**Texas Licensed Saltwater Anglers’ Attitudes to Potential Regulation Changes affecting Spotted Seatrout and Flounder Fisheries**

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**Method**

Data were collected via an online questionnaire administered to licensed Texas saltwater anglers. A random sample of 10,000 licensed saltwater anglers’ email addresses were drawn from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department database. Of these, 9,420 were deliverable. Email invitations to complete the questionnaire were sent January 2nd, 4th, and 6th. The survey was closed at 6:00pm on January 12th. These survey protocols yielded 1,693 completed questionnaires (18% response rate).

**Findings**

The Coastal Fisheries Division of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is considering changes to the current flounder and spotted seatrout regulations, and would like your input with regard to these potential changes. If implemented, any changes in regulations would go into effect September 1, 2014. While the Department has no formal proposals at this time, we would appreciate you spending a few minutes to provide some valuable feedback regarding these two important fisheries.

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| **Q1. Have you fished in salt water since this time last year?** | | |
|  | n | % |
| Yes | 1221 | 73.0 |
| No | 451 | 27.0 |
| Total | 1672 | 100.0 |

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| **Q2. If you have spent one or more days fishing in saltwater in Texas, where have you fished most often since this time last year? Please circle only one answer.** | | |
|  | n | % |
| * 1. Sabine Lake | 87 | 7.2 |
| * 1. Galveston Bay (East Bay, West Bay, Trinity Bay, Christmas Bay, etc.) | 410 | 33.8 |
| * 1. Matagorda Bay (Lavaca Bay, Tres Palacios Bay, etc.) | 136 | 11.2 |
| * 1. San Antonio Bay (Espiritu Santo Bay, Hynes Bay, etc.) | 54 | 4.5 |
| * 1. Aransas Bay (Copano Bay, Redfish Bay, Mesquite Bay, etc.) | 141 | 11.6 |
| * 1. Corpus Christi Bay (Port Aransas Pass, Corpus Christi Pass, Nueces Bay, Redfish Bay, etc.) | 115 | 9.5 |
| * 1. Upper Laguna Madre (Baffin Bay, etc.) | 58 | 4.8 |
| * 1. Lower Laguna Madre (All bays south of the land cut) | 117 | 9.7 |
| * 1. Gulf of Mexico | 94 | 7.8 |
| Total | 1212 | 100.0 |

Currently the recreational daily bag limit and possession limit for flounder is 5 fish with a 14” minimum size limit. However, in the month of November the daily bag limit and possession limit is reduced to 2 fish. Fish may only be taken by hook-and-line (no gigging) during November. The reduced bag and gigging ban was put in place to allow adult flounder to leave the bays and spawn in the Gulf. This is commonly referred to as the flounder run, which occurs in late fall. These regulations have resulted in improvements in the flounder fishery. However, depending on the arrival of the first cold fronts, these flounder runs may occur earlier or later than the month of November. To further protect and enhance this fishery, the department has other management strategies they can implement. Please indicate your level of support for the management strategies below.

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| **Q3. Please indicate your level of support for the management options listed below by checking the response category for each question that most closely reflects your opinion.** | | | | | | | |
| % (n) | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neither Support or Oppose | Support | Strongly Support | M | n |
| 1. Maintain current regulations/No change | 7.4 (80) | 12.2 (132) | 28.2 (305) | 29.7 (321) | 22.5 (243) | 3.5 | 1081 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban into the first week of December | 13.0 (137) | 12.3 (129) | 28.2 (296) | 31.6 (332) | 14.9 (157) | 3.2 | 1051 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban into the first two weeks of December | 14.8 (155) | 14.6 (153) | 29.0 (304) | 25.2 (264) | 16.3 (171) | 3.1 | 1047 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban through month of December | 20.3 (209) | 20.8 (214) | 32.0 (330) | 15.2 (157) | 11.7 (120) | 3.1 | 1047 |
| 1. Move the November bag limit and gigging ban back into the last week of October through November | 17.9 (183) | 19.4 (199) | 32.5 (333) | 21.2 (217) | 9.1 (93) | 2.8 | 1025 |
| 1. Move the November bag limit and gigging ban back into the last two weeks of October through November | 20.3 (209) | 20.8 (214) | 32.0 (330) | 15.2 (157) | 11.7 (120) | 2.8 | 1030 |

Currently the daily bag limit for spotted seatrout is 10 fish with a minimum size limit of 15” and a maximum size limit of 25” outside of the lower Laguna Madre (LLM). Within the LLM the daily bag limit and possession limit is 5 fish with a 15” minimum size limit and a 25” maximum size limit. One fish over 25” is allowed per person per day and counts as part of the daily bag limit coastwide. The regulations within the LLM were instituted to stop and reverse the downward trend in overall abundance and spawning biomass in the region, and to ensure that fish reach larger size classes. The fishery in the LLM has benefited from these regulations. As these regulations have proven beneficial in the LLM, the department is considering expanding these regulations, or a variation thereof, to other areas along the coast.

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| **Q5. Please indicate your level of support for the management options listed below by checking the response category for each question that most closely reflects your opinion.** | | | | | | | |
| % (n) | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neither Support or Oppose | Support | Strongly Support | M | n |
| 1. Maintain current regulations/No Change | 8.2 (86) | 10.4 (109) | 26.4 (277) | 28.9 (303) | 26.0 (273) | 3.5 | 1048 |
| 1. Expand 5-fish bag limit from the lower Laguna Madre to the entire coast | 18.7 (199) | 13.6 (145) | 19.0 (202) | 24.5 (261) | 24.2 (257) | 3.2 | 1064 |
| 1. Expand 5-fish bag limit from the lower Laguna Madre through Matagorda Bay (excludes Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake) | 19.2 (196) | 17.8 (182) | 27.9 (285) | 23.3 (238) | 11.8 (120) | 2.9 | 1021 |

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| **Q7. Which of the fish below do you prefer to catch in *salt water* in Texas? (Check all that apply).** | | |
|  | n | % |
| 1. Red drum | 928 | 54.8 |
| 1. Spotted seatrout | 972 | 57.4 |
| 1. Flounder | 798 | 47.1 |
| 1. Red snapper | 414 | 24.5 |
| 1. King mackeral | 158 | 9.3 |
| 1. Black drum | 314 | 18.5 |
| 1. Other | 149 | 8.8 |

