



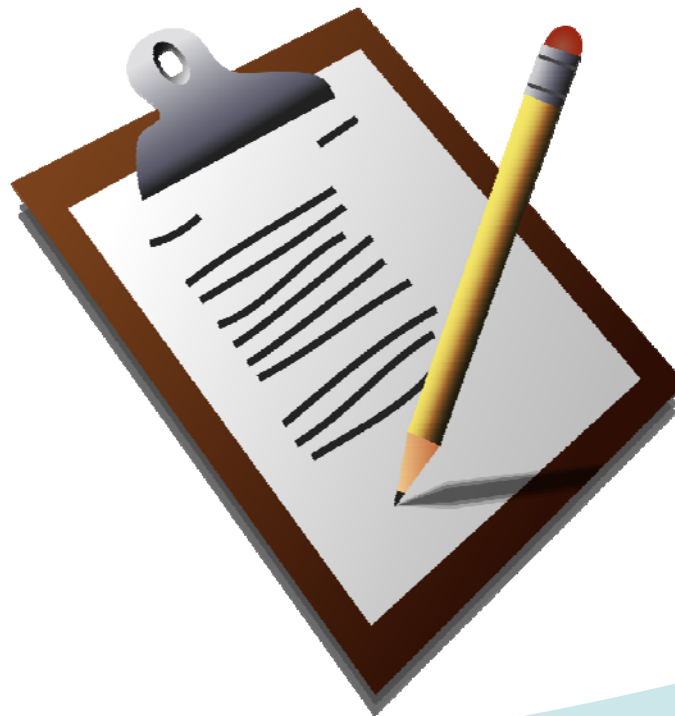
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Update on Review of Bycatch Information in the Southeast Region



Gulf Council Meeting
October 2015

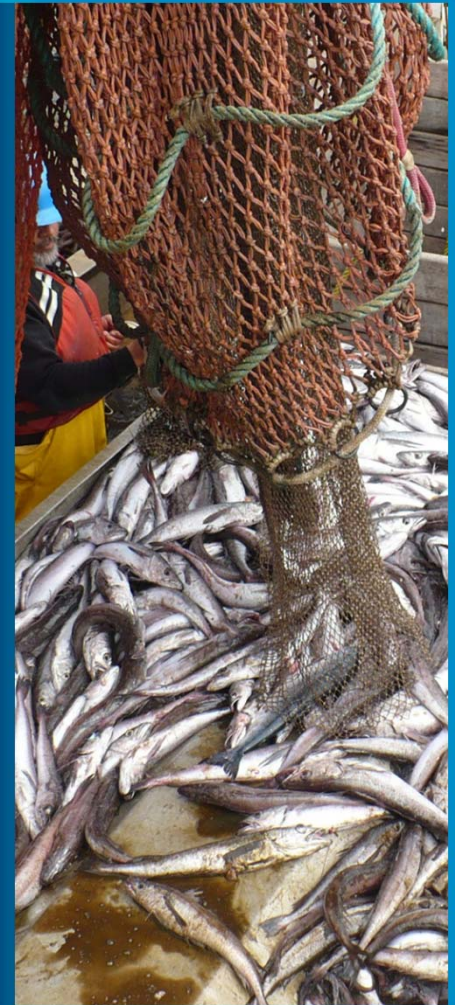
SERO/SEFSC WORKGROUP GOALS

For Gulf, SA, and Caribbean Councils, summarize:

- ✓ Implemented SBRMs for 15 FMPs
- ✓ Bycatch data collection programs
- ✓ Fishery-specific bycatch estimates
- ✓ Current observer coverage levels

Provide:

- ✓ Recommendations for changes to SBRMs that could be made through the FMP process.



BYCATCH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Magnuson-Stevens Act, Section 303(a)(11)

Fishery management plans shall establish a standardized reporting methodology to assess the amount and type of bycatch occurring in the fishery, and include conservation and management measures that, to the extent practicable and in the following priority—

- (A) minimize bycatch; and
- (B) minimize the mortality of bycatch which cannot be avoided.”

BYCATCH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

National Standard 9:

Conservation and management measures shall, to the extent practicable, (A) minimize bycatch and (B) to the extent bycatch cannot be avoided, minimize the mortality of such bycatch.

