

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison Report

**Gulf Council Meeting
Tampa, Florida**



FISHERIES DISASTER PROGRAMS RETURN 'EM RIGHT

- **Return 'Em Right - collecting data and monitoring the use of descending devices and other release practices used by reef fish anglers**
 - **South Atlantic anglers now eligible for descending gear**
 - **Implementing human dimensions survey in SATL**
 - **Nick Haddad will be updating the SAFMC at their June meeting**



INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AGREEMENT

- **Work focused on several areas**
 - **Improve state and commission data management systems**
 - **Develop site to centralize state recreational data at GSMFC**
 - **Red snapper recreational research**
 - **Projects (7) have been awarded and work has begun**
 - **Results should be available in late 2027**
 - **At-sea sampling in Louisiana and Texas**



GULF OF AMERICA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL FINFISH RESEARCH

- Congress directed the NMFS to partner with the GSMFC to conduct fishery-independent research on data-poor multi-jurisdictional fish species in the Gulf (e.g. Cobia, Tripletail, Tarpon, and Gray Triggerfish)
- A grant was awarded to University of South Alabama (USA) consortium
- Work is beginning with USA subcontractors and ordering supplies



QUESTIONS?

