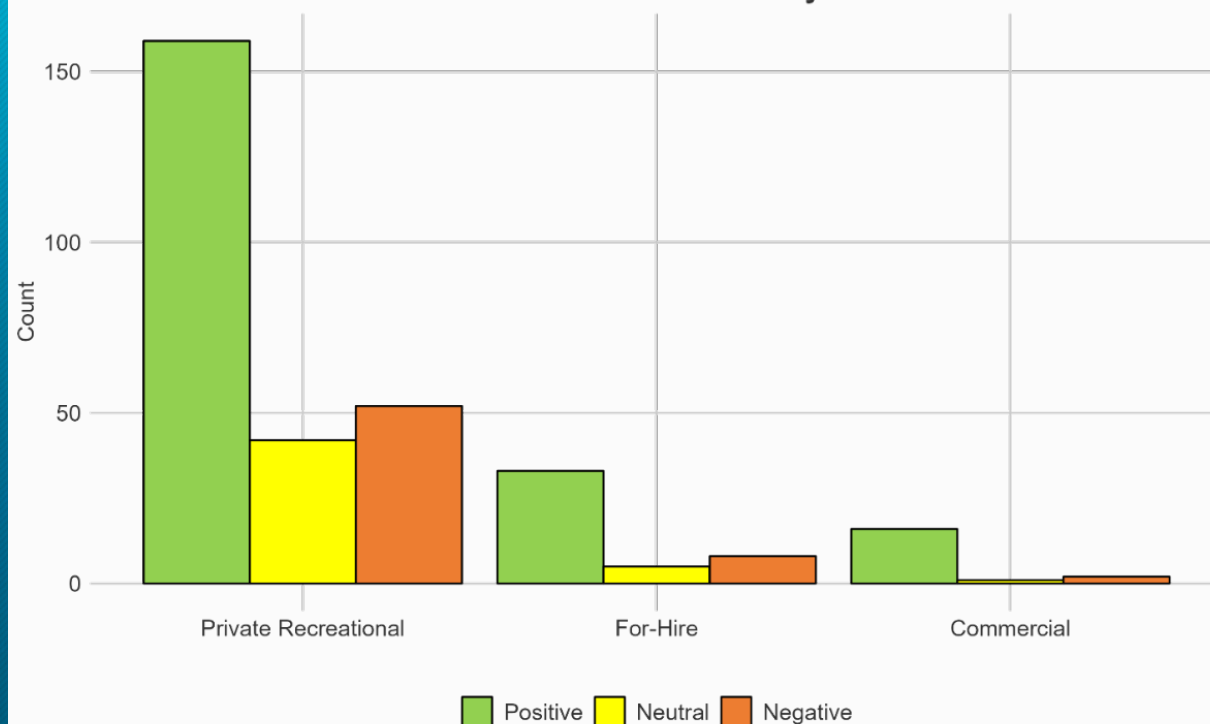
Final Stock Condition Sentiment



Positive Neutral Negative

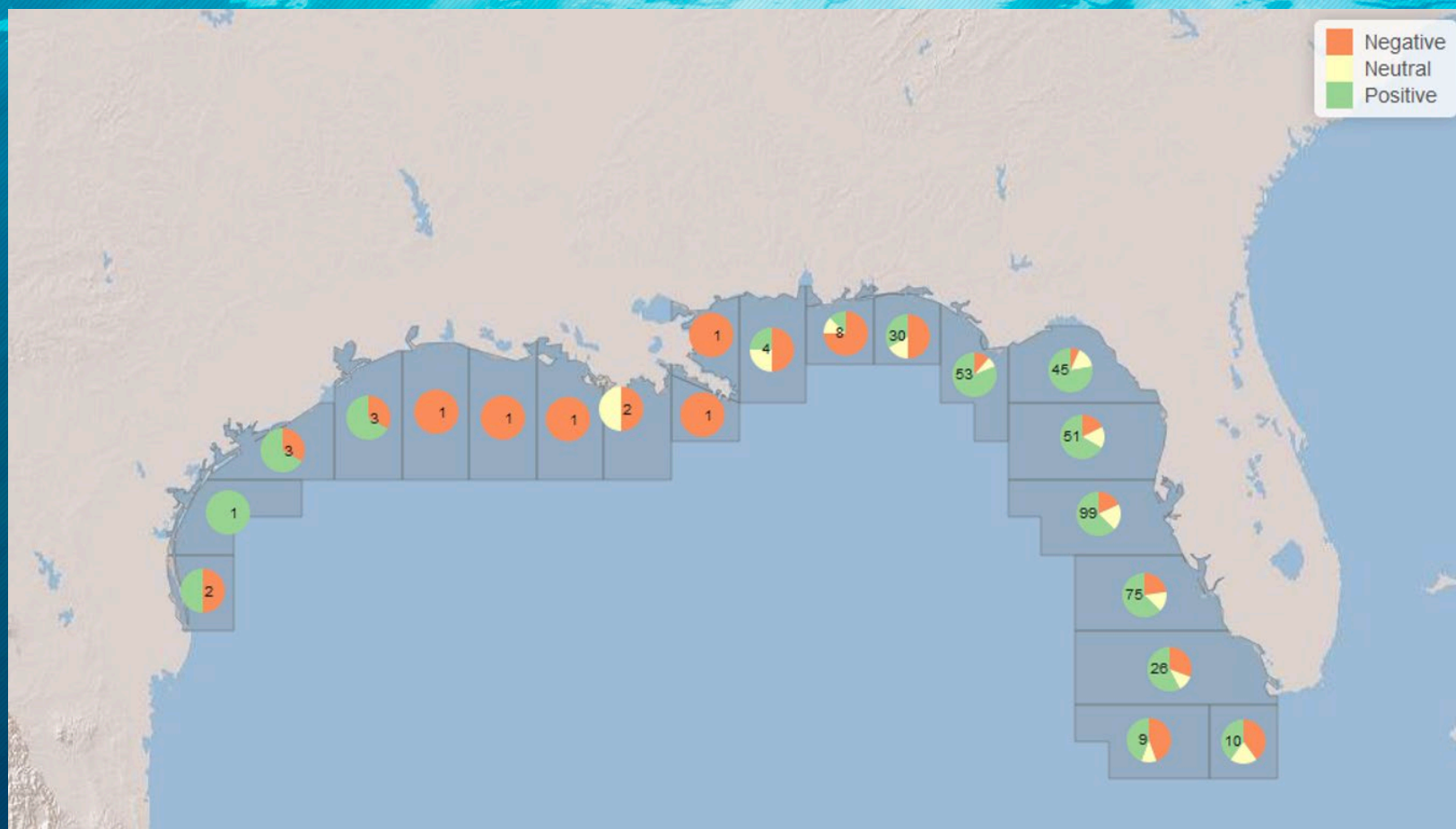
Number of comments indicating positive, negative, or neutral sentiment regarding stock condition (n=288)

Stock Condition Sentiment By Sector



Positive Neutral Negative

Number of responses indicating positive, negative or neutral sentiment (n=288) sorted by self-selected sector (n=318)



# Stock Condition Sentiment

Each comment related to the condition of the stock was analyzed for sentiment (n=288) and linked to self-selected areas (n=426)





# Themes



## Positive

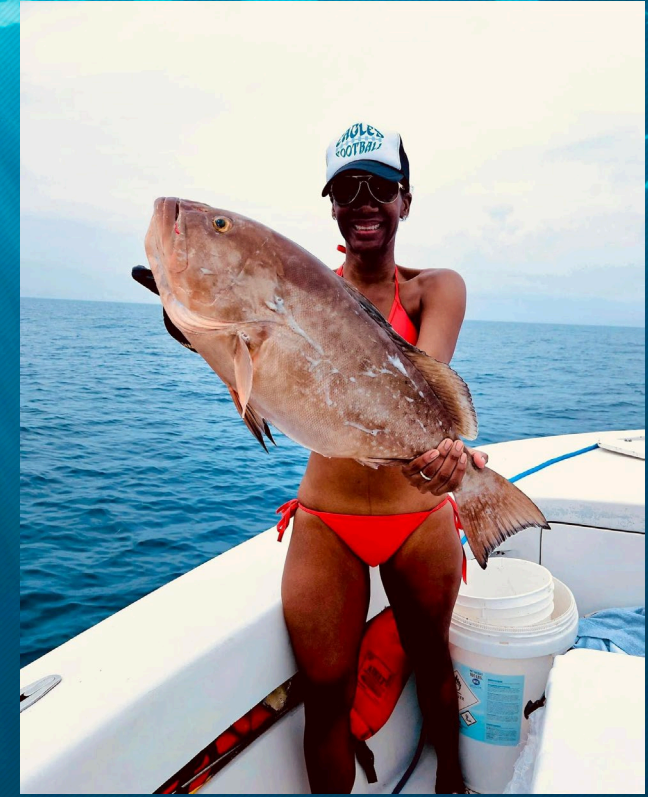
- Short seasons and hurricanes have eased pressure and allowed the stock to improve
- Lots of fish
- Stock is improving

## Neutral

- Lots of undersized fish
- Lots of fish out deep but few close to shore
- Management is bad but the stock is good
- The stock is improving but there is a long way to go
- Stock is stable

## Negative

- Improved technology is negatively impacting the fishery
- Have to go deeper to find fish
- Poor water quality, habitat destruction, red tide, competition from other species, and fishing effort are impacting the stock
- Commercial fishing / recreational fishing is the problem
- Federal recreational data collection is the problem



Questions?