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| **Q8. What is your age?** | |
| M | SD |
| 52.4 | 15.2 |

**Other Analyses**

***Respondents who indicated “flounder” being a target species***

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| **Q3. Please indicate your level of support for the management options listed below by checking the response category for each question that most closely reflects your opinion.** | | | | | | | |
| % (n) | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neither Support or Oppose | Support | Strongly Support | M | n |
| 1. Maintain current regulations/No change | 9.0 (67) | 11.9 (88) | 24.7 (183) | 30.3 (225) | 24.1 (179) | 3.5 | 742 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban into the first week of December | 15.2 (110) | 13.6 (98) | 23.5 (170) | 31.1 (225) | 16.6 (120) | 3.2 | 723 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban into the first two weeks of December | 16.7 (120) | 16.0 (115) | 24.2 (174) | 24.4 (175) | 18.7 (134) | 3.1 | 718 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban through month of December | 20.6 (148) | 17.2 (124) | 22.9 (165) | 17.2 (124) | 22.0 (158) | 3.0 | 719 |
| 1. Move the November bag limit and gigging ban back into the last week of October through November | 20.7 (147) | 21.0 (149) | 27.6 (196) | 20.9 (148) | 9.7 (69) | 2.8 | 709 |
| 1. Move the November bag limit and gigging ban back into the last two weeks of October through November | 23.4 (167) | 22.3 (159) | 26.2 (187) | 15.4 (110) | 12.7 (91) | 2.7 | 714 |

***Respondents who indicated “spotted seatrout” being a target species***

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| **Q5. Please indicate your level of support for the management options listed below by checking the response category for each question that most closely reflects your opinion.** | | | | | | | |
| % (n) | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neither Support or Oppose | Support | Strongly Support | M | n |
| 1. Maintain current regulations/No Change | 8.8 (78) | 10.8 (95) | 23.4 (206) | 30.0 (265) | 27.0 (238) | 3.6 | 882 |
| 1. Expand 5-fish bag limit from the lower Laguna Madre to the entire coast | 20.4 (184) | 14.2 (128) | 15.3 (138) | 24.2 (218) | 25.8 (232) | 3.2 | 900 |
| 1. Expand 5-fish bag limit from the lower Laguna Madre through Matagorda Bay (excludes Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake) | 20.5 (176) | 19.0 (163) | 24.4 (210) | 23.5 (202) | 12.7 (109) | 2.9 | 860 |

***Mean Responses by Bay System***

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| **Q3. Please indicate your level of support for the management options listed below by checking the response category for each question that most closely reflects your opinion.** | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | Sabine Lake | Galveston Bay | Matagorda Bay | San Antonio Bay | Aransas Bay | Corpus Christi | Upper Laguna Madre | Lower Laguna Madre | Gulf of Mexico |
| 1. Maintain current regulations/No change | M | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 3.4 |
| n | 79 | 368 | 117 | 49 | 128 | 98 | 50 | 101 | 84 |
| SD | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban into the first week of December | M | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 3.3 |
| n | 72 | 358 | 113 | 44 | 133 | 95 | 52 | 96 | 81 |
| SD | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban into the first two weeks of December | M | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 3.2 |
| n | 74 | 354 | 116 | 42 | 132 | 97 | 49 | 94 | 82 |
| SD | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| 1. Extend November bag limit and gigging ban through month of December | M | 2.8 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.2 |
| n | 74 | 356 | 113 | 43 | 131 | 94 | 49 | 97 | 83 |
| SD | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| 1. Move the November bag limit and gigging ban back into the last week of October through November | M | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| n | 72 | 351 | 114 | 42 | 127 | 90 | 46 | 94 | 82 |
| SD | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| 1. Move the November bag limit and gigging ban back into the last two weeks of October through November | M | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| n | 74 | 349 | 112 | 42 | 129 | 93 | 45 | 95 | 84 |
| SD | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.2 |

1=Strongly Oppose, 2=Oppose, 3=Neither Support or Oppose, 4=Support, 5=Strongly Support

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| **Q5. Please indicate your level of support for the management options listed below by checking the response category for each question that most closely reflects your opinion.** | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | Sabine Lake | Galveston Bay | Matagorda Bay | San Antonio Bay | Aransas Bay | Corpus Christi | Upper Laguna Madre | Lower Laguna Madre | Gulf of Mexico |
| 1. Maintain current regulations/No Change | M | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 3.7 |
| n | 75 | 359 | 117 | 44 | 129 | 92 | 49 | 95 | 81 |
| SD | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 |
| 1. Expand 5-fish bag limit from the lower Laguna Madre to the entire coast | M | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 2.9 |
| n | 73 | 363 | 114 | 42 | 132 | 98 | 50 | 103 | 82 |
| SD | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.4 |
| 1. Expand 5-fish bag limit from the lower Laguna Madre through Matagorda Bay (excludes Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake) | M | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 2.7 |
| n | 69 | 352 | 114 | 42 | 130 | 88 | 44 | 95 | 80 |
| SD | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.1 |

1=Strongly Oppose, 2=Oppose, 3=Neither Support or Oppose, 4=Support, 5=Strongly Support

