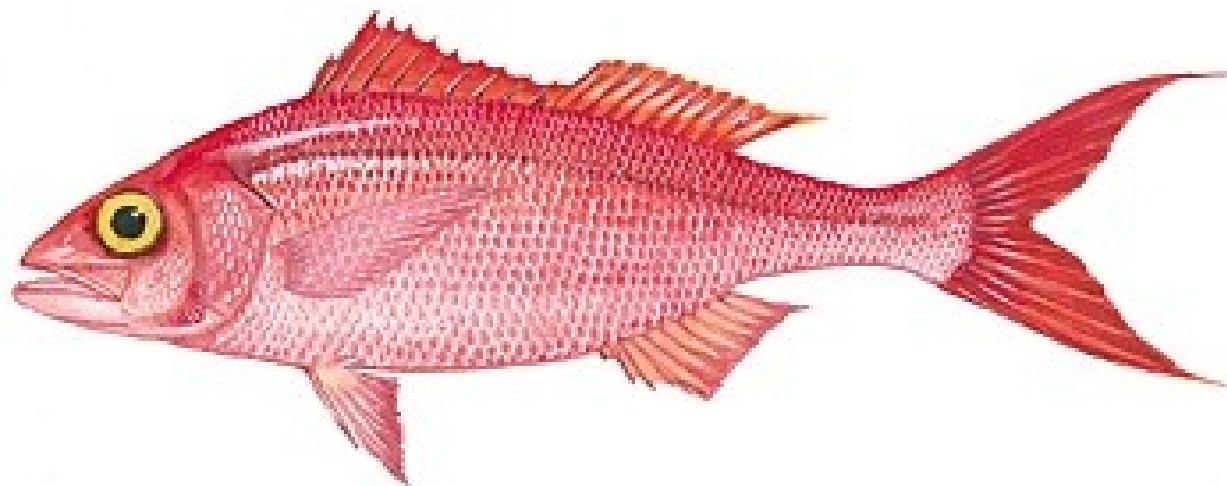


**Attitudes and Preferences about the Potential Use of Catch Shares in
the Deep-water Snapper-Grouper Fishery.**



December 2011

Dear deep-water snapper-grouper fishermen,

Thank you for agreeing to participate in our survey.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one hour per response including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching the existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspects of this burden to Bob Walker, National Marine Fisheries Service, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149. Comments on the content of the survey should be addressed to Dr. Juan Agar, National Marine Fisheries Service, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149.

This reporting is required under and is authorized under 50 CFR 622.5(a) (1) (v). Information submitted will be treated as confidential in accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-100. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. The NMFS requires this information for the socio-economic assessment of the deep-water snapper fishery in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands. These data will be used to assess the socio-economic performance of the deep-water snapper fishery.

All of your information will be confidential. We will not use people's names in our reports, or write anything that could be used to identify you. Participation in this survey is voluntary, and you do not need to answer any questions you do not wish to answer. If you agree with that, and do not have any questions, I would like to start the interview asking you some questions about your fishing practices.

SNAPPERS		
Alinegra, negra	Blackfin snapper	<i>Lutjanus buccanella</i>
Chillo amarillo	Silk snapper	<i>Lutjanus vivanus</i>
Cartucho	Queen snapper	<i>Etelis oculatus</i>
Moniama de adentro	Wenchman	<i>Pristipomoides aquilonaris</i>
Moniama de afuera	Cardinal snapper	<i>Pristipomoides macrophthalmus</i>
Chopa negra	Black snapper	<i>Apsilus dentatus</i>
Rubia	Vermillion snapper	<i>Rhombo plitesaurorobus</i>
GROUPERS		
Guasa	Misty grouper	<i>Epinephelus mystacinus</i>
Guajil amarillo	Yellowedge grouper	<i>Epinephelus flavolimbatus</i>
Mero negro	Black grouper	<i>Mycteroperca bonaci</i>
Guajil	Yellowfin grouper	<i>Mycteroperca venenosa</i>

Socio-demographic information

1) What is your role in the fishing operation?
 Captain [w/license] Helper [w/license] Other: _____

2) How would you describe your level of participation?

- Year-round, full-time,
- Year-round, part-time [Subsistence additional income]
- Seasonal, full-time [Subsistence additional income]
- Seasonal, part-time [Subsistence additional income]
- No longer fish
- Occasionally

3) How old are you? _____ years

4) How many years of commercial fishing experience do you have? _____ years

5) How long have you fished for deep-water snapper-grouper species? _____ years

6) What percentage of your income is derived from fishing deep-water snapper-grouper?
____%

7) How long have lived in your community? _____ years

8) Number of dependents? ____ folk(s)

9) What percentage of the following species do you catch in federal waters (greater than 9 miles from the coast)? N/A ____

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Silk snapper ____ % | Queen snapper ____ % | Vermillion snapper ____ % |
| Blackfin snapper ____ % | Wenchman ____ % | Cardinal snapper ____ % |
| Black snapper ____ % | | |
| Misty grouper ____ % | Yellowedge grouper ____ % | |
| Black grouper ____ % | Yellowfin grouper ____ % | |

Information about fishing practices

10) Do you believe that the landings reported by other fishermen to the trip ticket underestimate the actual landings of deep-water snapper-grouper caught?
Yes No

11) If you agree, what percentage of the landings, do you believe are under-reported? (For example, out of 100 pounds caught, how many pounds are under-reported to the trip ticket and how many are not?) ____%

12) Why do you believe that some fishermen under-report their deep-water snapper-grouper landings?

