

Discards of Greater Amberjack and Red Snapper Calculated for Vessels with Federal Fishing Permits in the US South Atlantic

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Introduction

In August 2001, the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) initiated a program to collect information regarding the numbers of fish that were being discarded in Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic fisheries. To collect this information, the SEFSC developed a form that supplements the existing vessel coastal logbook forms that are currently mandatory for those fisheries (Poffenberger and McCarthy, 2004). As part of the data that are provided for the Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) Data Workshop for south Atlantic greater amberjack and red snapper, discard data from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) coastal fisheries logbook program were used to estimate the numbers of fish that were discarded during the period January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2006.

A 20% random sample of the vessels with South Atlantic snapper-grouper, king mackerel, Spanish mackerel or shark permits were selected to report the number of animals discarded by species. To assure that the sample was representative of the total universe of vessels with these Federal permits, the universe of permitted vessels was stratified and a random sample selected, without replacement, from each stratum. One of the strata was geographical location where the vessel fished during 2000. There are two categories in this stratum - the Gulf of Mexico (Florida Keys to the Texas-Mexican border) and the South Atlantic (which extends from the North Carolina - Virginia border to the Florida Keys). The second stratum was based on the type of gear.

The selected fishermen were instructed to complete a supplemental discard form for every fishing trip that they made. If they did not have any discards for the trip, they were instructed to complete a discard form and write "no discards" on the form. If they did not fish during a calendar month and submitted a no fishing form, then they did not have to submit a discard form.

In addition to the numbers of discards, fishermen are asked to record their best estimate of the condition of the fish when they were released. The fishermen are given 6 options for the condition of released fish. These options are: all animals are dead, majority of the animals are dead, all animals are alive when released, majority of animals are alive, the fish are kept but not sold, and the condition of the animals is unknown. The fishermen are also asked to specify a reason why the fish (animals) were discarded. The choices are that the fish are discarded because of regulations or because the fish are unmarketable or unwanted.

Methods

The data set for this analysis includes all trips from sampled vessels that reported discards between January 1, 2002 and December 31, 2006 in the US south Atlantic. During this period, discard forms were submitted for 19,386 trips. Of those trips, discards were reported on 11,608 trips and 7,778 trips reported no animals were discarded. Discards of greater amberjack were reported on 273 trips or 2.4% of the trips where discards were reported. Discards of red snapper were reported on 276 trips (2.4%). By way of comparison, there were 383,427 trips reported to the coastal logbook program by vessels that have been issued a Federal permit to fish in the south Atlantic during 2002-2006. Greater amberjack landings were reported for 10,615 trips or about 2.8% of all trips. There were 7,955 trips landing red snapper (2.1%).

The objective of this analysis was to calculate the numbers of greater amberjack and red snapper discarded by vessels that fish commercially for species other than shrimp or other shellfish. Fishing activity for these analyses did not include the surface longline vessels that typically fish for swordfish, pelagic sharks, tunas, and other highly migratory species.

The number of trips that reported discards of greater amberjack or red snapper was low, limiting the degree to which the data could be stratified. Only handline and trolling vessels reported greater amberjack discards on more than a few trips. Greater amberjack discards from trolling vessels, while reported more often than any gear other than handlines, were infrequent and, apart from a single North Carolina report, were limited to reports from south Florida. Red snapper discards were, other than five trips, reported only from handline vessels (Table 1a). The numbers of greater amberjack and red snapper discards by year and gear type are presented in Table 1b. Handline trips accounted for the greatest number of trips reporting greater amberjack and red snapper landings in the south Atlantic (Table 1c) and the highest landings of those species (Table 1d). Dive trips had the second largest landings of greater amberjack followed by trolling trips, however, only one report of discarded greater amberjack was received from a dive trip. Handline trip data were used to calculate greater amberjack and red snapper discards in the south Atlantic. In addition, data from trolling trips were used to calculate greater amberjack discards from those vessels.

