You asked for better data...

You asked for better data, and the Gulf Reef Fish Survey will provide just that! As of April 1, 2015, anglers are required to sign up for the Gulf Reef Fish Survey to recreationally fish for a variety of reef fish species in the Gulf of Mexico. As a Gulf reef fish angler, you may be asked periodically to participate in a voluntary survey and provide important information needed to monitor the fishery and provide optimum recreational fishing opportunities in Florida.

Signing up for the survey is free and is required for anyone 16 years of age and older (including those 65 and older) fishing from a private boat in the Gulf of Mexico (excluding Monroe County) who intend to harvest or possess any of the species pictured on this page. The Gulf Reef Fish Survey is only required if you are fishing for the 10 species described here. If you are fishing for other species, participation is not necessary.

With your help, this survey will improve recreational data collection and allow for more informed fisheries management decisions.

Anglers who sign up for the Gulf Reef Fish Survey must also abide by all state and federal recreational seasons, size limits and bag limits.
Species that **DO NOT** Require Gulf Reef Fish Survey Participation

**Gray Snapper** *Lutjanus griseus*  
(Also called Mangrove Snapper or “Mangos”)

- Two conspicuous canine teeth
- Offshore adults can be reddish in color  
  (not as red as true Red Snapper)

**Sea Bass** (e.g., Rock, Bank and Black)

- Convex caudal fin and may have elongated fin lobes

**Porgies** (e.g., Knobbed, Jolthead and Red)

- Sign up for the Gulf Reef Fish Survey at License.MyFWC.com and click “Purchase a License.” You can also sign up at licensing retailers (such as tackle shops) or by calling 888-FISH-FLORIDA (347-4356). For more information about regulations or the Gulf Reef Fish Survey, visit MyFWC.com/Fishing and click on “Saltwater” and “Recreational Regulations.”

**Lane Snapper** *Lutjanus synagris*

- Diffuse black spot
- Irregular pink and yellow lines

**Grunts** (e.g., White Grunt)

- Elongated caudal fin rays
- Convex caudal fin and may have elongated fin lobes

**Mutton Snapper** *Lutjanus analis*

- Bright blue line below eye
- Small black spot
- Offshore adults can be reddish in color  
  (not as red as true Red Snapper)

**Scamp** *Mycteroperca phenax*

- Reddish brown spots
- Elongated caudal fin rays

May be mistaken for Red Snapper

May be mistaken for Red Grouper

May be mistaken for Red Grouper

**Offshore adults can be reddish in color**  
(not as red as true Red Snapper)

**Diffuse black spot**

**Irregular pink and yellow lines**

**Bright blue line below eye**

**Small black spot**

**Elongated caudal fin rays**

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