

MVEB. Instead, we are reviewing the adequacy of the MVEB simultaneously with our review of the 2013 Maintenance Plan itself. See 40 CFR 93.118(f)(2). In order to determine whether this MVEB is adequate and approvable, we have evaluated whether the MVEB meets the conformity adequacy provisions of 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4) and (5). The details of the EPA's evaluation of the MVEB for

compliance with the budget adequacy criteria of 40 CFR 93.118(e) are provided in a memo to file for this proposed rulemaking. Memo from John J. Kelly, Air Planning Office, EPA Region 9, to Docket EPA-R09-OAR-2015-0645, dated September 29, 2015. Based on this evaluation, we propose to find the 2025 MVEB adequate and to approve it. Any and all comments on the adequacy and approvability of the 2025 MVEB should

be submitted during the comment period stated in the **DATES** section of this document.

If today's proposed action is finalized, the 2015 MVEB, which is already approved for 2015 and later years, would apply only up to the year 2024. For the year 2025 and later years, the budget will be 559.4 mtpd. See Table 4.

TABLE 4—APPROVED AND PROPOSED TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY MOTOR VEHICLE EMISSIONS BUDGETS FOR THE PHOENIX CO MAINTENANCE AREA, IN METRIC TONS PER DAY (MTPD)

	Approved	Approved	Proposed
Year	2006	2015	2025
CO MVEB .....	699.7	662.9	559.4

### III. Proposed Action

The EPA is proposing to approve the 2013 Maintenance Plan submitted on April 3, 2012. This maintenance plan meets the applicable CAA requirements and the EPA has determined it is sufficient to provide for maintenance of the CO NAAQS over the course of the second 10-year maintenance period out to 2025.

The EPA is also proposing to find adequate and approve the CO MVEB of 559.4 mtpd for use in the year 2025 and later years.

### IV. Statutory and Executive Orders Review

Under the CAA, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the Act and applicable federal regulations. 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP submissions, the EPA's role is to approve State choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the CAA. Accordingly, this action merely proposes to approve State law as meeting federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by State law. For that reason, this action:

- Is not a "significant regulatory action" subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993);
- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*);
- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);
- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely

affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-4);

- Does not have federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not an economically significant regulatory action based on health or safety risks subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997);
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001);
- Is not subject to requirements of Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the Clean Air Act; and
- Does not provide the EPA with the discretionary authority to address, as appropriate, disproportionate human health or environmental effects, using practicable and legally permissible methods, under Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

In addition, the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where the EPA or an Indian tribe has demonstrated that a tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have tribal implications and will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000).

#### List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Carbon monoxide, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: September 30, 2015.

**Jared Blumenfeld,**

*Regional Administrator, Region 9.*

[FR Doc. 2015-26405 Filed 10-16-15; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 150826781-5781-01]

RIN 0648-BF33

#### Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2016 Red Snapper Commercial Quota Retention

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS proposes to implement management measures described in a framework action to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico (FMP), as prepared by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council). If implemented, this proposed rule would withhold 4.9 percent of the 2016 red snapper commercial quota prior to the annual distribution of red snapper allocation to red snapper Individual Fishing Quota Program (IFQ) shareholders on January 1, 2016. The purpose of this proposed rule is to allow the allocations being established through Amendment 28 to the FMP

(Amendment 28) to be effective for the 2016 fishing year.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received by November 3, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on the proposed rule, identified by “NOAA–NMFS–2015–0121” by any of the following methods:

- *Electronic Submission:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to [www.regulations.gov/](http://www.regulations.gov/)

- *#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2015-0121*, click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- *Mail:* Submit written comments to Richard Malinowski, NMFS Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

*Instructions:* Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

Electronic copies of the framework action, which includes an environmental assessment, a regulatory impact review, and a Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) analysis, may be obtained from the Southeast Regional Office Web site at [http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable\\_fisheries/gulf\\_fisheries/reef\\_fish/index.html](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_fisheries/reef_fish/index.html).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard Malinowski, NMFS Southeast Regional Office, telephone: 727–824–5305, email: [rich.malinowski@noaa.gov](mailto:rich.malinowski@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf reef fish fishery is managed under the FMP. The FMP was prepared by the Council and is implemented by NMFS through regulations at 50 CFR part 622 under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act).