Data from trips using handlines and trolling were separately used to calculate greater amberjack discards. For red snapper, only data from handline vessels were used. Trips reporting discards of greater amberjack or red snapper were often fewer than 40 per year, therefore data for all years were combined for each species and gear examined. The only variable considered as a possible influence on the number of discards was region. This was defined for greater amberjack handline vessels as:

Region 1 = 2400 latitude to <3100 latitude
Region 2 = 3100 latitude to <3300 latitude
Region 3 = 3300 latitude to <3700 latitude

Region was defined for red snapper as:

Region 1 = 2400 latitude to <3000 latitude
Region 2 = 3000 latitude to <3100 latitude
Region 3 = 3100 latitude to <3300 latitude
Region 4 = 3300 latitude to <3700 latitude

The number of trips, amount of landings, and number of discards reported from south Atlantic handline vessels for the years 2002-2006 are provided in Table 2a along with the number of trips, pounds landed, and number of fish discarded from handline vessels reporting amberjack landings or discards. Table 2b contains a summary of trips, landings, and discards for all south Atlantic handline vessels and for handline vessels reporting red snapper landings or discards. Data for greater amberjack discards reported from trolling vessels were combined among all years and areas fished due to the very low number of trolling trips reporting greater amberjack discards (24 trips, 47 total discarded greater amberjack).

Generalized linear model (GLM) analyses were used to determine any significant effect region may have had and on the catch rates of handline trips reporting discards of greater amberjack and red snapper. Parameterization of each model was accomplished using a GLM procedure (GENMOD; Version 8.02 of the SAS System for Windows © 2000. SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC, USA). A type3 model assuming lognormal error distribution was employed. The linking function selected was “normal”, and the response variable was $\ln(\text{CPUE})$. No analysis of the effect region may have had on the proportion of trips reporting discards was attempted because the proportion of trips with either greater amberjack or red snapper discards was so low that assumptions of the test were violated.

Results and Discussion

Significant differences among regions in cpue of handline vessel greater amberjack discards were identified in the GLM analysis. Regional differences were also found in red snapper discard cpue. Mean greater

amberjack and red snapper cpue of all handline vessel trips reporting to the discard logbook program within each region, including those that did not have greater amberjack or red snapper discards (zero discard trips), were used to calculate total discards:

$$\text{Calculated discards} = \text{Mean amberjack or red snapper discard cpue} * \text{total effort per region}$$

Yearly total effort (hook hours) of all trips by handline vessels within each region was multiplied by the mean discard cpue from the appropriate region to calculate total discards of greater amberjack and red snapper by handline vessels.

Calculated total discards for each region are provided in Table 3a for greater amberjack discarded from handline vessels. Prior to 1993, only 20% of Florida vessels were selected to report to the logbook program. The calculated discards for the region off Florida for 1992 were, therefore, expanded by a factor of five. This was done in all calculations of discards for 1992. Calculated discards for each region are summed by year to provide yearly total greater amberjack handline vessel discards in Table 3b.

Mean cpue of discarded greater amberjack was determined for all trolling vessels reporting to the discard logbook program fishing in the south Atlantic during the years 2002-2006. Yearly total effort in hook hours of all vessels reported as fishing with trolling gear was then multiplied by the mean cpue of trolling vessel greater amberjack discards to calculate the yearly total greater amberjack discards from trolling vessels (Table 4).

Calculated total discards for each region are provided in Table 5a for red snapper discarded from handline vessels. The calculated discards from each region were summed by year to provide yearly total red snapper handline vessel discards (Table 5b).

Usually, less than 10% of greater amberjack and red snapper were reported as dead or the majority of discarded fish were dead when released (Table 6). This total includes fish kept but not sold. In one region (region 2, 3100 latitude to <3300 latitude) greater amberjack were reported to have a higher amount of dead or majority dead discards (7.8% combined) and the highest amount of fish kept but not sold (9.1%). Fishers reported that more than 80% of discarded fish were alive or that most of the released fish were alive for both species and gears examined. The reason reported for discarding greater amberjack and red snapper was due to regulatory restrictions in nearly all reports. Only in region 3 for greater amberjack handline vessels was an appreciable percentage (22.6%) of discards reported as due to market conditions. In all other cases, discards were reported as due to regulations in nearly 100% of reporting trips.