Magnuson-Stevens Act, Section 301(a)(9)

National Standard 9 (§600.350):

Promote development of a database on bycatch and bycatch mortality in the fishery to the extent practicable. A review and, where necessary, **improvement of data collection methods, data sources, and applications of data must be initiated for each fishery** to determine the amount, type, disposition, and other characteristics of bycatch and bycatch mortality in each fishery for purposes of this standard and of section 303(a)(11) and (12) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. **Bycatch should be categorized to focus on management responses necessary to minimize bycatch and bycatch mortality to the extent practicable.** When appropriate, management measures, such as at-sea monitoring programs, should be developed to meet these information needs. National Standard 9 Guidelines, 50 CFR 600.350(d)(1).

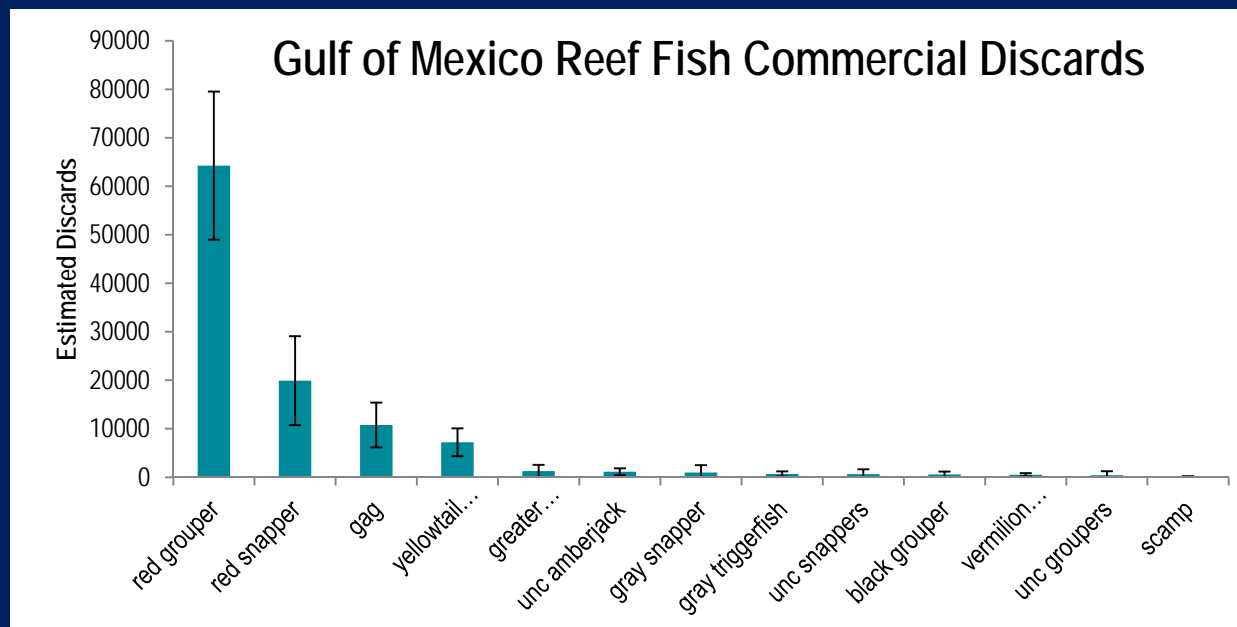
SBRMs FOR GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

- **Reef Fish**
 - Observers aboard vessels
 - Enhance MRFSS surveys to include headboats
- **Shrimp**
 - Electronic logbook program
 - Observers aboard vessels
- **Coastal Migratory Pelagics, Spiny Lobster (joint with SAFMC)**
 - No SBRMs specifically identified in the Gulf for CMP or spiny lobster. Incidental catch is reported through MRIP (including charter boat survey), headboat survey, and commercial logbooks.
- **Red Drum, Corals**
 - All harvest of red drum and coral prohibited; bycatch reporting is via reporting requirements for other FMPs.

SBRMs FOR GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Reef Fish observer program for fish and protected resources

- Biological opinion requires observing 100,000 longline hooks set and 105 sea days on vertical line gear
- Recent observer coverage is > 1 million longline hooks and 200-500 sea days of vertical gear fishing