13) - What would be the best way to monitor landings and/or discourage under-reporting?

14) In the last five years, how has your participation in the fishery changed (i.e., landings, fishing trips, trip duration, etc.)? Why did you make these changes?

Costs and Earnings

15) Costs and earnings information per trip during the last year.

	Main single gear _____	single gear #2 _____	Multiple gears Primary _____ Secondary _____
Trip duration	_____ days/hrs	_____ days/hrs	_____ days/hrs
Gas and oil (\$/trip)	\$ _____ _____ gallons	\$ _____ _____ gallons	\$ _____ _____ gallons
Ice (\$/trip)	Make own ice Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Depends <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	Make own ice Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Depends <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	Make own ice Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Depends <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
Bait (\$/trip)	Capture own bait Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Depends <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	Capture own bait Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Depends <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	Capture own bait Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Depends <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
Food (\$/trip)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other costs: (_____)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total cost (\$/trip)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Average revenues (\$/trip)	\$ _____	\$ _____	Primary \$ _____ Secondary \$ _____
Net payment to crew (after costs)	% ___ Vessel % ___ Captain % ___ Helpers	% ___ Vessel % ___ Captain % ___ Helpers	% ___ Vessel % ___ Captain % ___ Helpers
Number of crew	Number of crew: _____ \$ _____/crew/trip	Number of crew: _____ \$ _____/crew/trip	Number of crew: _____ \$ _____/crew/trip
Average landings of top species (lb./trip)	1: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb 2: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb 3: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb 4: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb	1: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb 2: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb 3: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb 4: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb	Prim1: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb Prim. 2: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb Prim. 3:: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb Sec.1: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb Sec. 2: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb Sec.3: _____ lbs. _____ \$/lb

Annual round (2007-2011)

16) Please describe your participation in the deep-water snapper-grouper fishery (trips, landings and revenue)

2011

Gear: _____	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Number of trips												
Landings per trip (Lbs/trip)												
Silk Snapper (lbs/trip)												
Queen snapper (lbs/trip)												
Other (lbs/trip) _____ _____ _____												
Total Revenues by trip (\$/trip)												

2010

Gear: _____	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Number of trips												
Landings per trip (Lbs/trip)												
Silk Snapper (lbs/trip)												
Queen snapper (lbs/trip)												
Other (lbs/trip) _____ _____ _____												
Total Revenues by trip (\$/trip)												

2009

Gear: _____	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Number of trips												
Landings per trip (Lbs/trip)												
Silk Snapper (lbs/trip)												
Queen snapper (lbs/trip)												
Other (lbs/trip) _____ _____ _____												
Total Revenues by trip (\$/trip)												

2008

Gear: _____	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Number of trips												
Landings per trip (Lbs/trip)												
Silk Snapper (lbs/trip)												
Queen snapper (lbs/trip)												
Other (lbs/trip) _____ _____ _____												
Total Revenues by trip (\$/trip)												

2007

Gear: _____	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Number of trips												
Landings per trip (Lbs/trip)												
Silk Snapper (lbs/trip)												
Queen snapper (lbs/trip)												
Other (lbs/trip) _____ _____ _____												
Total Revenues by trip (\$/trip)												

Vessel information

17) Vessel characteristics

Variables	Vessel # 1 (Principal)	Vessel # 2	Vessel # 3
Boat's ownership	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Co-owners (#__)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Co-owners (#__)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Co-owners (#__)
Construction date			
Length (ft.)			
Hull type	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood y fiber <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Other : _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood y fiber <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Other : _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood y fiber <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Other : _____
Engines	<input type="checkbox"/> Outboard ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Combo ____	<input type="checkbox"/> Outboard ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Combo ____	<input type="checkbox"/> Outboard ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Combo ____
Propulsion (HP)	Motor # 1 ____ HP Motor # 2 ____ HP	Motor # 1 ____ HP Motor # 2 ____ HP	Motor # 1 ____ HP Motor # 2 ____ HP
Electric equipment (quantity)	GPS ____ Depth finder ____ Fish finder ____ Radio-teléfono ____ EPIRB ____	GPS ____ Depth finder ____ Fish finder ____ Radio-teléfono ____ EPIRB ____	GPS ____ Depth finder ____ Fish finder ____ Radio-teléfono ____ EPIRB ____
Fishing equipment (quantity)	Winch ____ Electric reel ____ Hydraulic reel ____	Winch ____ Electric reel ____ Hydraulic reel ____	Winch ____ Electric reel ____ Hydraulic reel ____

Attitudes and Perceptions towards the Catch Shares

18) In your opinion, what is the main problem or issue that impact the deep-water snapper fishery?