***Mean Responses by License Type***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Q3. Please indicate your level of support for the management options listed below by checking the response category for each question that most closely reflects your opinion.** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | Super Combo | Senior Super Combo | Saltwater Sportfishing Stamp | Resident One Day All Water Fishing License | Resident Saltwater Fishing Package | Resident All Water Fishing Package | Resident Senior Saltwater Fishing Package | Resident Senior All Water Fishing Package | Resident Year-From-Purchase All Water Package | Special Resident All Water Fishing License | Disabled Veteran Hunting And Fishing License | Resident Combo Hunting And Saltwater Fish Package | Resident Combo Hunting And All Water Fish Package | Resident Combo Senior Hunting And All Water Fish | Resident Military Super Combo |
|  | M | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 3.8 |
| n | 154 | 145 | 70 | 48 | 186 | 184 | 18 | 33 | 132 | 15 | 7 | 27 | 6 | 13 | 8 |
| SD | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
|  | M | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.9 | 4.1 |
| n | 157 | 138 | 70 | 47 | 183 | 176 | 14 | 30 | 133 | 15 | 7 | 25 | 6 | 12 | 8 |
| SD | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
|  | M | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 4.0 |
| n | 154 | 139 | 72 | 46 | 182 | 175 | 16 | 31 | 130 | 15 | 7 | 25 | 6 | 12 | 8 |
| SD | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 0.8 |
|  | M | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 2.0 | 2.6 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 3.9 |
| n | 155 | 138 | 70 | 45 | 183 | 172 | 16 | 33 | 130 | 15 | 7 | 25 | 6 | 13 | 8 |
| SD | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.1 |
|  | M | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 3.4 |
| n | 149 | 134 | 69 | 46 | 179 | 172 | 15 | 30 | 128 | 15 | 7 | 25 | 6 | 13 | 8 |
| SD | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 |
|  | M | 2.7 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 3.5 | 3.4 |
| n | 150 | 136 | 69 | 45 | 177 | 171 | 15 | 31 | 132 | 15 | 7 | 24 | 6 | 15 | 8 |
| SD | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 |

1=Strongly Oppose, 2=Oppose, 3=Neither Support or Oppose, 4=Support, 5=Strongly Support

a= Maintain current regulations/No change

b= Extend November bag limit and gigging ban into the first week of December

c = Extend November bag limit and gigging ban into the first two weeks of December

d = Extend November bag limit and gigging ban through month of December

e = Move the November bag limit and gigging ban back into the last week of October through November

f = Move the November bag limit and gigging ban back into the last two weeks of October through November

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| **Q5. Please indicate your level of support for the management options listed below by checking the response category for each question that most closely reflects your opinion.** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | Super Combo | Senior Super Combo | Saltwater Sportfishing Stamp | Resident One Day All Water Fishing License | Resident Saltwater Fishing Package | Resident All Water Fishing Package | Resident Senior Saltwater Fishing Package | Resident Senior All Water Fishing Package | Resident Year-From-Purchase All Water Package | Special Resident All Water Fishing License | Disabled Veteran Hunting And Fishing License | Resident Combo Hunting And Saltwater Fish Package | Resident Combo Hunting And All Water Fish Package | Resident Combo Senior Hunting And All Water Fish | Resident Military Super Combo |
|  | M | 3.6 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 4.0 |
| n | 152 | 134 | 71 | 44 | 181 | 176 | 17 | 29 | 134 | 14 | 6 | 28 | 6 | 14 | 8 |
| SD | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 1.4 |
|  | M | 3.1 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 2.8 | 3.4 |
| n | 157 | 144 | 71 | 45 | 187 | 170 | 16 | 32 | 135 | 15 | 7 | 26 | 6 | 13 | 8 |
| SD | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.1 |
|  | M | 2.8 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 3.1 |
| n | 150 | 140 | 70 | 43 | 173 | 165 | 14 | 30 | 133 | 15 | 6 | 24 | 6 | 14 | 8 |
| SD | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.0 |

1=Strongly Oppose, 2=Oppose, 3=Neither Support or Oppose, 4=Support, 5=Strongly Support

a = Maintain current regulations/No Change

b = Expand 5-fish bag limit from the lower Laguna Madre to the entire coast

c = Expand 5-fish bag limit from the lower Laguna Madre through Matagorda Bay (excludes Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake)

