



Possible Changes to the 2017 Federal Red Snapper Season

Background

- Recent discussions between the Department of Commerce and the five Gulf states suggest that there may be a way to add additional fishing days in federal waters in the summer 2017 if the Gulf states can agree on a season framework.
- Such a framework would require exchanging state season weekdays for federal season weekend days.

Federal Season Lengths

Year	Number of Federal Season Days
Prior to 1997	365
1997	330
1998	272
1999	240
2000 - 2007	194
2008	65
2009	75
2010	77
2011	48
2012	46
2013	42
2014	9
2015	10
2016	11
2017	3

Additional Background

- Over the course of a year (average of the last 5-years), 70% of red snapper landings come from state waters.
- The historical (average of the last 5-years) percentage of landings that have occurred on weekends is:
 - 2-day weekend (Saturday and Sunday)= 52%
 - 3-day weekend (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday)= 63%
- Over the last three years, Texas private recreational anglers have landed between 3 and 7% of the Gulf-wide total.

Framework1

- 2 day weekends – 27-day season opening Saturdays and Sundays from Saturday, June 17 through Monday, Sept. 4, including Monday and Tuesday July 3-4 and Monday, Sept. 4. Weekdays would be closed in both state and federal waters. At this time TPWD believes Framework 1 would not require additional fall season days to close

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

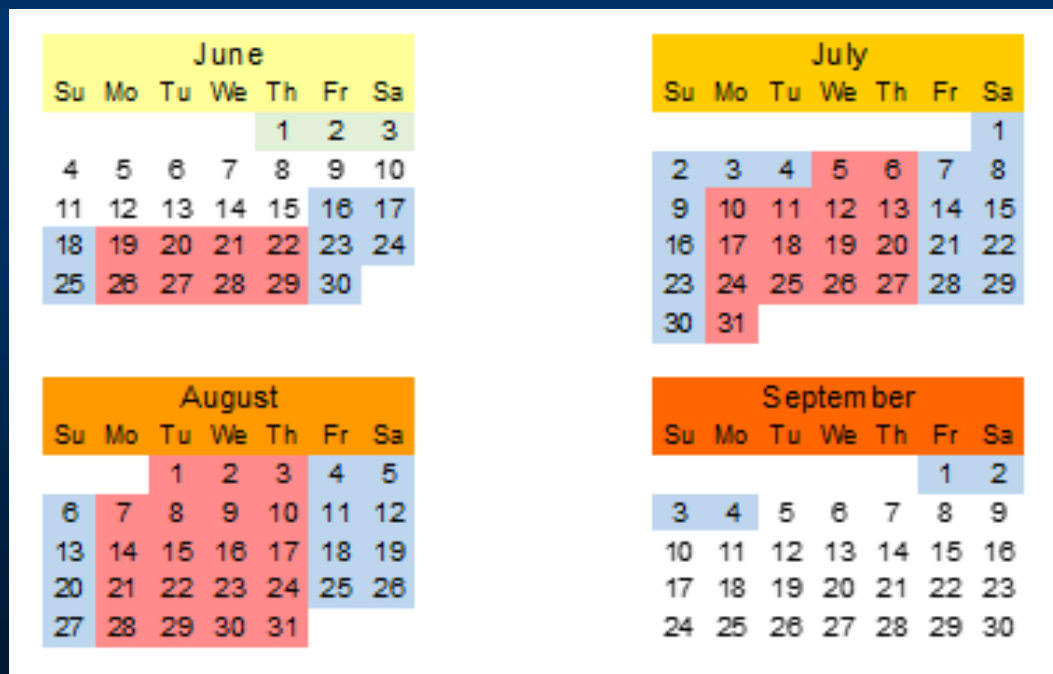
July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Framework 2

- 3 day weekends – 39-day season opening Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from Friday, June 16 through Monday, Sept. 4 including Monday and Tuesday July 3-4 and Monday, Sept. 4. Weekdays would be closed in both state and federal waters. At this time TPWD believes Framework 2 would require some or all of the fall season to be closed.



Western Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Data

- If either of the proposed frameworks are implemented we expect that there will be a net increase in overall landings.
- The current stock assessment suggests that red snapper populations in the western Gulf of Mexico are increasing and are at the highest level they have been in recent history.

Use the link below to report your trip's landings. Only one person needs to report for the entire angling party. You will be asked for information including the boat registration number (ex. 1234AB) of the vessel you were fishing from, the number of anglers on the trip, and the number of red snapper you landed.

It's fast, simple and easy.

www.iSnapper.org

Anglers fishing from party boats are exempt from reporting as the captain reports for you. Party boats are generally larger boats where people pay per person, as opposed to paying a single fee (for one or more persons) for a guided trip.

Thank you!

For more information about the reporting program, contact the Harte Research Institute at iSnapper@sportfishresearch.org or visit their website at www.sportfishresearch.org

For more information about the red snapper fishery, contact TPWD Coastal Fisheries at cfish@tpwd.texas.gov or visit their website at www.tpwd.texas.gov

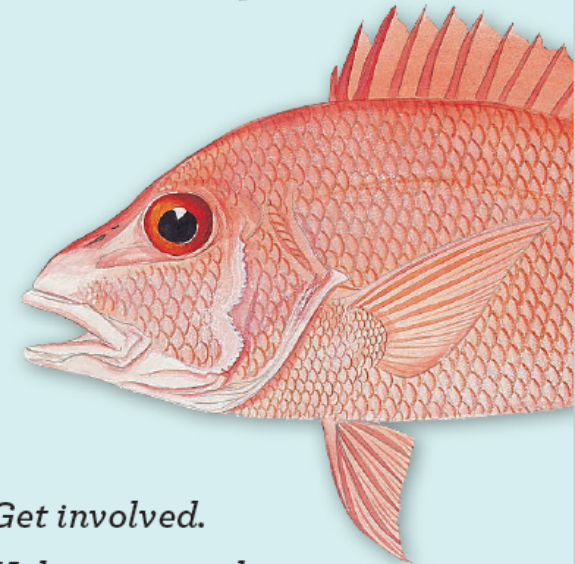


Life's better outside.®

© 2015 Texas Parks and Wildlife Department PWD BR V3400-1796 (3/15)
In accordance with Texas State Depository Law, this publication is available at the Texas State Publications Clearinghouse and/or Texas Depository Libraries.

TPWD receives federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other federal agencies and is subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and state anti-discrimination laws which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any TPWD program, activity or facility, or need more information, please contact Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041.

Report Red Snapper Landings



*Get involved.
Help manage the red snapper fishery for future generations.*



www.iSnapper.org

Opportunity to Comment

You can submit your comments online at:

https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/feedback/public_comment/proposals/201706_federal_red_snapper_season.phtml

TEXAS

PARKS &

WILDLIFE