

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison Report

**Gulf Council Meeting
Biloxi, Mississippi**



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**
 - **Working on new agreement for next 5-year period in Gulf**
 - **Adding mark-recapture and historic data to Gulf at-sea DW**
 - **Software enhancements for e-measuring boards for at-sea**



INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AGREEMENT

- **Work focused on several areas**
 - **Improve state and commission data management systems**
 - **RFP seeking analysis of “Creel designs” and SRFS**
 - **Red snapper recreational research**
 - **At-sea sampling in Louisiana and Texas**



GULF OF AMERICA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL FINFISH RESEARCH

- In 2025, the GSMFC awarded to University of South Alabama (USA) consortium to conduct fishery-independent research on data-poor multi-jurisdictional fish species in the Gulf.
- The project was started officially this past spring and the team is currently tagging Cobia in the eastern and northcentral Gulf. Tagging includes acoustic and satellite tag deployment.
- Outreach to the public is underway and additional acoustic receivers are being deployed to expand existing arrays.
- Finally, discussion is ongoing to look at including King Mackerel in this overall project following the request from the Gulf Council in June.



QUESTIONS?