The number of trips reporting either greater amberjack or red snapper in the US south Atlantic was very low and the number of individuals of those species reported as discarded was also low. Stratification of the available data was limited because of the small sample sizes and, therefore, likely does not capture much of the variation in numbers of discards within the greater amberjack and red snapper fisheries. How that may affect the number of calculated discards (over or under estimate) is unknown. This is particularly true of the greater amberjack troll fishery. Discards from the dive fisheries for greater amberjack and red snapper could not be calculated due to lack of discard reports from those fisheries. The methods used in prosecuting the dive fisheries, however, may limit the number of discards due to greater selectivity available to the dive fisher.

Literature Cited

Poffenberger, J. and K. McCarthy. 2004. Estimates of red snapper discards by vessels with Federal permits in the Gulf of Mexico. SEDAR 7-DW-22.

Table 1a. Number of south Atlantic trips reporting discards by year and gear fished.

| Year | Diving | | | Gillnet | | | Handline | | | Longline | | | Other Gear | | | Trap | | | Trolling | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----|------------|------------|------------|--------------|----------|----|------------|------------|----|------------|------|----|----------|------------|-----------|----------|--------------|
| | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | Rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | |
| 2002 | | | 2 | | | 208 | 102 | 89 | 2,124 | 2 | | 23 | | | | 2 | | 79 | 4 | | 241 | |
| 2003 | 1 | | 26 | 1 | | 170 | 76 | 47 | 2,162 | | | 3 | | | 52 | | | 144 | 11 | 1 | 295 | |
| 2004 | | | 24 | | | 155 | 20 | 39 | 1,462 | | | 6 | | | 27 | | | 41 | 1 | | 306 | |
| 2005 | | 1 | 6 | | | 130 | 27 | 44 | 1,496 | 1 | | 44 | | | 21 | | | 13 | 6 | | 130 | |
| 2006 | | 1 | | | | 105 | 19 | 52 | 1,378 | | | 44 | | | 1 | | | 6 | 2 | | 135 | |
| Total | 1 | 2 | 58 | 1 | | 768 | 244 | 271 | 8,622 | 3 | | 120 | | | 101 | | | 2 | 283 | 24 | 1 | 1,107 |

Table 1b. Number of south Atlantic discards reported by year and gear fished.

| Year | Diving | | | Gillnet | | | Handline | | | Longline | | | Other Gear | | | Trap | | | Trolling | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|------------|----------|----|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------|----|--------------|------------|----|------------|------|----|----------|---------------|-----------|----------|--------------|
| | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | Rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | |
| 2002 | | | 8 | | | 4,495 | 780 | 1,726 | 62,817 | 5 | | 101 | | | | 7 | | 29,010 | 5 | | 1,098 | |
| 2003 | 1 | | 195 | 2 | | 10,147 | 618 | 985 | 39,298 | | | 10 | | | 185 | | | 20,260 | 24 | 1 | 925 | |
| 2004 | | | 138 | | | 4,471 | 95 | 4,101 | 20,004 | | | 30 | | | 87 | | | 2,120 | 1 | | 1,119 | |
| 2005 | | 1 | 22 | | | 3,453 | 189 | 780 | 28,986 | 3 | | 1,649 | | | 123 | | | 1,016 | 10 | | 408 | |
| 2006 | | 1 | | | | 5,252 | 101 | 540 | 30,422 | | | 1,059 | | | 1 | | | 415 | 7 | | 509 | |
| Total | 1 | 2 | 363 | 2 | | 27,818 | 1,783 | 8,132 | 181,527 | 8 | | 2,849 | | | 396 | | | 7 | 52,821 | 47 | 1 | 4,059 |