**Appendices**

**Appendix A**

|  |  |
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| **Q4. Are there other management options you would like the Department to consider for the flounder fishery? If so, please briefly describe below.** | |
| 1 | #1) Increase the monetary fine amount to make a stronger statements to those who intend to break the law. #2) Increase patrol traffic during high season to reduce violation; henceforth less fish caught. #3) Completely ban any form of gigging. |
| 2 | 1. Disallow commercial floundering - no one should be allowed more than 5 fish. 2. Disallow floundering (gigging) from boats. |
| 3 | 1) Make flounder a game fish species which would eliminate commercial fishing for them. 2) Reduce daily bag limit from 5 to 3 |
| 4 | 2 fish bag limit and poss limit |
| 5 | Above says it all! |
| 6 | Add a week to each side of it, Last week of Oct through the first week of Dec. |
| 7 | Add to Youth Only benefits programs |
| 8 | address issues with offshore shrimpers and bay bait fishermen killing too many flounder |
| 9 | Adjust as per almanac or weather predictions, or base it on temperature during runs |
| 10 | All fish are making a strong comeback in the gulf and Galveston bay complex. I support the current laws so the waters are not overfished and how the fish are given a break to reproduce. |
| 11 | allow non comercial gigging in November. Freshwater inflows are a big factor in flounder population - shrimpers used to get the blame for killing juvenile flounder, but the shrimpimping is almost non-existent now compared to 30 years ago and there were lt's of flounder then. |
| 12 | Allow the current regulations to remain in place long enough to make a sound judgement based on generational species data. |
| 13 | Ban all commercial gigging, Or ban gigging all together. Ban all shrimp boats from catching and selling flounders durring the run. |
| 14 | Ban all gigging |
| 15 | Ban commercial |
| 16 | Ban commercial flounder fishing; restrict bay shrimping to one licensees boat per bay for bait shirm |
| 17 | ban flounder gigging from boats for both commercial and recreation. |
| 18 | Ban giggin altogether |
| 19 | ban Gigging |
| 20 | Ban gigging |
| 21 | Ban gigging all year and move rod and reel limits back to prior year limits. |
| 22 | Ban gigging altogether |
| 23 | Ban gigging altogether or have a limit for gigging that does not apply fishermen. |
| 24 | Ban gigging period or only allow it one week with a limit of how many you can gig in a week. ?Gigging is cheating as far as i am concerned. |
| 25 | Ban gigging permanantly and year round. It is completely unfair to the fish. Also keep anglers from launching in Louisiana and keeping Louisiana bag limits of flounder out of Sabine Lake! Also, there is hardly any support from Game Wardens on Sabine Lak during the flounder migration. Countless illegal size and bag limits are taken undetected from boat and bank! |
| 26 | Ban gigging until the fishery has recovered |
| 27 | ban gigging, too easy to get too many and a lot are wasted |
| 28 | because most lage flounder caught are female, I support a maximum size limit on flounder of 18 inches or even smaller. At least during the "flounder run" but preferably year round. |
| 29 | cannot understand. l think you can have a 5 spec limit. also extend no gigging thru december. |
| 30 | Catch and release all flounder regardless of size for next 5 years. Bam gigging for next 5 years |
| 31 | catch and release only every other year |
| 32 | Change size limit from 14" to 15" |
| 33 | Change the bag limit to three fish but begin the November and gigging ban in October and through the end of December. |
| 34 | choose a measurement based on actual fish run rather than arbitrary time periods to determine start and end of reduced catch allowance |
| 35 | Closing only certain areas or beds for the proposed additional week(s) |
| 36 | Consider additional funding towards hatchling programs to increase fish numbers which support recreational fishing. |
| 37 | Despite my opinions I want what is best for the fishery. Adjusting the bag limit by difficult to remember dates, encourages fishermen to believe that regulations are arbitrary. I encourage gigging ban extensions but try to keep bag limits the same year ound. It seems that if flounder stocks are rising due to current regulation changes, this trend will continue without changing the regulations further. The more you inhibit fishing the less interested in fishing the public will become. We need to encouage fishing as much as we can without hurting the stocks. |
| 38 | Do you know how much it cost to fish for these fish. As a angler I'm thinking of quiting fishing and buyIng Lic. It's not worth the money anymore with the limits y'all impose. |
| 39 | Drop bag limit to 4 fish. |
| 40 | Eliminate commercial flounder fishing. |
| 41 | Eliminate gigging in months of October November and December |
| 42 | Eliminate gigging year round would get my vote |
| 43 | Eliminate two fish limit in November |
| 44 | end gigging or extend gig ban from 2nd week oct - dec thank you for the job you do protecting our waters |
| 45 | End the November limit of two flounder and make it five flounder year around . |
| 46 | Ensure fisheries are protected for decades to come. Populations will boom over the next 50-100 years, and anglers will grow more sophisticated. Eventually we may need to consider a catch and release only period. A robust flounder population is a must nt only to ensure great fishing but also to maintain healthy ecosystems so all fish populations benefit. |
| 47 | Exclude treble hooks when bait fishing,--croaker or circle hooks only for bait fishing |
| 48 | expand the current November bag limit and gigging ban to include the last 2 weeks of October and the first 2 weeks of December - or the last week in October through the first week in December |
| 49 | Extend gigging ban to include November and December |
| 50 | Extend the gigging ban and bag limit from the last two weeks of October through the forst two weeks of December but raise the daily limit to 3 fish between 13" and 20". |
| 51 | Extend the length of the reduced bag period as needed to cover the flounder run, but change the daily bag limit to 3 fish instead of 2 during this period. |
| 52 | extend to last week of October and first week of December |
| 53 | Extended bag limits on flounder to protect them is agreeable, but banning gigging seem discriminatory. |
| 54 | finding specific areas where the fish are moving |
| 55 | Flex the time period based on the migration. We have the technology. |
| 56 | Flounder are scarce they should be hatcheries for the young |
| 57 | Get rid of the November restrictions |
| 58 | Gigging and commercial limits should be imposed year round! |
| 59 | gigging and netting should be completely banned in coastal waters. |
| 60 | Gigging is not fishing and should not be includied as a fishing regulation, eliminate gigging year round |
| 61 | Give the current regulations time to work. |
| 62 | Given the unpredictability of cold fronts I support extending to include the last 1-2 weeks of October and first 1-2 weeks of December. |
| 63 | Go back to a 10 fish a day limit |
