

Reef Fish Amendment 39

Summary of Written Comments

January 22, 2016

Comments received since the October 2015 Council meeting

- Look at regionalization within the State
- Regional management would be a good solution for the private anglers
- Support for Alternative 4, Action 2. States can better monitor and control total catch. Private anglers spend the most money and provide the greatest economic impact.
- States should set catch limits, season length, and enforcement should take place at the dock.
- States should manage fisheries – including recreational anglers, charter for-hire, and commercial.
- Support for Action 1 – Alternative 3; Action 2, Alternative 4; Action 3, Alternative 5; Action 4, Alternative 1; Action 5, Alternative 2; Action 6, Alternative 1; and Action 7, Alternative 2.
- Others support Action 1, Alternative 4; Action 2, Alternative 4; Action 3, Alternative 5; Action 4, Alternative 3; Action 5, Alternative 2; Action 6, Alternative 2; and Action 7, Alternative 2
- Support for Action 1, Alternative 4; Action 2, Alternative 4; and Action 3, Alternative 2.
- Develop a regional map (like the hunting maps) to allow for a longer season and a possible increased bag limit. To 4 fish per person since we have so many fish.
- Support for regional management and slowing down the removal of offshore oil platforms.
- Support for the Graves bill.
- Support for No Action.
- Supports Action 2, Alternative 2 – CFH should have its own FMP.
- Oppose Amendment 39 – but support Amendments 41 and 42.
- Exclude CFH from Amendment 39.
- Support Amendment 39 only if it applies specifically and solely to the private recreational component. This will allow the design of management plans that address data needs and include strong accountability measures tailored for each sector.

Comments from LDWF

- The Department conducted an online survey relative to Amendment 39, the results of which overwhelmingly support transferring some management authority for the recreational red snapper fishery from federal authorities to state agencies.

The survey and comments submitted through the survey are posted on the Council website under Public Comments (2016) received for Amendment 39.

Other Comments

- Red snapper are so thick they are being caught without even trying. Often times these fish do not survive. Please consider implementing some sort of bycatch allowance to eliminate this waste.
- Do not want to install VMS – would rather report to the State of Louisiana.
- The for-hire and commercial quotas should be combined.
- Increase the season and bag limit on red snapper.
- Please consider a tag system.