Table 1c. South Atlantic trips reported to the coastal logbook program

| Year | Diving | | | Gillnet | | | Handline | | | Longline | | | Other Gear | | | Trap | | | Trolling | | |
|--------------|--------|-----|--------|---------|----|--------|----------|-------|---------|----------|----|-------|------------|----|-------|------|----|--------|----------|----|--------|
| | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other |
| 2002 | 227 | 160 | 2,758 | 1 | 1 | 4,837 | 2,110 | 2,161 | 54,049 | 28 | 9 | 2,481 | | | 938 | 1 | 4 | 2,298 | 153 | 17 | 15,054 |
| 2003 | 187 | 159 | 2,382 | 3 | | 4,663 | 1,933 | 1,448 | 50,397 | 31 | 16 | 2,278 | | | 1,384 | | 2 | 1,950 | 229 | 17 | 14,520 |
| 2004 | 131 | 141 | 2,185 | 2 | | 4,367 | 1,927 | 1,321 | 47,838 | 11 | 5 | 1,698 | | | 1,238 | | 2 | 2,033 | 148 | 10 | 11,453 |
| 2005 | 107 | 115 | 2,017 | | | 5,259 | 1,731 | 1,205 | 43,963 | 8 | 3 | 1,524 | 1 | | 1,423 | | | 1,422 | 84 | 20 | 10,479 |
| 2006 | 83 | 135 | 1,880 | | | 6,175 | 1,402 | 982 | 43,744 | 3 | 3 | 1,745 | 1 | | 1,224 | | | 2,324 | 75 | 17 | 10,869 |
| Total | 735 | 710 | 11,222 | 6 | 1 | 25,301 | 9,103 | 7,117 | 239,991 | 81 | 36 | 9,726 | 2 | | 6,207 | 1 | 8 | 10,027 | 689 | 81 | 62,375 |

Table 1d. South Atlantic landings (pounds) reported to the coastal logbook program

| Year | Diving | | | Gillnet | | | Handline | | | Longline | | |
|--------------|---------|--------|-----------|---------|----|------------|-----------|---------|------------|----------|-------|-----------|
| | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other |
| 2002 | 61,292 | 13,174 | 273,356 | 33 | 2 | 2,338,859 | 629,165 | 162,704 | 6,178,958 | 5,726 | 346 | 2,353,341 |
| 2003 | 52,314 | 11,696 | 255,479 | 87 | | 2,194,830 | 575,697 | 122,645 | 6,076,745 | 2,180 | 538 | 2,141,710 |
| 2004 | 46,940 | 15,629 | 211,152 | 27 | | 1,902,361 | 751,244 | 145,146 | 6,147,154 | 2,066 | 144 | 1,719,948 |
| 2005 | 37,241 | 8,171 | 204,178 | | | 2,167,524 | 766,897 | 107,477 | 6,055,623 | 343 | 162 | 1,539,730 |
| 2006 | 35,866 | 5,890 | 203,427 | | | 2,575,525 | 526,180 | 73,556 | 6,300,860 | 193 | 153 | 1,998,127 |
| Total | 233,654 | 54,561 | 1,147,593 | 147 | 2 | 11,179,100 | 3,249,182 | 611,529 | 30,759,340 | 10,508 | 1,344 | 9,752,857 |

Table 1d. continued

| Year | Other Gear | | | Trap | | | Trolling | | |
|--------------|------------|----|-----------|------|-----|-----------|----------|-------|------------|
| | aj | rs | other | Aj | rs | other | aj | rs | other |
| 2002 | | | 524,999 | 1 | 47 | 515,320 | 23,970 | 588 | 2,069,478 |
| 2003 | | | 849,181 | | 30 | 570,455 | 18,993 | 867 | 2,365,203 |
| 2004 | | | 805,303 | | 45 | 669,809 | 15,846 | 262 | 2,026,223 |
| 2005 | 14 | | 737,849 | | | 432,240 | 13,851 | 1,298 | 2,037,157 |
| 2006 | 34 | | 692,809 | | | 542,336 | 5,224 | 430 | 2,218,194 |
| Total | 49 | | 3,610,140 | 1 | 122 | 2,730,159 | 77,885 | 3,445 | 10,716,255 |

Table 2a. South Atlantic handline trips and landings from amberjack regions reported to the coastal logbook program. Discards are reported in number of fish.

| Region | All Handline Trips | | | | Handline Trips with Amberjack | | | |
|--------|--------------------|------------|----------|--------|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| | Logbook | | Discards | | Logbook | | Discards | |
| | Trips | Pounds | Trips | N fish | Trips | Pounds | Trips | N fish |
| 1 | 147,440 | 19,234,896 | 5,254 | 89,972 | 5,613 | 2,496,795 | 63 | 538 |
| 2 | 30,509 | 5,460,930 | 1,122 | 34,687 | 1,434 | 393,002 | 87 | 803 |
| 3 | 78,262 | 9,924,226 | 2,761 | 73,783 | 2,056 | 359,386 | 94 | 442 |

