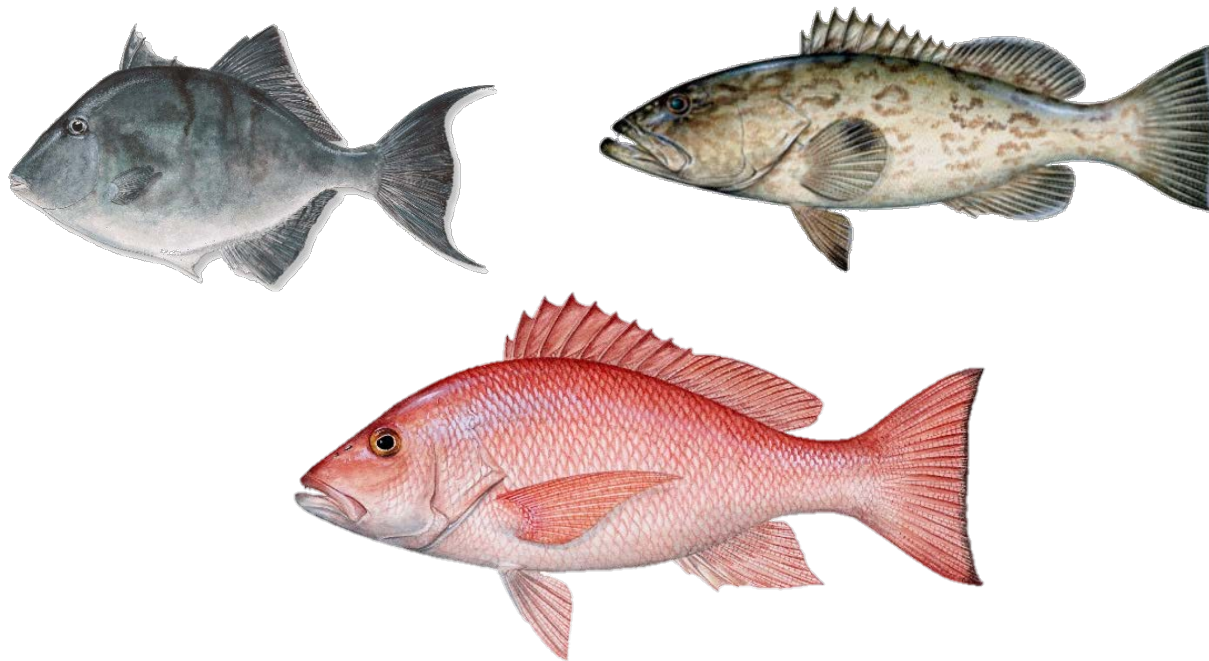


SSC Summary Report



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

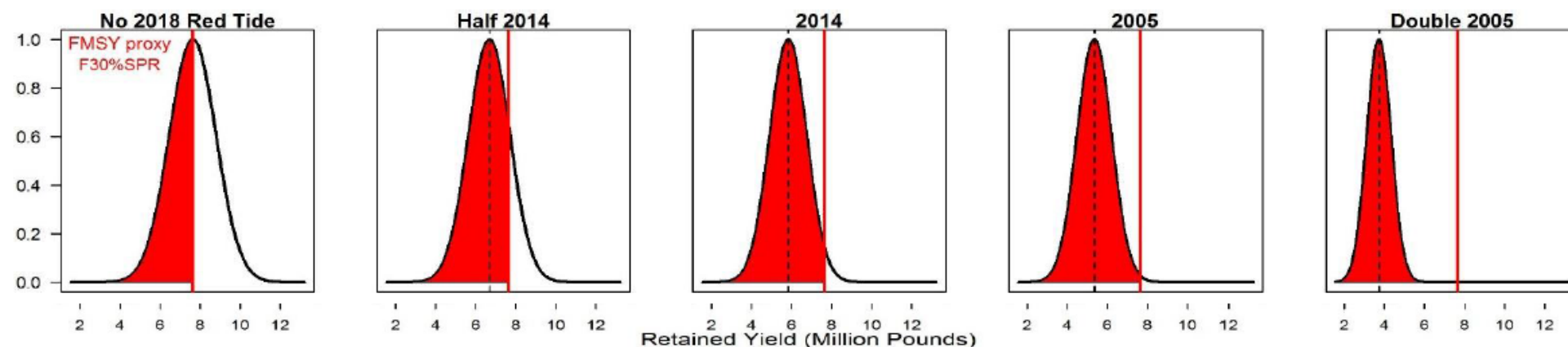


SEDAR 61: US Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper

- 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	0.500	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

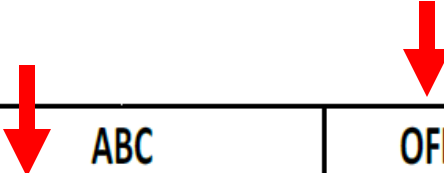
	Catch (Lbs)	No 2018 Red Tide	Half 2014	2014	2005	Double 2005
OFL →	5,348,324	0.025	0.100	0.299	0.500	0.997
	5,190,960	0.018	0.075	0.242	0.427	0.993
	5,130,000	0.016	0.067	0.222	0.399	0.990
ABC →	4,900,000	0.009	0.043	0.155	0.300	0.975

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 50th and 30th 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.