Biological problems

- There are no biological problems Overfishing By-catch of juveniles
 Other (explain): _____

Socio-economic problems

- There are no socio-econ problems High fuel costs Low seafood prices
 Crowding of fishing grounds Difficulty finding suitable crew User conflicts (explain)
 Other (explain): _____

Other problems

- There are no other problems
 Poor safety at sea Low quota levels Over-zealous enforcement
 Ineffective regs. Poor compliance w/ regs. Uncertainty about future regs.
 Other (explain): _____

19) Are you familiar with the proposed catch share program? Yes No
If you answer yes, then what do you perceive to be the advantages of the program?

[If unfamiliar with program, skip to question 32]

20) Do you support the catch share program? Yes No Undecided
What are the main reasons why you support, oppose or are undecided about the program?

21) Do you have any concerns about the catch share program? Yes No
If you answer yes, which are your main concerns?

22) Do you believe that additional education on the details of the catch share program is necessary? Yes No
If you answer yes, which topics would you like covered?

- General knowledge about the program
- What are the requirements to participate and acquire catch shares (quotas)?
- Should a 'share (or quota) fund' for new entrants be established?
- What would be the criteria used for initial allocation of quotas?
- What are the anticipated advantages and disadvantages of the program?
- How would landings be monitored and enforced?
- How would a program impact the condition of the fisheries?
- What would be the mechanism(s) for setting the TAC?

Preferences about the design of the catch share program

23) Who do you believe should receive an initial allocation? [Check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> Vessel owners	<input type="checkbox"/> Captains	<input type="checkbox"/> Helpers
<input type="checkbox"/> Members of fish coops	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreational fishermen	<input type="checkbox"/> Charters
<input type="checkbox"/> Dealers	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____	

24) Which criteria should be applied to the initial assignment of shares? [Check all that apply]

- Landings history (established by trip tickets submitted to the Fisheries Lab)
- Participation in the fishery (established by the possession of a valid license)
- Established employment in the harvesting and/or processing sector
- Fishing investment (established by the ownership of fishing vessels, fishing gear, etc.)
- Fishing dependence (established by the type of license held (full-time, part-time))
- Lack of violations or infractions
- Information provided in this survey
- Other: _____

25) Should the sale of catch shares be allowed? Yes No Undecided

26) Should the rental of catch shares be allowed? Yes No Undecided

27) What is the dockside price and the maximum you will be willing to pay for renting a share that allow you to land one pound of

Species	Market Price (\$/lb)	Disposition (whole, gutted)	Rental of share that allow us you to land pound of fish (\$/lb.)
Silk snapper			
Queen snapper			
Other:			

28) Should there be restrictions for buying, selling and renting catch shares between people?

- No. Anybody, including folks not related to the fishing industry, could buy/sell or rent shares.
- Yes. Only fishermen or corporations with licenses could buy/sell, or rent shares.
- Yes. Only fishermen or corporations with licenses and crew could buy/sell, or rent shares.
- Yes. Only fishermen or corporations with licenses, crew, and dealers could buy/sell, or rent shares.
- Yes. Other restrictions: _____
- Undecided.

29) Should there be restrictions for buying/selling, and renting shares across municipalities or regions (e.g., West vs. North coast) to protect traditional fishing practices and fishing communities?

- No, there should be no restrictions to the purchase, sale or rental of catch shares.
- Yes. Only those folks with catch history in the regions (independently of where they live) should be able to buy, sell or rent shares.
- Yes. Only those folks who live in the municipality or region could buy, sell, or rent shares.
- Yes. Other restrictions: _____
- Undecided.

30) What percentage of the quota should be set aside to provide shares to new entrants?
Percentage (1-100%) ____%

Anticipated outcomes	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly agree	Don't know/N A
My financial condition will improve	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prices of deep-water snapper and groupers will increase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fluctuation in deep-water snapper and groupers prices will decrease	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My operating costs will decrease (fuel, bait)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing will become more orderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing will become more flexible and efficient	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing ground will become less crowded	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing season will be lengthened	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Less fishing equipment will be lost	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discarding of fish will decline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will help rebuild the resource	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety at sea will improve	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Compliance with fishing regulations will improve	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal communities that depend on this fishery will suffer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It will be more difficult to enter the fishery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

31) Do you believe that the catch share program will bring about the following outcomes?

Performance of existing regulations

32) Do you think that the closure for silk snapper (Oct 1- Dec 31) has been effective to recover the resources? Yes No Indecisive

Why?

33) Did you initially support the gill and trammel net ban? Yes No Why?

34) Do you support the gill and trammel net ban now? Yes No

Why?

35) What were the main impacts of the gill and trammel net ban?

a. Biological (improve parrotfish populations, minimize by catch):

b. Fishing practices (gear switching, new areas, species target):

c. Economic (start-up costs, forgone income) :

d. Social (user conflicts):

e. Community:

f. Livelihood:

36) Do you believe the buyback was fair? Yes No

Why? Were fishermen properly compensated?

37) How the buyback could have been improved? What could be done differently?