Table 2b. South Atlantic handline trips and landings from red snapper regions reported to the coastal logbook program. Discards are reported in number of fish.

| Region | All Handline Trips | | | | Handline Trips with Red Snapper | | | |
|--------|--------------------|------------|----------|--------|---------------------------------|---------|----------|--------|
| | Logbook | | Discards | | Logbook | | Discards | |
| | Trips | Pounds | Trips | N fish | Trips | Pounds | Trips | N fish |
| 1 | 137,051 | 17,400,189 | 4,749 | 53,753 | 1,431 | 139,248 | 71 | 5,731 |
| 2 | 10,389 | 1,834,706 | 505 | 29,219 | 883 | 153,580 | 77 | 903 |
| 3 | 30,509 | 5,460,930 | 1,122 | 34,687 | 1,970 | 202,276 | 87 | 930 |
| 4 | 78,262 | 9,924,226 | 2,761 | 73,783 | 2,833 | 116,426 | 36 | 568 |

Table 3a. Calculated yearly total discards of greater amberjack by handline vessels for each region (regions: 1=2400 latitude to <3100 latitude; Region 2 = 3100 latitude to <3300 latitude; Region 3 = 3300 latitude to <3700 latitude). Discards are reported in number of fish.

| Year | Region | Mean Discards per Hook Hour | Discard Standard Deviation | Total Effort (Hook Hours) | Calculated Discards |
|------|--------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1992 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 175,300.0 | 1,719* |
| 1992 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 195,164.0 | 1,818 |
| 1992 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 228,924.0 | 2,053 |
| 1993 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 461,193.5 | 905 |
| 1993 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 204,741.0 | 1,907 |
| 1993 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 337,962.4 | 3,031 |
| 1994 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 614,874.6 | 1,206 |
| 1994 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 297,076.0 | 2,767 |
| 1994 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 476,132.2 | 4,270 |
| 1995 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 574,714.5 | 1,127 |
| 1995 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 292,482.0 | 2,724 |
| 1995 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 440,122.0 | 3,947 |
| 1996 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 754,148.5 | 1,479 |
| 1996 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 401,744.0 | 3,741 |
| 1996 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 516,895.8 | 4,635 |
| 1997 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 916,390.5 | 1,797 |
| 1997 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 353,093.0 | 3,288 |
| 1997 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 577,396.0 | 5,178 |
| 1998 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 648,959.2 | 1,273 |
| 1998 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 298,594.1 | 2,781 |
| 1998 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 474,546.6 | 4,255 |
| 1999 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 691,737.7 | 1,357 |
| 1999 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 205,537.0 | 1,914 |
| 1999 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 418,476.3 | 3,753 |
| 2000 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 596,641.0 | 1,170 |
| 2000 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 225,280.5 | 2,098 |
| 2000 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 458,840.3 | 4,115 |
| 2001 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 512,061.1 | 1,004 |
| 2001 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 342,025.5 | 3,185 |
| 2001 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 429,314.1 | 3,850 |
| 2002 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 507,699.1 | 996 |
| 2002 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 292,181.9 | 2,721 |
| 2002 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 413,752.3 | 3,710 |
| 2003 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 470,800.3 | 923 |
| 2003 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 232,222.0 | 2,163 |
| 2003 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 341,045.0 | 3,058 |
| 2004 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 423,793.0 | 831 |
| 2004 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 167,070.6 | 1,556 |
| 2004 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 330,764.0 | 2,966 |
| 2005 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 344,250.3 | 675 |
| 2005 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 204,396.6 | 1,904 |
| 2005 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 297,695.0 | 2,670 |
| 2006 | 1 | 0.00196 | 0.03451 | 345,692.5 | 678 |
| 2006 | 2 | 0.00931 | 0.03644 | 248,067.9 | 2,310 |
| 2006 | 3 | 0.00897 | 0.06350 | 333,484.5 | 2,990 |

*in 1992 only 20% of vessels in Florida were required to report to the logbook program, the calculated discards for areas off Florida (region 1) was expanded by a factor of five.