## Background

The Magnuson-Stevens Act requires NMFS and regional fishery management councils to achieve on a continuing basis the optimum yield from federally managed fish stocks. This mandate is intended to ensure that fishery

resources are managed for the greatest overall benefit to the nation, particularly with respect to providing food production and recreational opportunities, and protecting marine ecosystems.

In recent years, the Council has expressed its intent to evaluate and possibly adjust the allocation of reef fish resources between the commercial and recreational sectors. At its August 2015 meeting, the Council approved Amendment 28 for submission to the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) for review and implementation.

Amendment 28 would reallocate 352,000 lb (159,665 kg), round weight, 317,117 lb (143,842 kg), gutted weight of red snapper from the commercial sector to the recreational sector. This is equal to 4.9 percent of the current red snapper commercial quota.

This proposed rule would allow for the implementation of Amendment 28 in early 2016. While the recreational fishing season does not open until June 1 each year, NMFS distributes IFQ allocation to the shareholders on January 1 each year. After NMFS distributes the red snapper commercial quota to shareholders, it cannot be effectively recalled. If Amendment 28 is approved, it is unlikely that NMFS would be able to implement the reallocation until after the IFQ program’s annual distribution of red snapper quota to the commercial sector on January 1, 2016. Therefore, without the management measures in this proposed rule, the reallocation could not occur until 2017.

## Management Measures Contained in This Proposed Rule

This proposed rule would withhold distribution of 4.9 percent of the 2016 red snapper commercial quota (352,000 lb (159,665 kg), round weight; 317,117 lb (143,842 kg), gutted weight) when allocation to the red snapper IFQ shareholders is released on January 1, 2016. If NMFS does not implement Amendment 28, NMFS would distribute the withheld 4.9 percent of the 2016 IFQ allocation of red snapper to shareholders based on the shares held as of the date of distribution.

## Classification

Pursuant to section 304(b)(1)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the NMFS Assistant Administrator has determined that this proposed rule is consistent with the framework amendment, the FMP, other provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and other applicable laws, subject to further consideration after public comment.

This proposed rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

The Chief Counsel for Regulation of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration (SBA) that this proposed rule, if implemented, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The factual basis for this determination is as follows:

The purpose of this proposed rule is to withhold 4.9 percent of the Gulf commercial red snapper quota (352,000 lb (159,665 kg), round weight; 317,117 lb (143,842 kg), gutted weight) to ensure that the allocations established through Amendment 28, and scheduled to be implemented in 2016, if approved by the Secretary, are effective for the 2016 fishing year. The Magnuson-Stevens Act provides the statutory basis for this proposed rule.

NMFS expects this proposed rule, if implemented, to directly affect commercial vessels that harvest red snapper in the Gulf. Based on commercial logbook data, over the period of 2009–2013, an average of 353 vessels per year recorded commercial red snapper harvests. The maximum number of vessels with recorded commercial red snapper harvests during this period was 375 in 2010. However, in 2010, 384 vessels were identified in the red snapper IFQ on-line account program, which tracks activity in the Red Snapper Limited Access Privilege Program. This system, however, is not the official record for trip harvests of all species by vessels with commercial harvests of red snapper, nor does it capture all landings, or associated revenues, from all species harvested on all trips by vessels that also harvest red snapper. Therefore, data from both sources are used for this analysis to estimate the number of potentially affected entities. As a result, this proposed rule would be expected to apply to 353–384 commercial fishing vessels. The average annual gross revenue from all species harvested on all trips by the vessels identified with recorded red snapper harvests in logbook data over the period 2009–2013 (353 vessels) was approximately \$110,000 (2013 dollars).

NMFS has not identified any other entities that would be expected to be directly affected by this proposed rule.

