



South Atlantic Council Review

Review and Discussion

February 8, 2017

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Division of Marine Fisheries Management

Final Action – Mutton Snapper and For-hire Electronic Reporting



Changes to mutton snapper regulations approved

- All changes consistent with recent FWC rule changes
 - 18-inch minimum size limit
 - 5-fish recreational bag limit
 - 5-fish per person commercial bag limit, April – June
 - 500-lb. per vessel commercial trip limit, July – March



Mandatory electronic reporting for the for-hire fleet approved

- Requires weekly reports
- A mobile app will be created for easy reporting



Pending approval by U.S. Secretary of Commerce



Yellowtail Snapper Sector Allocations

- Considering strategies to maximize commercial and recreational access to unused quota and prevent quota closures
 - Quota sharing
 - No sector closures until overall quota is met
 - Temporary transfer of allocation between sectors
 - Permanent sector reallocation
- Combining Atlantic and Gulf quotas into a single quota
- Delayed consideration of similar actions for dolphin



Photo courtesy of Don DeMaria



Public hearings scheduled for January 2017

Approved for Public Scoping – Red Snapper

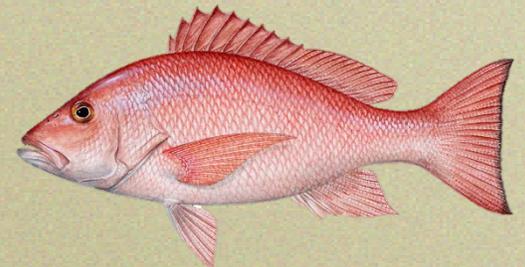


Current population status

- Continues to be overfished and undergoing overfishing

Management changes under consideration

- Create large bottom-fishing closures
- Establish very limited snapper-grouper fishing seasons
- Require use of descending devices
- Require a recreational stamp for bottom-fishing
- Require a recreational tag for red snapper harvest
- Mandate recreational reporting via a mobile app
- Size limits, recreational bag limits, and commercial trip limits



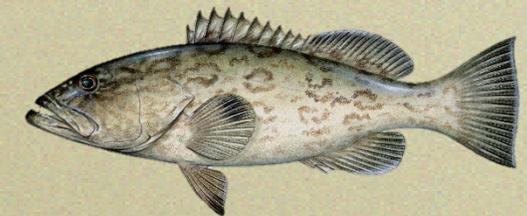
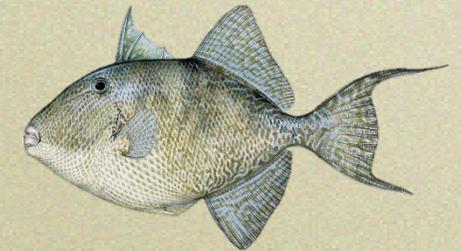
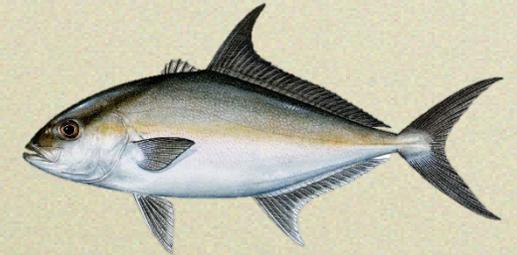
Public scoping scheduled for January 2017



Approved for Public Scoping – Recreational and Commercial Snapper-Grouper Regulations



- New and revised aggregate recreational bag limits
- Removal of size limits for deep-water species
- Lower recreational minimum size limit for black sea bass
- Adjustments to the recreational and commercial shallow-water grouper seasonal closure
- Decrease the minimum size limit for recreational and commercial harvest of gray triggerfish off Florida
- New and revised commercial trip limits and reserving quota for later in the year to lengthen fishing seasons



Public scoping scheduled for January 2017





Public Scoping and Workshop Schedule

- Jacksonville
- Cocoa Beach
- Stuart
- Key Largo
- Marathon
- Key West
- Webinar



