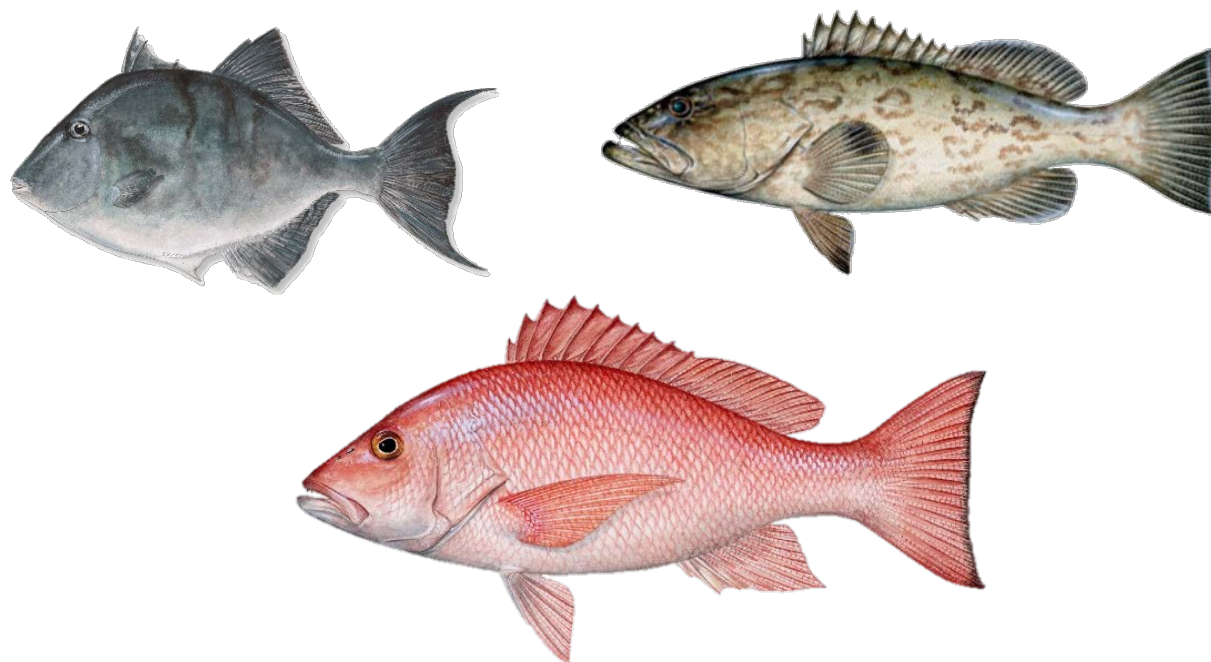


# SSC Summary Report



**Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council**  
October 21-24, 2019 Meeting  
Galveston, TX



# Sustainable Fisheries Committee



# Summary SSC Discussion of Other Topics

- Variability in Yield Projections from Stock Assessments
- Review of Draft Technical Memo: *“NS1 Technical Guidance for Designing, Evaluating, and Implementing Carry-over and Phase-in Provisions within ABC Control Rules”*
- Reinstating the ABC Control Rule Working Group