The Small Business Administration has established size criteria for all major industry sectors in the U.S., including fish harvesters. A business involved in fish harvesting is classified as a small business if it is independently owned and operated, is not dominant in its

field of operation (including its affiliates), and has combined annual receipts not in excess of \$20.5 million (NAICS code 114111, finfish fishing) for all its affiliated operations worldwide. All commercial fishing vessels expected to be directly affected by this proposed rule are determined to be small business entities.

This proposed rule would withhold from distribution 4.9 percent or 352,000 lb (159,665 kg), round weight; 317,117 lb (143,842 kg), gutted weight, of the 2016 Gulf red snapper commercial quota, valued at approximately \$1.46 million (\$4.75 median ex-vessel price per lb gutted weight, minus the 3-percent IFQ program cost recovery fee, all vessels; 2013 dollars). This is equivalent to the amount of red snapper quota proposed to be reallocated from the commercial sector to the recreational sector in proposed Amendment 28. Across all vessels (353–384 vessels), this amount of quota would be equivalent to an average of approximately 826–898 lb (375–407 kg), gutted weight, of red snapper per vessel, valued at approximately \$3,800–\$4,100. Thus, the proposed quota withholding in this framework action would result in a reduction in ex-vessel revenue in 2016 to the entities in this fishery; however, this reduction is consistent with the analysis and expected economic effects of Amendment 28, which projects a reduction in red snapper commercial quota, and associated economic benefits to commercial fishermen, beginning in 2016. The reallocation would, however, be expected to result in an increase in economic benefits to the recreational sector. If approved by the Secretary, final rulemaking to implement the allocation change proposed by Amendment 28 cannot occur until after

January 1, 2016, whereas distribution of the commercial quota to IFQ shareholders occurs at the start of each fishing year to allow vessels to begin harvesting red snapper on January 1. After the annual red snapper quota is distributed to shareholders, it cannot be effectively recalled. Thus, to ensure the effects of Amendment 28 are realized in 2016, NMFS is withholding from distribution the commensurate amount of quota equivalent to the amount reallocated in Amendment 28 for the 2016 fishing season. If NMFS implements the proposed rulemaking and the reallocation in Amendment 28, then the effects of the reduced commercial quota, including this proposed withholding, will be attributable to and analyzed with Amendment 28’s rulemaking. If NMFS does not implement the proposed reallocation in Amendment 28, then the portion of the quota withheld through this framework action will be distributed as soon as possible to the appropriate shareholders. Because this allocation would be available later in the fishing year, a reduction in normal total revenue (disruption of the timing of harvest may reduce the price and total revenue received), alteration of the flow of receipts, and disruption of normal business operation may occur. However, these effects would be expected to be minor because only a small portion of the available quota (4.9 percent) would be affected for only a portion of the year.

Based on the discussion above, NMFS determines that this proposed rule, if implemented, would not have a significant adverse economic effect on a substantial number of small entities.

**List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 622**  
Commercial, Fisheries, Fishing, Gulf of Mexico, Recreational, Red snapper, Reef fish.  
Dated: October 14, 2015.  
**Samuel D. Rauch III,**  
*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 622 is proposed to be amended as follows:

**PART 622—FISHERIES OF THE CARIBBEAN, GULF OF MEXICO, AND SOUTH ATLANTIC**

■ 1. The authority citation for part 622 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

■ 2. In § 622.39, add paragraphs (a)(1)(i)(B) (1) and (2) to read as follows:

**§ 622.39 Quotas.**

- \* \* \* \* \*
- (a) \* \* \*
- (1) \* \* \*
- (i) \* \* \*
- (B) \* \* \*

(1) NMFS will withhold distribution of 4.9 percent of the 2016 IFQ allocation of red snapper commercial quota on January 1, 2016, totaling 352,000 lb (159,665 kg), round weight, of the 2016 red snapper commercial quota specified in § 622.39(a)(1)(i)(B).

(2) As determined by NMFS, remaining 2016 IFQ allocation of red snapper will be distributed to the current shareholders based on their current shares held as of the date of distribution.

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