MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

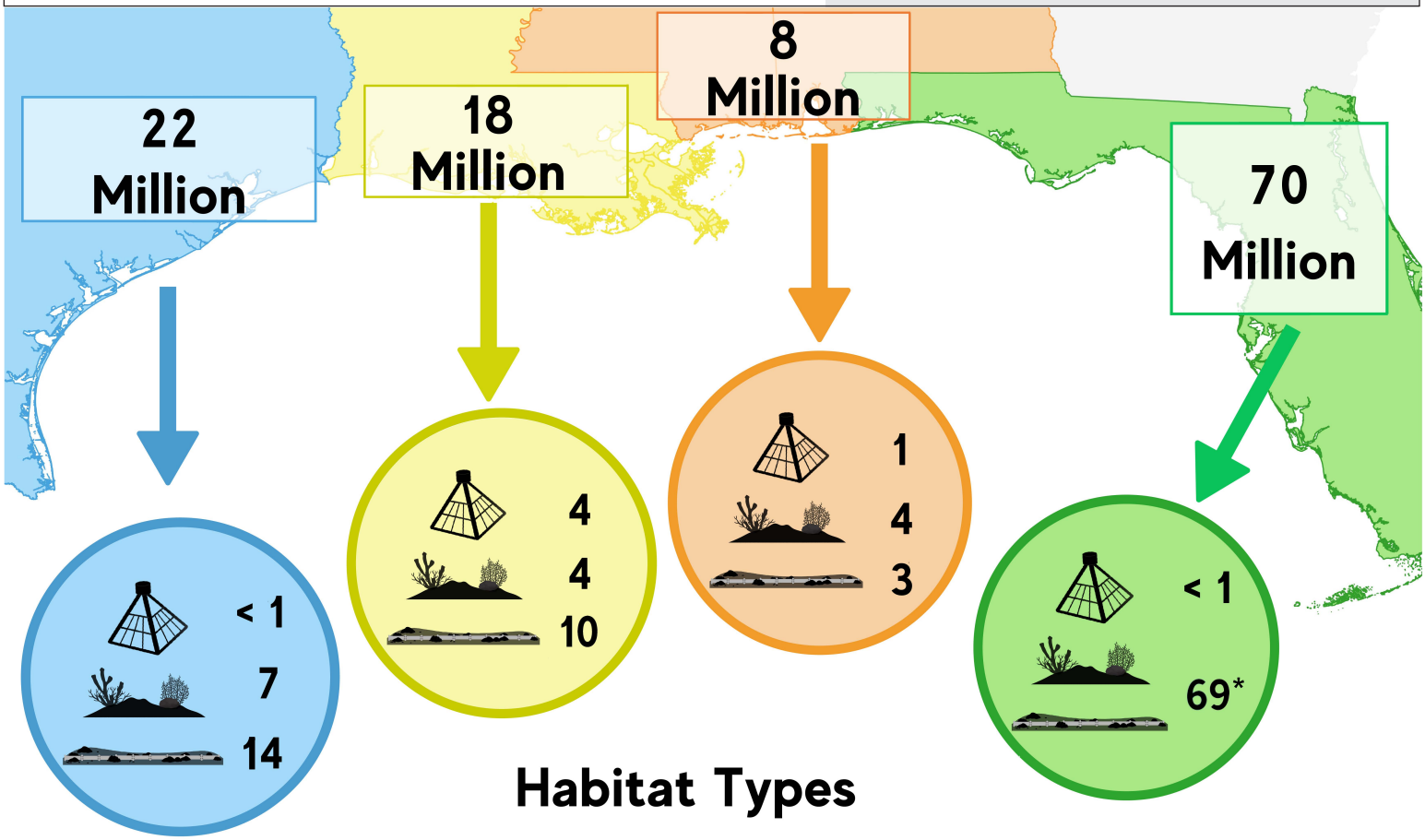
The Great Red Snapper Count

PROJECT RESULTS

The **Great Red Snapper Count** project team estimated a population size of 118 million red snapper in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico!

In comparison, the most recent NOAA assessment estimated a biomass that would be equal to 36 million fish.

This difference was driven in part by the team's ability to survey large expanses not previously surveyed by NOAA given limited resources.



Habitat Types

Artificial

Natural

Unclassified Bottom†

Region- and habitat-specific red snapper population estimates resulting from the Great Red Snapper Count. Each circle contains a breakdown (in millions) of the regional estimate by habitat type.

**This number represents red snapper abundance over natural and uncharacterized bottom habitats.*

†Previously unknown features located over open sand/mud bottom.

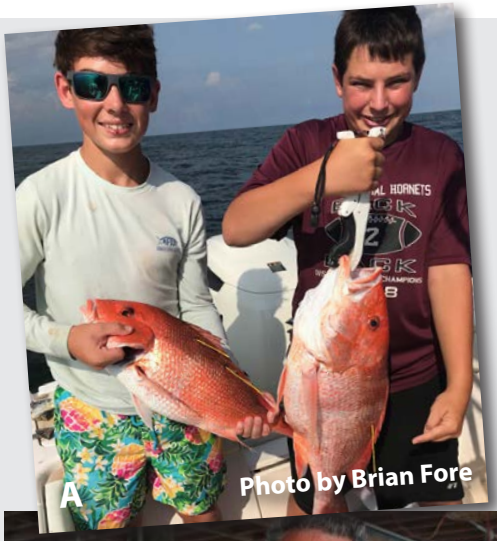
Graphic by Emily Seubert and Catherine Cowan, Mississippi State University

Questions or comments? Contact the project team at snappercount@harteresearchinstitute.org.
For more information, visit snappercount.org.

The Great Red Snapper Count - PROJECT RESULTS

The project team tagged thousands of red snapper over the course of the study. Of those, an astounding 31% were recaptured by anglers:

Texas – 28% • Louisiana/Mississippi/Alabama – 28% • Florida – 43%



A. Two Mississippi brothers celebrate their tagged red snapper, caught back-to-back at a spot the boys have since renamed the "Money Maker."

B. A young Texas angler proudly displays his double-tagged red snapper.

C. A smiling angler weighs in his tagged red snapper at the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo.

D. Alabama anglers show off their double-tagged red snapper while standing alongside the fisheries scientist who initially tagged the fish.

The Great Red Snapper Count results will be used to enhance NOAA's upcoming red snapper assessments and will fundamentally change the way fish stocks are evaluated in the future.

We are grateful to all the citizen scientist anglers who assisted with this red snapper abundance assessment.

This independent study was conducted by a leading team of red snapper scientists from across the Gulf of Mexico and beyond:

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