# Reef Fish Committee

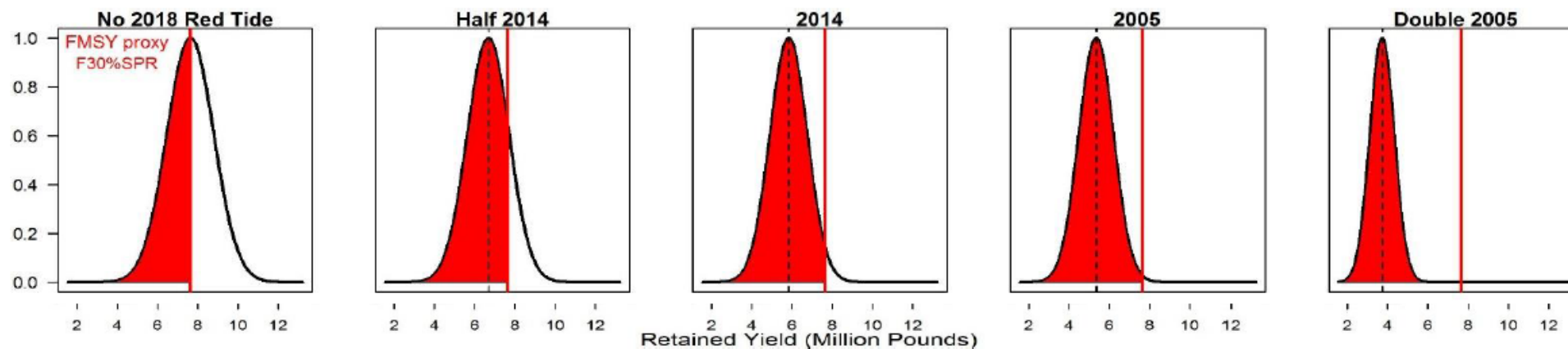


# SEDAR 61: US Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper

- The SSC considered the SEDAR 61 assessment to be BSIA and agrees with assessment stock status outcome. As of 2017 Gulf Red Grouper:
  - Not overfished (*due to new definition of MSST*)
  - Not undergoing overfishing
- Stock has been impacted by intense red tide events, especially 2005 and 2018
- Complex set of conditions might be impacting Red Grouper stock beyond just red tide:
  - Use combined sexes for reference points
  - Explore broader suite of ecosystem factors



# Probability of Overfishing



Scenario	2020-2024 Mean Catch (Pounds)	No 2018 Red Tide	Half 2014	2014	2005	Double 2005
Equilibrium yield at $F_{MSY}$ proxy ( $F_{SPR30\%}$ )	7,643,329	0.50	0.82	0.98	1.00	1.00
F at Optimum Yield ( $F_{OY} = 75\% F_{SPR30\%}$ )	6,423,319	0.15	0.40	0.74	0.90	1.00
Landings fixed at 2017 target	4,305,711	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.11	0.83

# SEDAR 61: US Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper

## Probability of Overfishing



Catch (Lbs)	No 2018 Red Tide	Half 2014	2014	2005	Double 2005
5,348,324	0.025	0.100	0.299	<b>0.500</b>	0.997
5,190,960	0.018	0.075	0.242	0.427	0.993
5,130,000	0.016	0.067	0.222	0.399	0.990
4,900,000	0.009	0.043	0.155	0.300	0.975

**% of RG pop. killed  
by Red Tide**

**0%**

**13%**

**26%**

**34%**

**68%**

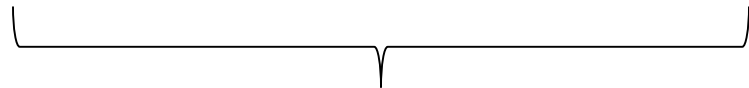


Photo Credit: Ed Walker, Venice Area, August 2018

# SEDAR 61: US Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper

## Probability of Overfishing

	Catch (Lbs)	No 2018 Red Tide	Half 2014	2014	2005	Double 2005
<b>OFL</b> →	5,348,324	0.025	0.100	0.299	<b>0.500</b>	0.997
	5,190,960	0.018	0.075	0.242	0.427	0.993
	5,130,000	0.016	0.067	0.222	0.399	0.990
<b>ABC</b> →	4,900,000	0.009	0.043	0.155	<b>0.300</b>	0.975

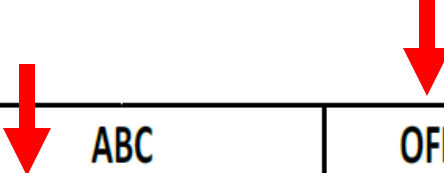
SSC catch level recommendations: (using FES-adjusted MRIP data)

- **OFL** = 5.35 million pounds gw
- **ABC** = 4.9 million pounds gw
- Based on the average yield from projections in SEDAR 61 using the current sector allocations and RT in 2018 = RT impact in 2005



# SSC Review of Lane Snapper Update OFL and ABC Recommendations

- The SSC considered the SEDAR 49 update for Lane Snapper to be BSIA



Method	ABC	OFL	SD	SE	CV	
	30%	40%	50%			
Updated Itarget0.5_0.7_1.0 2019	588,965	596,349	603,195	27,616	276	0.046
Itarget0.5_0.7_1.0 SEDAR 49, March 2017	355,501	360,059	364,082	16,965	170	0.047

SSC catch level recommendations: (using APAIS-adjusted MRIP data)

- OFL** at 50% is 603,195 pounds
- ABC** at 30% is 588,965 pounds
- Following the SSC determination (March 2017) that OFL and ABC should be defined as the 50<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the OFL distribution

# Gulf SEDAR Committee



# SSC Discussion of Marine Recreational Fishing Surveys in Stock Assessments

## NMFS white paper

- Option 1a represents an interim measure. Need a better defined path forward.
- Concerns remain re: how to handle different “currencies” by different supplemental state surveys used for quota monitoring
- The SSC identified the need to move forward resolving these discrepancies.
- Motion: The SSC recommends an In-Person Workshop to address MRIP and FES data stream conversions and their calibration with State survey data as they relate to inclusion into future stock assessments.

