

Southeast Fisheries Science Center
75 Virginia Beach Drive
Miami, Florida 33149

January 25, 2003

Dear Red Snapper Dealer:

The Science and Research Director has the responsibility of monitoring the red snapper quota and has been granted the authority, under 50 CFR 622.5(c)(3)(ii) to require dealers, when selected, to report purchases of this species. By copy of this letter, you have been selected to report the total pounds of this species that you purchase from fishermen during each week until the quota has been reached. The red snapper fishery will open on February 1, 2003, and will remain open through February 10, 2003. You are requested to report the purchases during that time by close of business on February 13, 2003. If the fishery reopens on March 1, 2003, you are requested to report the purchases during the 10 day period. That report is due by close of business on March 13, 2003. For subsequent openings, the report is due by close of business on the 3rd business day after the season is closed.

A reporting form is enclosed, please complete the form and FAX it to the person and telephone number listed below. Please be sure to enter the correct dates for the beginning and ending of the reporting period, and sign the form. Please report the landings of red snapper for the state where they were landed. The form provides space to report the landings by state, along with the state issued dealer license number for the respective state.

If additional copies of the form are needed, photocopies can be used. **Please note that only those purchases made from a fisherman are to be reported. Do not report purchases from other dealers or imported fish.**

The management of this important commercial fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is greatly facilitated by your timely reporting. If there are questions, please contact the person listed below; otherwise, you can contact John Poffenberger at (305)361-4263.

Sincerely yours,

Nancy B. Thompson
Science & Research Director

FAX form to Keith Roberts FAX no (409)766-3543

Office no. (409)766-3515

Enclosures