

# Florida EFP Proposal – Recreational Red Snapper Fishery



Presentation to Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council  
January 31, 2018



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

# Florida EFP Proposal Goal

Test data collection and quota monitoring methods by FWC for management of the private recreational and state for-hire components of the red snapper fishery



# Florida EFP Proposal – Allocation

- Requested allocation based on average annual landings from private recreational angler component from 2006-2015 excluding 2010
  - Approximately 42% of Gulf-wide private recreational harvest
  - Reflects recent trends in angler effort and red snapper abundance off the West Florida shelf
- FWC would set ACT using 20% buffer
- Seasons would be set in advance based on when ACT will be caught



# Florida EFP Proposal – Harvest Regulations

- Regional, split seasons for state and federal waters off Florida (state charter captains can harvest out to 9 nautical miles)
  - **Panhandle** (Escambia through Gulf counties): projected season of May 25 – June 5
  - **Peninsula** (Franklin through the Gulf-portion of Monroe County): projected season of June 6–17
    - Additional fall season if unused quota is available
- 2-fish bag limit and 16-inch minimum size limit apply
- Anglers encouraged to use descending devices or venting tools



# Florida EFP – Data Collection and Quota Monitoring

- Anglers would be required to sign up for Gulf Reef Fish Survey
- State for-hire operations that target red snapper and reef fish would have to register with FWC
- MRIP, Gulf Reef Fish Survey, and special for-hire surveys would be used to estimate harvest and effort
  - Red snapper harvested under this EFP must be landed in Florida to facilitate quota monitoring
- Anglers and state captains would be encouraged to report trip information via iAngler app



# Next Steps

- EFP discussion and draft rule hearing to establish state charter reporting at February 8 FWC Meeting in Havana
- Final public hearing at April 25-26 FWC meeting
- IF EFP is approved, FWC would issue an Executive Order to set 2018 seasons
- 2019 seasons set after review of 2018 pilot program



**The following slides are considered backup material  
and are not anticipated to be part of the actual  
presentation**



# Gulf Reef Fish Survey: Estimating Saltwater Recreational Harvest

Access Point Intercept Surveys  
(in-person interviews)  
result in catch per trip estimates

X

Effort Surveys  
(phone or mail)  
result in trip estimates

=

Total Harvest

- GRFS over-samples offshore access points relative to MRIP

- GRFS uses directed mail survey

