



Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 29, 2017

Celebrate National Seafood Month

Gulf Fishermen Commemorate Proud History of Sustainable American Seafood



The Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance today issued the following statement on National Seafood Month 2017:

Gulf commercial fishermen take enormous pride in being part of the proud history and long tradition of American seafood and ensuring that U.S. consumers can enjoy fresh, domestic, sustainably harvested seafood 365 days a year. October is National Seafood

Month, providing an opportunity to celebrate American seafood and the role commercial fishermen play in bringing fish from our oceans to our dinner plates and safeguarding fish for future generations.

Over the past two or three decades, commercial fishermen have led efforts to successfully rebuild valuable fish populations, including the prized red snapper, in the Gulf by adopting a science-based approach to fishery management guided by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and the individual fishing quota program. MSA, which relies on science and conservation as its compass, is responsible for rebuilding and restoring many fish species across the nation – with 41 species rebuilt since 2000 alone. More than 97 percent of Americans access their seafood by ordering it at a restaurant or buying it at a fish market, thanks to a strong science-based management system and a decades-long commitment by commercial fishermen.

So the next time you order fish or shellfish off the menu or at your local seafood market, think of the hard-working men and women who ply the waters to bring you your meal. Think of that meal's journey from ocean to plate. As we celebrate National Seafood Month, America's Gulf commercial fishermen ask you – the American seafood consumer – to stand with us and urge policymakers on both sides of the political aisle on Capitol Hill to stick with science.

To learn more about the red snapper success story, click [here](#).

To learn about Gulf Wild, the nation's only conservation-based, fully traceable brand of wild domestic seafood, click [here](#).

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Media Contact:

If you have interest in an interview with Gulf commercial fishermen, please contact Eric Brazer, Deputy Director of the Shareholders' Alliance, at 919-451-1971.

The Shareholders' Alliance is the largest organization of commercial snapper and grouper fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico. We work hard to ensure that our fisheries are sustainably managed so our fishing businesses can thrive and our fishing communities can exist for future generations. We are the harvesters that provide much of the American public with a reliable source of domestically-caught wild Gulf seafood, and we do this through a philosophy that sustainable seafood and profitable fishing businesses depend on healthy fish populations.

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