******This slide will be updated after the January 2017 public meetings******

Other Items



Snapper-grouper for-hire limited-entry program

- Council will continue to discuss a limited-entry program for the snapper-grouper fishery only

Bahamas/China fisheries partnership

- Bahamas announced they will no longer pursue a partnership that would grant Chinese corporations fishing rights
- Council will send a letter in support of this decision



No Direction Requested

- Input on Council items is welcome
- Next Council meeting is March 6-10 in Jekyll Island, GA



**The following slides are considered backup material
and are not anticipated to be part of the actual
presentation**



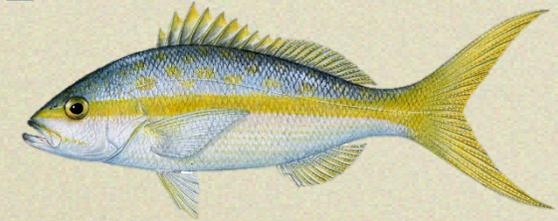
Yellowtail Snapper Quota Allocations



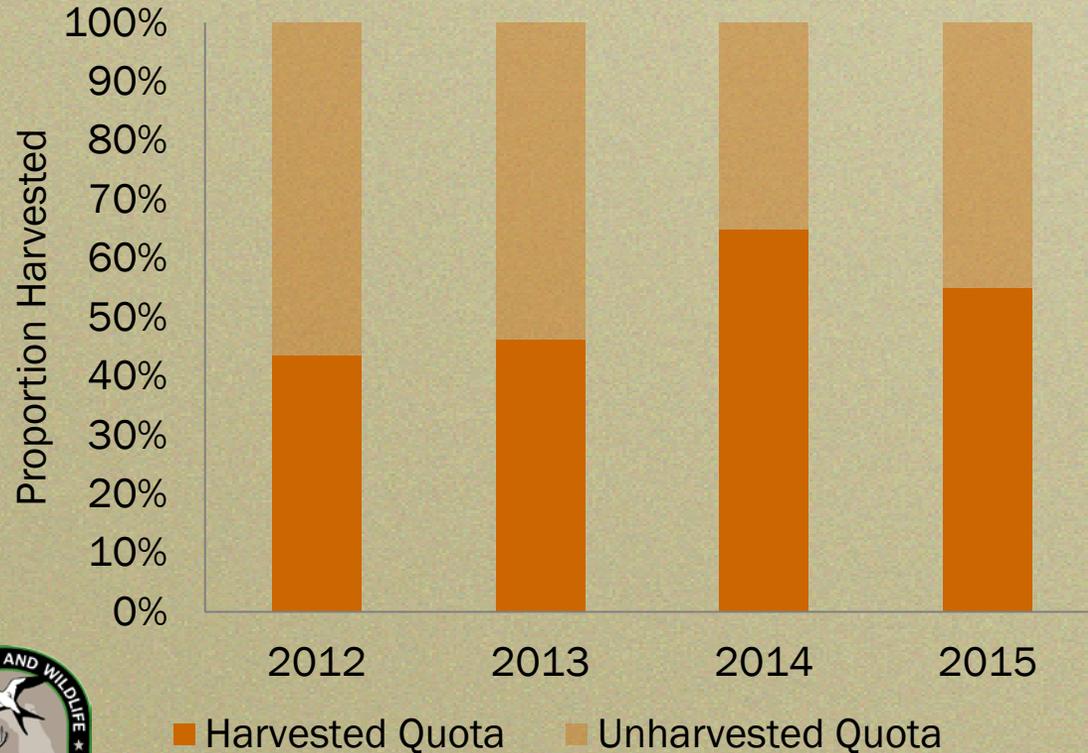
Jurisdiction	Percent of stock quota	Sector	Quota allocation (lbs.)	Percent of council quota
South Atlantic Council	75%	Recreational	1,440,990	47.44%
		Commercial	1,596,510	52.56%
Gulf Council	25%	Recreational and Commercial	901,125	100%



