



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

MDMR Exempted Fish Permit

Purpose for Exempted Fish Permit (EFP)

- Purpose of the proposed study is to determine if a recreational Mississippi landed Annual Catch Limit (ACL) for Red Snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) can be accurately attained
- Accurate/timely estimation of recreational Red Snapper harvest and angler effort is crucial for successful management

Purpose (Cont.)

- MDMR will gather scientific data that is currently limited on Red Snapper
- EFP will provide:
 - Private recreational anglers and state for-hire anglers a better opportunity to sustainably harvest fish
 - Add to the economy of local coastal communities

MDMR EFP Background

- MDMR uses the electronic reporting system, “Tails n’ Scales”, for data collection
 - Unique authorization code: issued prior to fishing

Before the trip

Name of user

Trip date/time

Launch Site (County First)

Vessel Registration No.

After Trip Completed

Number of Fish Harvested

Number of Fish Released

Number of Anglers

Hours Spent Fishing for RS

Type of Habitat Fished

Program Specifics

- Requesting **154,100** pounds annually that will be set for private recreational anglers and state charter for-hire sector
- Buffer of 10% of quota will be set to ensure allotted poundage is not exceeded
- Timeframe: two year period (2018 and 2019)
- Tails n' Scales data collection: number of anglers, number of Red Snapper harvested, number of Red Snapper released, hours spent fishing, and habitat fished
- Tails n' Scales dockside data collection: trip authorization number, vessel registration number, number of anglers, hours fished, number of fish released, fish retained, and any biological data (length, weight, sex, and otolith collection) of the retained fish
- Anglers eligible to participate in the EFP will be those that have registered in Tails n' Scales prior to *established date (May 1 of each year)*. Anglers are required to be registered in the system as a user to obtain authorization prior to each trip

Tails n' Scales Information

- **154,100** pound quota will be enforced via mandatory reporting (Title 22 Part 9 Chapter 11)
- One angler per vessel required to possess a trip authorization number from the reporting system when targeting Red Snapper
- Eligible anglers required to report Red Snapper harvest for every trip while fishing under the EFP
- Unique authorization code will be provided for each trip – the angler must report on current trip before a new code will be issued (Trip authorization numbers valid for 24-hours from the time of trip departure)
- Methods of reporting:
 - Website
 - Mobile App
 - Toll-free number



MDMR EFP Summary

- Requesting EFP to collect scientific data on Red Snapper (Data will be available to both state and federal partners)
- Collection of specific Red Snapper data: effort, harvest, landing county and site, fish released, hours spent fishing, habitat fished, age, length, and weight
- Timeframe: two years
- Requested quota: **154,100** pounds for private recreational anglers and state charter for-hire sectors
- Mandatory reporting via Tails n' Scales