



# South Atlantic Council Review

Review and Discussion

April 20, 2017

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**  
Division of Marine Fisheries Management

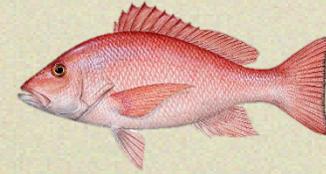
# Yellowtail Snapper and Dolphin Actions Delayed



- Development of options to alleviate quota closures and create access to unused quota has been delayed to consider additional information
  - Past recreational harvest estimates will be recalibrated, which is expected to result in higher estimates of recreational catch
    - Depending on results, options under consideration may not alleviate quota closures
- FWC yellowtail snapper stock assessment expected in 2019
  - Will likely recommend different quotas
- These may have significant implications as to whether the options being considered are warranted



# Red Snapper



- Continues to be overfished and undergoing overfishing
- NOAA Fisheries says current management adequately addresses overfishing
- The Council is requesting guidance from its Science and Statistical Committee on establishing a quota

## Management changes under consideration

- Measures to reduce discard mortality
  - Require use of descending devices
  - Restrict harvesters to single-hook rigs
  - Closure of deeper waters to recreational bottom fishing for part of the year
- Recreational snapper-grouper permit for bottom-fishing
- Required recreational reporting of all snapper-grouper fishing via a mobile app



# No Direction Requested

- Input on other Council items is welcome
- Next Council meeting is June 12-16 in Ponte Vedra, FL



Photo courtesy of Grant Gisondo

