Texas Exempted Fishing Permit
2019 Red Snapper Season
Texas EFP

- Required to monitor catches and close when quota percentage is reached.
- Simulation model used to project 2019 federal season length in Texas: 97 days
- Projection Considerations (Uncertainties)
  - Latent Demand
  - Behavior modeling based on previous years
  - Based on 2018 weight ranges
  - Weather/Fishable Days
General Methodology

• Annual sport boat survey, periodic wade/bank and lighted pier surveys
• On-site survey to collect trip-specific information
• Roving survey to count trailers and empty wet-slips
• Results from the on-site survey are expanded by relative pressure at that site from the roving survey
Survey Design

• Stratified by high-use (May 15-Nov 20) and low-use (Nov 21-May 14) seasons
• Stratified by day type (weekdays, and weekends and holidays)
• Inventoried boat-access sites (~260) are surveyed in proportion to fishing pressure
• Surveys conducted from 1000-1800 hours
Sample Size

- 97 survey-days/bay during high-use season, 36 survey-days/bay during low-use season (except 72 high-use survey-days in Sabine and San Antonio Bay)
- Two-thirds weekdays, one-third weekend days
- Annual coastwide sample of 1,014 survey-days
- Approximately 14,000 fishing trips interviewed/year
Gulf-Only Surveys

• ~25 boat ramps (out of 260 coastwide) are used by Gulf anglers
• 36 additional survey-days are routinely allotted to these Gulf access sites during high-use season
• Tripled the number of Gulf-only survey days for the iSnapper project beginning May 15, 2015
Texas 2019 Red Snapper Season

- Held scoping meetings with anglers for 2019 federal waters season dates
- Discussed possibility for split season and later summer opening
- Received 441 comments
- Highest support for June 1 opener (58%)
Texas 2019 Red Snapper Season

Quota Monitoring

- TPWD Marine Sport-Harvest Monitoring Program
  - Gulf-Only and Bay-Pass sample sites
  - Weekly
- iSnapper (TPWD and Harte Research Institute (TAMUCC))
## Texas 2018-19 Red Snapper Seasons

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<th>Year</th>
<th>ACL</th>
<th>Federal Waters</th>
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<th>Landings</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Projected Days</td>
<td>Actual Days</td>
<td>Projected Days</td>
<td>Actual Days</td>
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- Favorable weather
- Increased angler effort
- Most anglers caught limits
- Larger fish