Table 3b. Calculated yearly south Atlantic handline vessel greater amberjack discards. Discards are reported in number of fish.

| Year | Calculated Discards |
|------|---------------------|
| 1992 | 5,590* |
| 1993 | 5,842 |
| 1994 | 8,242 |
| 1995 | 7,798 |
| 1996 | 9,856 |
| 1997 | 10,263 |
| 1998 | 8,309 |
| 1999 | 7,023 |
| 2000 | 7,383 |
| 2001 | 8,039 |
| 2002 | 7,427 |
| 2003 | 6,144 |
| 2004 | 5,353 |
| 2005 | 5,248 |
| 2006 | 5,979 |

*in 1992 only 20% of vessels in Florida were required to report to the logbook program, the calculated discards for areas off Florida (region 1) was expanded by a factor of five.

Table 4. Yearly greater amberjack trolling vessel calculated discards. Discards are reported in number of fish.

| Year | Mean Discards | Discard Standard Deviation | Total Effort (hook hours) | Calculated Discards |
|------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1992 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 70,263.5 | 161* |
| 1993 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 101,504.5 | 233 |
| 1994 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 126,337.2 | 290 |
| 1995 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 113,356.5 | 260 |
| 1996 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 103,429.5 | 238 |
| 1997 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 132,169.0 | 304 |
| 1998 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 516,253.6 | 1,186 |
| 1999 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 493,706.2 | 1,134 |
| 2000 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 540,875.7 | 1,243 |
| 2001 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 414,732.5 | 953 |
| 2002 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 343,735.8 | 790 |
| 2003 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 304,693.1 | 700 |
| 2004 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 247,815.6 | 569 |
| 2005 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 220,684.3 | 507 |
| 2006 | 0.00230 | 0.01305 | 231,891.5 | 533 |

*in 1992 only 20% of vessels in Florida were required to report to the logbook program, the calculated discards for areas off Florida (region 1) was expanded by a factor of five.

Table 5a. Calculated yearly total discards of red snapper by handline vessels for each region (regions: 1=2400 latitude to <3000 latitude; Region 2 = 3000 latitude to <3100 latitude; Region 3 = 3100 latitude to <3300 latitude; Region 4= 3300 latitude to <3700 latitude). Discards reported as number.

| Year | Region | Mean Discards | Discard Standard Deviation | Total Effort (hook hours) | Calculated Discards |
|------|--------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1992 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 89,479.0 | 8,227* |
| 1992 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 85,821.0 | 2,655 |
| 1992 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 195,164.0 | 6,188 |
| 1992 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 228,924.0 | 1,222 |
| 1993 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 374,852.0 | 6,893 |
| 1993 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 86,341.5 | 2,671 |
| 1993 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 204,741.0 | 6,492 |
| 1993 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 337,962.4 | 1,804 |
| 1994 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 519,938.1 | 9,561 |
| 1994 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 94,936.5 | 2,937 |
| 1994 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 297,076.0 | 9,420 |
| 1994 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 476,132.2 | 2,542 |
| 1995 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 418,420.5 | 7,694 |
| 1995 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 156,294.0 | 4,835 |
| 1995 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 292,482.0 | 9,274 |
| 1995 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 440,122.0 | 2,349 |
| 1996 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 523,916.5 | 9,634 |
| 1996 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 230,232.0 | 7,122 |
| 1996 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 401,744.0 | 12,739 |
| 1996 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 516,895.8 | 2,759 |
| 1997 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 709,519.5 | 13,047 |
| 1997 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 206,871.0 | 6,400 |
| 1997 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 353,093.0 | 11,196 |
| 1997 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 577,396.0 | 3,082 |
| 1998 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 522,294.2 | 9,604 |
| 1998 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 126,665.0 | 3,918 |
| 1998 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 298,594.1 | 9,468 |
| 1998 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 474,546.6 | 2,533 |
| 1999 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 572,769.7 | 10,533 |
| 1999 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 118,819.0 | 3,676 |
| 1999 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 205,537.0 | 6,517 |
| 1999 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 418,476.3 | 2,234 |
| 2000 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 495,325.9 | 9,108 |
| 2000 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 100,503.1 | 3,109 |
| 2000 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 225,280.5 | 7,143 |
| 2000 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 458,840.3 | 2,449 |
| 2001 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 420,280.1 | 7,728 |
| 2001 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 90,989.0 | 2,815 |
| 2001 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 342,025.5 | 10,845 |
| 2001 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 429,314.1 | 2,292 |
| 2002 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 399,330.6 | 7,343 |
| 2002 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 107,208.5 | 3,316 |
| 2002 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 292,181.9 | 9,265 |
| 2002 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 413,752.3 | 2,209 |
| 2003 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 378,842.3 | 6,966 |
| 2003 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 90,086.0 | 2,787 |
| 2003 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 232,222.0 | 7,363 |
| 2003 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 341,045.0 | 1,821 |