| 64 | Guides should not be allowed to throw their daily bag limit into count |
| 65 | Hands on management like in Alaska. Fisheries dept has daily input to what species can be fished where and when. A "modified for Texas" varsion of this could be implemented. |
| 66 | How about considering raising the November bag limit and allow gigging in November. |
| 67 | i am a wade fisherman. raise limit to 5 with no gigging |
| 68 | I believe any option to better the fisheries is a good option. I'll support October through December regulations if that is best. |
| 69 | I believe reduced limit during run should go longer, but that doesn't only involve temperature it also involves how much fresh water comes into bay system. This year we had the cold weather, but not the fresh water gully washer from the water shed like te trinity river. So all your options would work, but it's a matter of when the weather/runoff occurs or if it occurs. I would be open of adjusting each year based on forecasts/farmer's almanac etc.some statistical/educated method. I wouldn't allow trot lines during this time of year. More law enforcement. |
| 70 | I believe the current regulations are fine |
| 71 | I BELIEVE THE FLOUNDER POPULATION IS IN TROUBLE DUE TO BYCATCH MORTALITY. FIX THAT PROBLEM. |
| 72 | i don,t fish for flounder |
| 73 | I don't gig so don't really have a valuable opinion other than do what is right in managing conservation of the species |
| 74 | I don't really fish for flounder, so I don't believe I should agree or disagree with bag limits on this fish. |
| 75 | I enjoy fishing in Texas & would like to continue to do so for years to come. I'm not a scientist or fishery management expert, and don't want my personal convenience to override the health of our ecosystems. I support whatever the experts at TPWD & TAMU ecide is in the best interest of our wildlife & would just ask the department to clearly communicate the new rules to sportsmen. |
| 76 | I haven't caught a flounder in so long it wouldn't make any difference to me. |
| 77 | I haven't caught a flounder in years. We used to always get at least a few each year while redfish fishing. Gigging has drastically cut the number of flounder in the bay. |
| 78 | I rarely fish for flounder, and have never giged them before. |
| 79 | I seldom catch them on rod and reel, but do gig a few once in awhile for dinner. |
| 80 | I suggest 1 week in october and 1 week in dec. total of 6 weeks |
| 81 | I support changing the bag limits to whatever is needed to protect the spawning period and maintain a proper balance. |
| 82 | I support whatever management strategy most improves the fishery. |
| 83 | I think extending it back into October is better because in December there are less people fishing anyway due to colder temperatures |
| 84 | I think that all gigging should be prohibited. Also, five fish is too many for one person each day. Two to three is preferable. |
| 85 | I think the bag limit at 5 fish is still high. Be reducing it to 2 fish year round, by increasing the fish popluation you might find that the average fisherman can keep and take home on average more flounder than they currently do while maintaning a highr population. |
| 86 | I think this change would be in the best interest for the flounder. To many people are taking the wrong size and keeping to many flounders then what they are suppose to be keeping. Please make these changes |
| 87 | I think you're doing a great job in the flounder fishery. |
| 88 | I understand the need to protect spawning fish, but it is difficult to estimate the time frame. |
| 89 | I would like for the department to consider all possible options to maximize the spawning success of flounder in the Gulf Coast |
| 90 | I would not have a problem lowering the normal bag limit to 4, and maintaining the November bag limits. |
| 91 | I would prefer to have the flounder bag/possession limits for both line and gigging reduced year round. |
| 92 | I would recommend extending November bag limit and gigging to last two weeks in October and through the month of December. |
| 93 | I would say to increase the bag limit to 3 from 2 in the protected time. It seemed to me that the population is doing very well from where I fish. |
| 94 | I would support a minimun size limit of 15" on flounder |
| 95 | I'd support any changes in flounder regulations provided they're based on scientific research. |
| 96 | I'm okay with any changes that improve the overall fishery |
| 97 | implement a ban on gigging from October 1 thru December 31 |
| 98 | Implement a tagging system or limit total yearly flounder catches to 5 or 10 (one or two days worth) for fall, and same in spring. |
| 99 | In my opinion sport fishing should be catch and release only. |
| 100 | INCLUDE THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND THE FIRST TWOP WEEKS OF DECEMBER |
| 101 | Increase bag limit in November to 3. |
| 102 | Increase mimimum size by one inch |
| 103 | Increase size limit from 14" to 15" |
| 104 | increase the limits to at least 10 |
| 105 | Increase the min. size to 15" |
| 106 | Invoke the sunset law on the current regulations. Propose a 10 flounder limit having a minimum size limit of 14" and the fisherman must keep the first 10 fish as his limit. |
| 107 | it seems the restrictions should coincide with the fish population and not arbitrarily be extended into Dec or Oct. If the fish move from Oct through Dec, then shouldn't the restrictions extend over those weeks? |
| 108 | Keep limits but allow gigging in November. |
| 109 | Keep Nov. limit the same as Oct. for the line and hook |
| 110 | Keep the limit in Nov the same as Oct and Dec |
| 111 | Keep what you are going to eat that day should be a good rule to follow.... have a special license for that? |
| 112 | Lack of parity w louisiana rules negate the benefits and perception of value for the Texas rules - why different?? |
| 113 | last week of October through the first week of December |
| 114 | let the department personnel who know the fisheries the best make the decision with imput from local guides. |
| 115 | Limit 2 fish per day from November through January for several years to increace the flounders population first and then survey the fish population thereafter to make the new decision. |
| 116 | Limit should b zero for Nov |
| 117 | Limit the commercial catch bag limit first and foremost, then professional guide services and the recreational fisherman last. Create a ratio that is fair for the average fisherman who enjoys catching flounder. |
| 118 | Limit to three flounder per day, per fisherman, except in time frame specified above, |
| 119 | Lower the November limit to 1. At 2, you can't go flounder fishing anyway. 1 would cover the chance catching of a flounder. |
| 120 | maintain flexibility from year to year in order to continue ----improvement. |
| 121 | make flounder a game fish and cut out all commercial flounder fishing and dont mess with the recreational limets. |
| 122 | make gigging limit lower all year versus caught on hooks |
| 123 | Maybe no flounder , gig or rod/reel. Last year in November, I could not count how many fisherman were catching big females along the Packery Channel. For 30 days this went on, reported to me by friends that live near the Packery. |