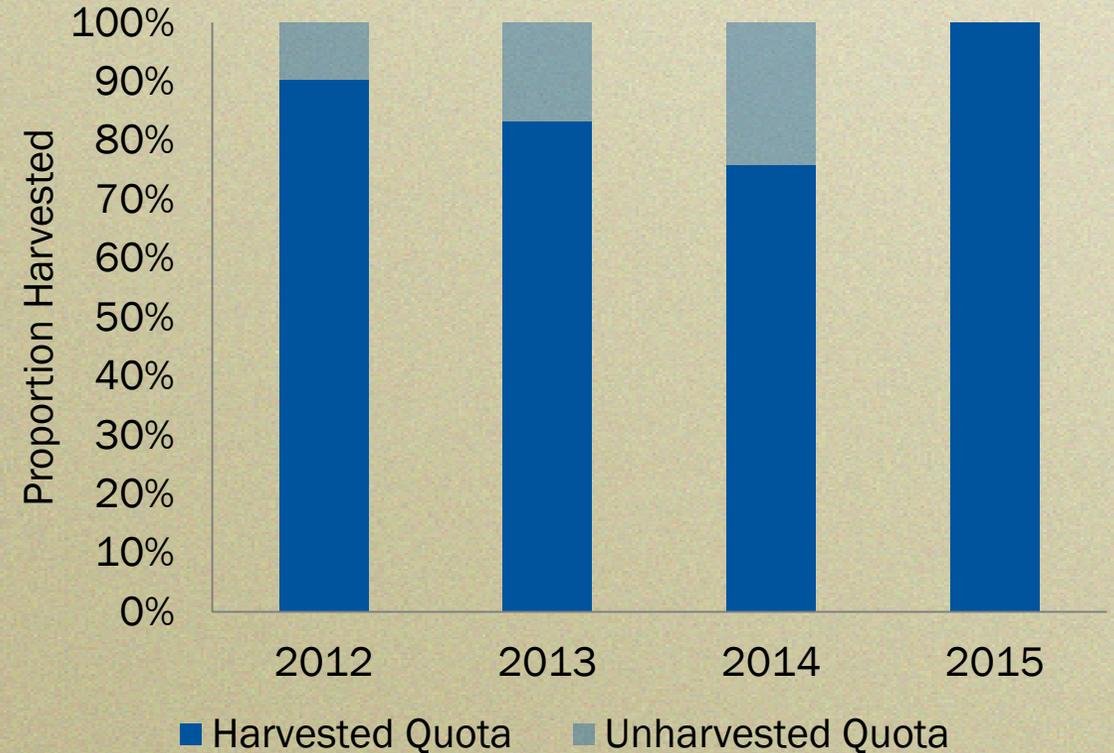
Proportion of Atlantic Yellowtail Snapper Allocation Harvested by Each Sector



Recreational



Commercial



Species within Current Atlantic Federal Snapper-Grouper Recreational Aggregates



Grouper Aggregate			
Gag grouper	Black grouper	Snowy grouper	Misty grouper
Red grouper	Scamp	Yellowedge grouper	Yellowfin grouper
Yellowmouth grouper	Blueline tilefish	Sand tilefish	Golden tilefish
Coney	Graysby	Red hind	Rock hind

Snapper Aggregate			
Blackfin snapper	Cubera snapper	Gray snapper	Lane snapper
Mutton snapper	Queen snapper	Silk snapper	Yellowtail snapper

20-fish Aggregate
Porgies, excluding red porgy
Scup
Triggerfishes
Jacks, excluding greater amberjack
Grunts, excluding tomtate
Spadefish
Bank sea bass
Rock sea bass



Main Data Elements for Charter Boat Electronic Reporting



Start date	Fishing method
Start time	Hours fished
End date	Primary depth fished
End time	Target species
Start location	Location fished
End location	Number of each species kept
Vessel ID	Number of each species released
Captain ID	Charter fee
Number of fishermen	Fuel used
Number of crew	Fuel price per gallon