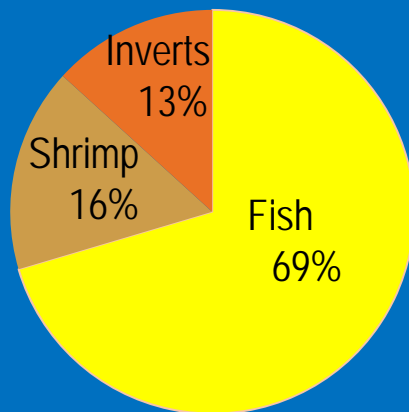


SBRMs FOR GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

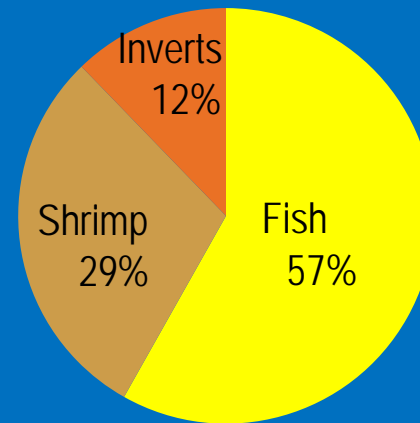
Shrimp

- Observers are placed on 2% of penaeid trips. ~1,500 days.
- Electronic logbooks (~450) on ~ 33% of the offshore fleet
- BRDs must reduce finfish bycatch by 30% by weight

Historical Shrimp Catch



Recent Shrimp Catch



Spiny Lobster

Matthews et al. (1997):

Examined 21,309 lobster traps

32% contained bycatch

65% of bycatch was stone crabs, grunts, spider crabs, and sea urchins

Matthews & Donahue (1997):

Bycatch primarily tomtate, white grunt, stone crabs, spider crabs

Very low daily bycatch mortality rates, with wire traps higher than wood traps

Top 10 Coastal Migratory Pelagic Discards

Stock	Gillnet	Stock	Handline/ Electric	Stock	Troll
lemon shark	699.0	king mackerel	4,2547.0	king mackerel	52.9
sea trout spotted	55.8	red snapper	4,076.3	red snapper	9.2
smooth dogfish	30.3	red grouper	2,495.4	crevalle jack	2.5
cobia	2.4	cobia	800.6	blacktip shark	2.0
grunts	0.9	crevalle jack	787.2	Atlantic sharpnose shark	1.5
red grouper	0.5	unc amberjack	239.7	unc amberjack	0.7
bonnethead shark	0.5	greater amberjack	217.8	dolphin	0.7
shark unc	0.2	barracuda	156.4	spanish mackerel	0.6
shark blacktip	0.0	Spanish mackerel	141.7	shark unc	0.4
		blacktip shark	117.1	Gag	0.3

DISCARDS RANKED

RANK	FISHERY	GEAR
1	Gulf of Mexico Shrimp	Trawl
2	South Atlantic Shrimp	Trawl
3	Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish	Handline/Electric
4	Gulf of Mexico CMP	Handline/Electric
5	South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper	Handline/Electric
6	Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish	Longline
7	South Atlantic Dolphin-Wahoo	Trolling
8	South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper	Trap
9	South Atlantic Dolphin-Wahoo	Handline/Electric
10	South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper	Trolling
11	South Atlantic Dolphin-Wahoo	Trap*
12	South Atlantic CMP	Gillnet
13	Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish	Trolling
14	South Atlantic CMP	Handline/Electric
15	Gulf of Mexico CMP	Gillnet
16	South Atlantic CMP	Trolling
17	Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish	Diver
18	South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper	Longline
19	South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper	Diver
20	Gulf of Mexico CMP	Trolling
21	Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish	Buoy Gear
22	South Atlantic Dolphin-Wahoo	Longline

Southeast Region commercial fisheries reporting to the SEFSC Coastal Discard Logbook and Reef Fish Observer Program, defined by trips with >50% of landings from the listed FMP and gear, ranked from highest to lowest discards. Data for Shrimp FMP from NMFS (2011).

Data were unavailable to rank Coral & Coral Reefs, Sargassum, Spiny Lobster, and Caribbean Fisheries (Spiny Lobster, Queen Conch, Coral).

* Probable gear classification error ("T"=Trap, "TR"=Trolling).

DISCARD REPORTING PROGRAMS

X: Directed coverage
 \: Indirect coverage

Fishery Management Unit	Recreational				Commercial		
	Headboat Observer	MRIP- Charter	FWC	Headboat Survey	Commercial Observer	Discard Logbook	
Gulf of Mexico							
Reef Fish	X	X	n/a	X	X	X	
Coral and Coral Reefs	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\	\	
Shrimp	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	X	-	
Red Drum	X	X	n/a	X	-	X	
Joint South Atlantic and Gulf							
CMP	X	X	n/a	X	\	X	
Spiny Lobster	n/a	n/a	X	n/a	-	-	

QUESTIONS?