| 124 | Moratorium on retaining until stocks more fully rebound. Catch & release only for 3 years. Radical, I know, but the fishery is so low from that of my youth. |
| 125 | more fish to bag |
| 126 | more game wardens to enforce the size limits |
| 127 | More netting regulations by commercial fishermen |
| 128 | More regulation on commercial fishing. |
| 129 | Move ban from last week in October through the entire month of December |
| 130 | Move min size up to 16", daily bag limit (2) year round. |
| 131 | My apologies, I am not experienced enough on fish habits, management risks or benefits to weigh in on any proposed solution. |
| 132 | n/a |
| 133 | N/A |
| 134 | NEED TO REMOVE ALL RESTRICTIONS NATURE WILL DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE |
| 135 | Need to vary timing of ban as populations of species go up and down. If we don't maintain population of species, it affects everybody. |
| 136 | no |
| 137 | No |
| 138 | no commercial taking of flounder; eliminate bay shrimping except one boat per bay for bait |
| 139 | No flounder fishing at all untill their numbers are back up. Keep the feds out of it. |
| 140 | no gigging any time |
| 141 | no gigging at all |
| 142 | no gigging ever & change the limit for commerical fisherman |
| 143 | No gigging from September to March. |
| 144 | No gigging throughout the last 2 weeks of October, throughout the month of November and the first 2 weeks of December. |
| 145 | No giging. |
| 146 | none |
| 147 | October through December |
| 148 | Open to longer closure on gigging instead of via rod and reel |
| 149 | outlaw floundering machines, these boats can cover many miles of shoreline in (1) night,put everyone back to walking |
| 150 | Outlaw gigging year around(no gigging period) |
| 151 | Please add flounder to "game fish" status so we can eliminate gigging all together. It's like spot lighting deer.......ILLEGAL. |
| 152 | Possibly extend the flounder bag limit in the last week of October through the first week of December |
| 153 | Promote catch and release as much as possible |
| 154 | Putti back the way it was and leave it alone |
| 155 | Raise min length limit of Flounder to 15 inches |
| 156 | Raise the minimum length limit to 15" |
| 157 | raise the size limit to15 or 16 inches and lower the possession limit to 3 or 4 fish |
| 158 | Rather than specific date period, why not specific water temp drop including tidal differences |
| 159 | Reduce bag limit for gigging only. Too many flounder are gigged. |
| 160 | reduce gigging |
| 161 | reduce the bag limit to 2. |
| 162 | REDUCE THE GIGING BAG LIMIT TO 2 FISH ALL YEAR . . FISHING BY HOOK AND LINE, SIZE AND LIMIT, SAME ALL YEAR. |
| 163 | Regulate guided trips for flounder gigging. Impose stricter sanctions on guided trips. |
| 164 | Regulate the comerical fishing of flounder it seems there are no limits to them |
| 165 | Regulate the commerical fishery side. I know everybody has the right to make a living,but when the flounder are all gone then what. |
| 166 | regulate the gigging , |
| 167 | remove gigging alltogether |
| 168 | remove size limit and make limit the First 5 fish one catches. Returned fish often die |
| 169 | Remove the November bag limit and gigging ban! |
| 170 | Remove the ability to keep 2 flounder in the month of November for rod and reel. If we are truly interested in getting these fish a safe trip to spawn, remove all limits for the month of November and give them better chance to spawn. Less fish kept, more ish to spawn, more fish to repopulate our bays. |
| 171 | Seeing fewer flounder, I support a ban from October through December |
| 172 | set a slot limit |
| 173 | Since South Texas weather is so unpredictable, especially in the fall and early winter, and the peak of the Flounder spawn could vary within a 4 to 6 week period, I suggest the 2 Flounder limit & no gigging occur during the entire 3 month period, October hrough December, to ensure the spawn has run its course. This is also easier for anglers to understand rather than a mid month, or last week, or last 2 week closure.. If were going to do it, may as well make sure its complete. |
| 174 | size limit to 16" |
| 175 | start the restrictions earlier with the option to extend later if the run is delayed. |
| 176 | stop shrippers marketers from selling undersized flounder and other regulated fish |
| 177 | Stricter laws for commercial fisherman. |
| 178 | Strongly regulate and monitor the commercial fishing, which is what is REALLY causing the problem |
| 179 | Strongly support protecting flounder fishery |
| 180 | Support anything that helps the numbers. |
| 181 | Suspend shrimping in more bays and quit wording about a few people gigging! |
| 182 | Take the commercial harvest out of the equation. The fish belong to the state of Texas, not the almighty dollar for commercial use. |
| 183 | The current regs are working just fine and dont need to be changed. |
| 184 | The November bag limit should be limited strictly to the month of November. |
| 185 | There needs to be more enforcement of the current regulations |
| 186 | Throughout the year drop limits on gigging! |
| 187 | two flounder is a good day |
| 188 | We have seen good Flounder population -- I oppose the extension of the gigging ban. Bag limits can be adjusted (4?) |
| 189 | What about extending the currents a week or so on either side of November? |
| 190 | What ever helps maintain a healthy fish population for now and the future |
| 191 | whatever is necessary to protect, yet control the species population |
| 192 | Whatever you can do to bring back the population of Flounder |
| 193 | Why don't you ask the people if they want to eliminate the gigging ban for a short time in Nov. and Dec.? |
| 194 | why not BAN GIGGING??? shouldn't flounder be allowed 'gamefish' status? |
| 195 | Work to increase habitat for juvenile fish |
| 196 | Work with state of La to adopt TEXAS size / bag lmits for all of Sabine Lake and the water ways on the boarder... Sabine getting overun by La people looking for a trophey fish, but also keeping 25 12" plus trout and all the flounder they can catch of esenially any size all fall. |
| 197 | would a maximum size limit helpthe bigger fish produce more spawn. the"breeders" if you will |
| 198 | Would approve any "temporary" options that could lead to the near future return to greater limits. |
| 199 | year round gig limit of three or four |
| 200 | Yes. Limit number of flounder greater than 20" during the period of Flounder Run |
| 201 | You are going to have to monitor and mange the flounder by-catch on the shrimp boats. That is where the majority of these fish are lost. The bay caught fish are a drop in the bucket compared to the number that are caught in the shrimp nets! |
| 202 | You could change the method of catching flounder during the Fall run to allow only catch by artificial baits, no live bait allowed. |
| 203 | You have to cut back the limits for Commercial fishing. Floundering with airboats is the problem, outlaw gigging from a boat. |
| 204 | You need to remove the November bag limit |