*in 1992 only 20% of vessels in Florida were required to report to the logbook program, the calculated discards for areas off Florida (region 1) was expanded by a factor of five.

Table 5a. continued

| Year | Region | Mean Discards | Discard Standard Deviation | Total Effort | Calculated Discards |
|------|--------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 2004 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 343,562.0 | 6,318 |
| 2004 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 78,631.0 | 2,432 |
| 2004 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 167,070.6 | 5,298 |
| 2004 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 330,764.0 | 1,766 |
| 2005 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 273,803.3 | 5,035 |
| 2005 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 70,031.0 | 2,166 |
| 2005 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 204,396.6 | 6,481 |
| 2005 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 297,695.0 | 1,589 |
| 2006 | 1 | 0.01839 | 0.22306 | 267,566.5 | 4,920 |
| 2006 | 2 | 0.03093 | 0.19870 | 75,894.0 | 2,348 |
| 2006 | 3 | 0.03171 | 0.17207 | 248,067.9 | 7,866 |
| 2006 | 4 | 0.00534 | 0.05003 | 333,484.5 | 1,780 |

Table 5b. Calculated yearly south Atlantic handline vessel red snapper discards. Discards are reported in number of fish.

| Year | Calculated Discards |
|------|---------------------|
| 1992 | 18,292* |
| 1993 | 17,860 |
| 1994 | 24,459 |
| 1995 | 24,153 |
| 1996 | 32,254 |
| 1997 | 33,725 |
| 1998 | 25,524 |
| 1999 | 22,959 |
| 2000 | 21,810 |
| 2001 | 23,680 |
| 2002 | 22,133 |
| 2003 | 18,937 |
| 2004 | 15,813 |
| 2005 | 15,272 |
| 2006 | 16,914 |

*in 1992 only 20% of vessels in Florida were required to report to the logbook program, the calculated discards for areas off Florida (region 1) was expanded by a factor of five.

Table 6. Estimated condition at release of greater amberjack and red snapper discards. Numbers of fish and percent of total, in parentheses) are reported by gear and region.

| Species | Region | All Dead | Majority Dead | All Alive | Majority Alive | Kept | Unknown | Unreported |
|------------------------------|--------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| Greater Amberjack (handline) | 1 | | | 425 (79) | 102 (18.9) | 10 (1.9) | | 1 (0.2) |
| | 2 | 46 (5.7) | 17 (2.1) | 379 (47.2) | 263 (32.7) | 73 (9.1) | | 25 (3.1) |
| | 3 | 1 (0.2) | | 375 (84.8) | 35 (7.9) | 31 (7.0) | | |
| Greater Amberjack (trolling) | 1 | | 3 (6.4) | 34 (72.3) | 10 (21.3) | | | |
| Red Snapper (handline) | 1 | | 25 (0.4) | 4,203 (73.3) | 1,502 (26.2) | 1 (0.0) | | |
| | 2 | | 79 (8.7) | 214 (23.7) | 609 (67.4) | 1 (0.1) | | |
| | 3 | 34 (3.6) | 63 (6.8) | 397 (42.7) | 434 (46.7) | | | 2 (0.2) |
| | 4 | | 31 (5.4) | 520 (91.5) | 17 (3.0) | | | |