

STATE OF FLORIDA

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Order No. EO 18-25

Possession of Red Snapper in or on State Waters of the Gulf of Mexico During the Federal For-Hire Season

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution, through its Executive Director under Delegations of Authority Paragraph 22, hereby provides an allowance for possession of red snapper on state waters of the Gulf of Mexico for vessels for hire that possess aboard the vessel a valid federal Gulf of Mexico Charter/Headboat Permit for Reef Fish and legally harvest red snapper in adjacent EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) waters outside of the open season for red snapper in state waters of the Gulf of Mexico established in Executive Order 18-19.

1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in 68B-14, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), vessels for hire that possess aboard the vessel a valid federal Gulf of Mexico Charter/Headboat Permit for Reef Fish pursuant to 50 C.F.R. §622.20(b), while fishing for other species in or on state waters, may be in possession of red snapper that were legally harvested in adjacent EEZ waters during the federal season for recreational harvest by the federal for-hire component. The federal season for recreational harvest by the federal for-hire component is 12:01 a.m. June 1, 2018 local time through 12:01 a.m. local time July 22, 2018 pursuant to 83 FR 17623.
2. Except for persons harvesting red snapper for commercial purposes pursuant to Rule 68B-14.0045, F.A.C., no person shall harvest in or from state waters of the Gulf of Mexico any red snapper outside of the open season identified in Executive Order 18-19.
3. All other requirements of 68B-14, F.A.C., remain in effect.
4. This order shall take effect upon execution and shall expire July 23, 2018.

Specific Authority:  
Law Implemented:



Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution  
Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

Given under my hand and seal of the Florida  
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
On this 31<sup>st</sup> day of May 2018

*Thomas H. Ean*

*h* Eric Sutton, Executive Director

Attest: *Kristen Butch*  
Agency Clerk