**Appendix B**

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| **Q6. Are there other management options you’d like the department to consider for the spotted seatrout fishery? If so, please briefly describe below.** | |
| 1 | I would look into making fiberglass mounts for trophy specks mandatory. 28"and above!Catch&Release Expand bag limit to areas where the studies show that the trophy trout numbers are down. On the other hand TP&W to the bait shops will lose money as it is ay too expensive to fish. Unfortunately, you won't be able to please everyone. TP&W and other agencies have , in my opinion have done good with the bag limit change. Just remember to raise the limit when the coastal fisheries show a marked improvement. Alittle flexibility on TP&W regulations would be welcomed. I wou |
| 2 | 10 fish limit should be imposed on first 10 fish without size limitations. Too many fish are killed releasing under 15" fish |
| 3 | 3 trout per day per person poss and bag limit. Guides limits 1 fish per day per customer bag limit. |
| 4 | 3 years ago the data seemed to show a slight decrease in trout populations for the middle coast. Numbers were up elsewhere. Three years later the data indicates a slight uptick in all bay systems. Regardless of my personal feelings, TPWD should manage thefishery based on the best available science. There are currently no data to warrant a change in regulations. |
| 5 | 5 fish limit for all guided trips and the guide cannot add to the fish total. 3 anglers and 1 guide= 15 fish total. |
| 6 | 5 fish, no problem |
| 7 | 5 trout per angler is plenty, in most cases, 10 trout (20 fillets) are given away or frozen, not eaten after the trip. |
| 8 | 8-fish bag limit entire coast 16'' to 25'' |
| 9 | Add a "tag" for a one-day bag of 10 fish--should keep everyone happy. |
| 10 | Again more enforcement of current regulations |
| 11 | All of your own studies indicate that no changes are needed and that the specks are doing just fine. Thistrophymentality has invaded our fishery and will ruin it for others much like the trophy mentality in deer hunting has ruined deer hunting. Dont chang a thing. |
| 12 | Allow two fish over 25 inch. |
| 13 | Also make the 25" rule pertain to entire coast |
| 14 | Anglers should have 2 tags a year for large trout over 25 inches. |
| 15 | As an avid fisherman of matagorda bay with many friends who fish it as well, we believe our population of not just fish, but even larger trout is thriving. I personally have caught and released many trout over 25 in 2013. |
| 16 | Bag limits ensure fishing can stay great for years to come. Five fish a day is plenty for a recreational angler. I recall California reduced bag limits for freshwater trout from 10 to 5 per person per day 20 years ago. Initially the Fish and Game deparment endured significant blowback, but in a few short years everyone forgot and ultimately embraced the lower limit because fishing got better. As a recreational fisherman, I am a strong supporter of tightening bag limits. |
| 17 | Ban the use of live croker as bait |
| 18 | Be even more conservative on bag limits & regulations. The fishery needs extra recovery measures to bring back abundance. |
| 19 | big problems i see everywhere is when fisherman catch and release alot of the fish die |
| 20 | catch and release every other year until we get back to best health of the fishery |
| 21 | Change the current regulations to a 10 fish limit with a 14 inch minimum size limit and 22 inch maximum size limit with the requirement to keep the first 10 fish caught, except one oversize fish may be allowed per day. Also, relax the limit on the red andblack drum. Increase the daily limit to at least five fish with the minimum size limit of 14 or 15 inches and a maximum size limit of 25 - 28 inches. This will improve the survival rate of both the Spotted Seatrout and the Blue Crab. I would also like to ee the Bottled Nosed Dolphin removed from the protected list. |
| 22 | come to a compromise for areas outside the LLM - say, 7 fish bag limit instead of 5 or the current 10 |
| 23 | crack down harder on game thieves. Advertise more about the cost of stealing wildlife. |
| 24 | Current limits with a 18" minimum length. |
| 25 | Current regulations in LLM seem to allow for recovery of trout populations as well as in catches of bigger fish. I would also support expansion of minimum size limit to 16". Allowance of one trout over 25' should be maintained. |
| 26 | cutting the limit in half seems excessive. i would support a drop to 7 or 8 bag limit |
| 27 | Daily bag 6 or 7, size limit 14"-20" with one trout over 25" not counting in the daily bag. |
| 28 | debris and chemical flow in river estuaris should be rigidly controlled. |
| 29 | do not allow guides to fish with croaker. |
| 30 | Dont let them close Rollover Pass! |
| 31 | Drop back to 12, allow deeply hooked undersized be boxed counted as 2 fish if line cut and left , instead of making crab bait of 14 " fish |
| 32 | expand no boat zones in areas of shallow sea grasses |
| 33 | Expand the 5 bag rule. No one person needs to keep 15 trout a day. They aren't migratory dove |
| 34 | Guides should not be allowed to count their daily limit into the count |
| 35 | I believe 5 trout a day would be sufficient for anglers who frequent TX saltwater. Possibly limit everyone to 5 and keep the 10 limit to anglers using fishing guides. I think dropping the limit on the anglers who use guides will push more people to LA to ish. |
| 36 | I believe that the current regulations should be kept in place. expanding the 5 fish limit to the entire coast would hurt the fishing economy. |
| 37 | I enjoy fishing in Texas & would like to continue to do so for years to come. I'm not a scientist or fishery management expert, and don't want my personal convenience to override the health of our ecosystems. I support whatever the experts at TPWD & TAMU ecide is in the best interest of our wildlife & would just ask the department to clearly communicate the new rules to sportsmen. |
| 38 | I estimate that on 1/2 of our fishing trips, we would not exceed the 5 fish/pp limit. |
| 39 | I fish 4 to 6 days a month and can not remember when I caught 10 fish and I really dont fish with anyone who has. In recient years the fish size has gotten larger but the number of legal has declined |
| 40 | I refer you to a paper   "Reconsidering the Consequences of Selective Fisheries" Science 2 March 2012: Vol. 335 no. 6072 pp. 1045-1047 DOI: 10.1126/science.1214594 PubMedPMID: 22383833 |
| 41 | I support whatever management strategy most improves the fishery. |
| 42 | I think everyone -everywhere in TEXAS should have the same limits. I fish in the LLM |
| 43 | I think that 5 fish per person is too many Two to three is more than adequate. |
| 44 | I think you should have a tag for one fish over 25" , kinda like you do for Redfish but use 25" |
| 45 | I usually catch between 50-100 "shorts" every trip to south padre in a day. I have been doing this for several years. let people keep a 14 inch fish for a few years |
| 46 | I WOULD SUPPORT A LOWER LIMIT , HOWEVER THE SURVEY DOES NOT GIVE ANY DATA ABOUT CURRENT POPULATIONS ALONG THE TEXAS COAST. HARD TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION WITHOUT MORE INFORMATION. |
| 47 | I'd like to see less region-specific limits for specs. |
| 48 | I'd support changes in trout regulations as long as they're based on scientific research. |
| 49 | If feel that most anglers only catch 25" or over during the summer months using live finfish for bait. I think its wrong to limit someone to one fish over 25" which the fish stocks are healthy in the Galveston area. We pay for our fishing license just lik everyone else, plus the extra cost for bait and we are using are catch for food. Not to waste as a trophy to collect dust on the wall or brag to our rich friends. |
