

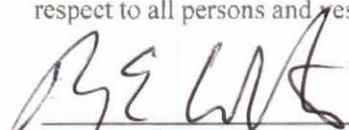
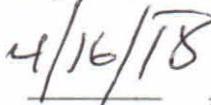
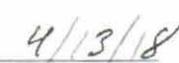
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP)  
PERMIT NO.: 18-SERO-05

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

This EFP is issued to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) 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 included in Texas' angler registry and land red snapper in Texas. The EFP exempts private anglers, who hold a valid recreational fishing permit issued by the State of Texas and who are in compliance with all other Texas 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 TPWD. Persons aboard state-licensed charter boats are not exempt from these, or any other federal regulations.<sup>1</sup> TPWD will account for TPWD's allocation of red snapper in its projections of when the catch target will be met and will verify these landings through estimates through the Texas Marine Sport Harvest Monitoring Program. This EFP does not exempt the TPWD'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 the National Marine Fisheries Service 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 TPWD had allocation remaining.

The EFP is valid through December 31, 2019, when signed by both the Regional Administrator and the authorized representative of the TPWD, 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		Robin Riechers, Director Coastal Fisheries Division	

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.

<sup>1</sup> TPWD clarifies that the statement included above regarding persons aboard state-licensed charter boats not being exempt from these, or any other federal regulations applies only to federal waters, as stated in the attached Appendix, Terms and Conditions on page 2, within the first paragraph. State-licensed charter boats fishing in state waters are bound by state regulations.