

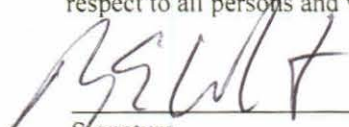
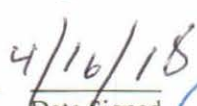

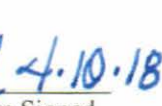
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP)
PERMIT NO.: 18-SERO-03

Management of the Harvest of Red Snapper by the Private Recreational Component in
the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Mississippi's Gulf Coast for 2018 and 2019

This EFP is issued to the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) in accordance with procedures established at 50 CFR 600.745(b). The EFP establishes a specific allocation of red snapper, as described in the attached "Terms and Conditions" (Appendix 1), to be harvested during the 2018 and 2019 fishing years by private anglers and state-licensed charter vessels who participate in the red snapper mandatory reporting program (Tails n' Scales) and land red snapper in Mississippi. The EFP exempts private anglers, who hold a valid recreational fishing permit issued by the State of Mississippi and who are in compliance with all other Mississippi requirements for landing red snapper in that state, from regulations at 50 CFR § 622.34(b) (recreational season closure for red snapper) and 50 C.F.R. 622.41(q)(2)(i) (private angler component in-season closure). Private anglers will be able to land red snapper harvested from state and federal waters during seasons announced by MDMR. Persons aboard state-licensed charter boats when under charter are not exempt from these, or any other federal regulations. MDMR will account for MDMR's allocation of red snapper by updating weekly landing reports with projected landings. This EFP does not exempt the MDMR's participating anglers from Section 407(d) (16 U.S.C. 1883) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Section 407(d) requires that if NMFS determines the Gulf of Mexico red snapper recreational quota has been met, harvest must be prohibited for the remainder of the fishing year, even if MDMR had allocation remaining.

The EFP is valid through December 31, 2019, when signed by both the Regional Administrator and the authorized representative of the MDMR, and becomes effective on the later of the two signature dates.

As specified in 50 C.F.R. § 600.745(b)(9), failure to comply with any of the attached conditions in Appendix 1 may be grounds for revocation, suspension, or modification of the EFP with respect to all persons and vessels conducting activities under the EFP.

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Signature | Date Signed | Signature | Date Signed |
| Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D. Regional Administrator National Marine Fisheries Service | | Joe Jewell, Marine Fisheries Director Mississippi Department of Marine Resources | |

By signing this document, the EFP holder agrees that anglers exempt from the specified regulations understand, and will comply with, the intent and the terms and conditions outlined in Appendix 1 of this permit.