



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

Haley Barbour  
Governor

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**

William W. Walker, Ph.D., Executive Director

October 27, 2009

Dr. Roy Crabtree  
NMFS  
263 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Dr. Bob Shipp  
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council  
2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100  
Tampa, FL 33607

Dear Drs. Crabtree and Shipp:

Enclosed please find a copy of Resolution No. 081809-2 approved unanimously by the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources requesting the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Gulf of Mexico Management Council (GMFMC) to amend the federal regulations to authorize and provide the following:

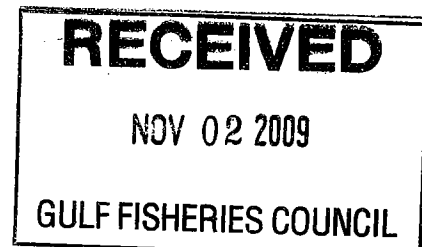
1. Allow for recreational fishermen to catch and possess one red drum per person per day in the EEZ for stock assessment and other scientific purposes ; and
2. Allow for recreational fishermen fishing from a charter boat to catch and possess one red drum per person per day in the EEZ, exclusive of captain and crew.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

William W. Walker, Ph.D.

Enclosure



Cc: Carter Smith, Executive Director  
Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.  
Robert Barham, Secretary  
Louisiana Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries  
Barnett Lawley, Commissioner  
Alabama Dept. Conservation & Natural Resources  
Ken Haddad, Executive Director  
Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission  
Dale Diaz, Office Director  
MS Dept. of Marine Resources  
William "Corky" Perret  
Ms. Dept. of Marine Resources



## **COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES**

### **RESOLUTION**

**No 081809-2**

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources is a duly constituted governmental entity, created to serve the Great State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, said service includes the conservation, protection and management of Mississippi's saltwater aquatic life and marine resources; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources recognizes the economic importance of marine resources to charter and recreational interest; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources recognizes the need for the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council (GMFMC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to do a red drum stock assessment; and

WHEREAS, the NMFS has instituted a closure of the red drum fishery in the EEZ since 1988 which has caused a hardship on the charter boat and recreational fishing industries; and

WHEREAS, to do a stock assessment of red drum there must be fish for harvest to obtain scientific information from; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources has determined that it would be in the best interest to allow recreational saltwater anglers to catch and possess a limited number of red drum in the EEZ:

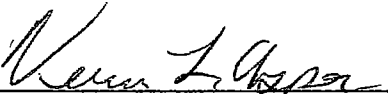
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources, in a duly constituted and assembled meeting, that the Commission requests the NMFS and the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council to amend federal regulations to authorize and provide the following:

1. Allow for recreational fishermen to catch and possess one red drum per person per day in the EEZ for stock assessment and other scientific purposes; and

2. Allow for recreational fishermen fishing from a charter boat to catch and possess one red drum per person per day in the EEZ, exclusive of captain and crew.

**DONE AND RESOLVED** in this duly constituted and assembled meeting on this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009.

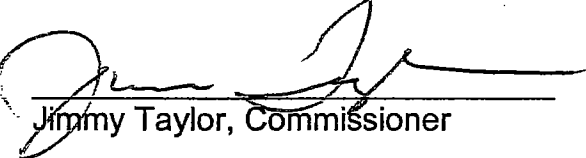
**MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES**

  
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Vernon Asper, Ph.D. Chairman


  
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Richard Gollott, Vice-Chairman

  
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Shelby Drummond, Commissioner

  
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Steven Bosarge, Commissioner

  
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Jimmy Taylor, Commissioner

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**

  
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William W. Walker, Executive Director