

there are possibly infinite factors influencing this but I'll point out the ones I feel relate to my circumstance and current fishery management.

1. Lack of adequate Red Snapper shares or allocation to maintain a profitable CPUE.
2. Lack of capital to invest in said Red Snapper shares or allocation.
3. Decreased natural capital.
4. Shrinking habitat in which to fish for my targeted species.
5. Open access to my historical fishery.
7. Waning capital services.
8. Slow adaptive fishery management processes.

I'll stop at those listed for now so not to be redundant, if I haven't already done so.

At this juncture I was preparing to take readers on a lengthy, insightful, and disheartening, virtual trip on one of my boats during this year to further my cause, however this would be rather time consuming, so I'll cut to the chase and entertain the offer at a later date. The most pressing issues I feel need to be addressed in the commercial reef fish sector are as follows:

– First and foremost, MSY, OY, and catch shares need to be established for the remaining reef fish. Correct me if I'm wrong but I think there is framework in the process for this now. If not, please let me express that time is of the essence in this matter. It has recently come to my attention that others without my credibility in the Vermillion Snapper fishery, are trying to impress upon the council that the Vermillion Snapper fishery is fine the way it is. I won't argue with the vermilion, stock assessment that concluded Vermilions were not over fished or undergoing over fishing, however I will point out that they are being overexploited which in turn creates a negative externality on my business, due most in part to sector shift. In the past two or three years I've seen more unfamiliar boats targeting vermilion than in the decade previous. Instead of waiting until the vermilion stock assessment, concludes vermilion are over fished, how about the Council being proactive on this stock ?

– Next, historical Gulf Reef fish fishermen without capital to invest in Red Snapper shares, need shares or access to adequate allocation to sustain their business'. This needs to be addressed