| 50 | IF ITS NOT BROKE DONT FIX IT |
| 51 | in our area if you outlaw the use of crokers for bate , you would not have to change a thang, that would be the best thing you can do. |
| 52 | Include Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake |
| 53 | Increase bag limit to 7 in LLM, and reduce size limit to 13-14 inches, to prevent the killing of small trout when fishing live shrimp. |
| 54 | Increase min size to 16" |
| 55 | Increase minimum size limit to 18 " for several years to help juvenile fish to have a change to reach adult size. |
| 56 | Increase the minimum size limit to 17 inches |
| 57 | Increased re-stocking programs, even if this would increase license fees. Or put a re-stock surcharge on licenses. All funds for the re-stock programs. |
| 58 | Institute tags for oversized trout (1-2 per year, similar to redfish) instead of allowing one oversized fish per day. |
| 59 | is it possible to have a split season say 10 fish jan/june then 5 fish remaining months |
| 60 | keep over two 25" sea trout |
| 61 | Leave it alone |
| 62 | Leave our trout limits alone! |
| 63 | limit number of trout tournaments or decrease slot upper limit to 23". |
| 64 | lower 15 inch lower limit to 13 |
| 65 | lower daily bag to eight but lower minimum size to 12 inches |
| 66 | Lower limit from 5 to 3 |
| 67 | lower the minimum to 14" |
| 68 | Lower the size from 15" to 14" for the minimum size limit. |
| 69 | Maintain current regulations |
| 70 | Maintain current regulations on lower coast, change the remainder (Middle and Upper coast) to 7 fish bag limit |
| 71 | make a trout over 25 inches a tag fish, not included in the daily bag limit |
| 72 | make the length limit 14" and let the people who need a limit take it from the smaller sector than the larger sector |
| 73 | more game wardens,I have a cabin in Bastrop bay and never see a game warden out there |
| 74 | More regulation of commercial fishing and shrimper bycatch.. |
| 75 | more stocking efforts |
| 76 | More stocking like redfish |
| 77 | move from 5 bag limit to 4 limit and bring down side from 15 to 14'' |
| 78 | n/a |
| 79 | no |
| 80 | No---but I have supported this change. |
| 81 | none |
| 82 | None |
| 83 | Not allowing any fish over 25" to be kept. Promote catch, photo and release. Remind people only a few measurements and a few photos are needed for a mount. |
| 84 | outlaw crocker fishing |
| 85 | Please Manage the Guide Services. Guide services should help replenish what they take. |
| 86 | Prohibit Commercial shrimping in coastal bays and estuaries with any kind of Nets. Bait shrimping OK as is. |
| 87 | PUT A 16" THROUGH 28" SIZE AND A 5 FISH LIMIT BACK ON REDFISH. THEY ARE HEARTING TROUT POPULATION. |
| 88 | raise the minimum length |
| 89 | raise the minimum size limit to 16 inches |
| 90 | Raise the trout limit back to 10 statewide and lower the minimum to 13" to get rid of the over abundant male trout population. |
| 91 | Reconsider the 25" maximum as from experience after fighting a 25" plus trout and release it to die in the water. Move from 1 over 25" to 3 over 25" still leave limit at 10 |
| 92 | Redfish will be hammered if you do this! The out of state snowbirds take more fish out of Texas than anyone else and they drive around with Texas license plates and boat registration cheating the system...find a way to make them pay back to the fishery tey abuse! Take the Red Snapper debacle for example, it's worth $1.50 per pound to a local commercial fisherman and our local communities restaurants can't even sell it because of food vendors contracts. Then take the average 20 snowbird boats on the wate from Rockport to Aransas Pass and 3 Texas boats on a normal we |
| 93 | Reduce minimum length to 12-13 inches. This would increase chance of smaller fish taken to be male rather than female that are generally 15inch fish. |
| 94 | reduce minimum size to 12 or 13" |
| 95 | Reduce minimum to 12", similar to Louisiana. |
| 96 | reduce the length limit to 12". |
| 97 | Reduce the minimum to 14 inches |
| 98 | regulate fishing guides as to how many days a month they can guide in the same region |
| 99 | Release small trout only with wet hands...or...decrease size length and keep all fish, and quit fishing for trout that day. |
| 100 | Remove the 5 fish bag limit |
| 101 | Selective area limits just put more pressure on Sabine lake, so favor all limts to be the same. Further, work with state of La to adopt TEXAS size / bag lmits for all of Sabine Lake and the water ways on the boarder... Sabine getting overun by La people ooking for a trophey fish, but also keeping 25 12" plus trout and all the flounder they can catch of esentially any size all fall |
| 102 | Should be based upon data in each region instead of one size fits all |
| 103 | Show me scientific data that supports the need to lower the limit on trout and I will agree to lowering. LLM never had a problem to begin with. Short downward trend was just that. A short cycle. |
| 104 | Similiar to oversize reds regulations, only two trout over 25 inches per year--three at the most |
| 105 | Since when I go fishing, I fish from the shore, very seldom do have I ever caught a spotted seatrout. It would be nice to catch one once in a while. I would like to believe that a lower bag limit would increase my chances of catching trout. |
| 106 | size limit 18" |
| 107 | Somehow prevent the waste of gut-hooked lower limit trout. |
| 108 | Speckled trout tag over 25" like redfish, lower size limit on trout |
| 109 | Sport fishing is not the problem, comerical fishing with out size and count limits are the problem, and the next extream cold snap are the problems. |
| 110 | SPORT FISHING SHOULD BE CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY |
| 111 | stop releasing fish that have been hooked, they often die. bag limit should be first 5 caught |
| 112 | Strongly oppose 5 fish possession limit.Long trip for 5 fish.Don't get to go often. Would support 5 fish daily. |
| 113 | Tag the spotted seatrout at 25" plus like the oversized Red Drum. |
| 114 | Take the strongest possible action to preserve and improve the success of speckled trout in the Gulf regardless of anglers' feedback. |
| 115 | the 25" limit should be the maximum limit, any thing over should be taged like oversize red fish. (2 per year) And dont allow any oversize fish to be used in tournaments. |
| 116 | The 5 fish limit just helps the guides. You kill more trying to return them to the water. |
| 117 | the current regs are working, why change something that is not broken. Change for the sake of change is no reason to change. |
| 118 | The five fish bag limit could very likely put many professional guides out of work and diminish the industry that supports them. |
| 119 | The five fish limit has noticable helped the Lower Laguna Madre, I would be suppored of a limit lower than five fish per day. |
| 120 | The jump from 10 to 5 is extreme; consider a smaller change (such as 8) |
| 121 | The limit is currently at a good level |
| 122 | The LLM fishery has benefited and so should the rest of our coast |
| 123 | The trout population at Pt. O'Connor is severely depleted due to over-fishing. I was told this by a guide who has been fishing there for over 25 years. The same thing will happen there as it did in the lower Laguna Madre which necessitated a change inthe regulations. |
| 124 | There is no evidence to support claim for a restricted bag limit |
| 125 | there penty of trout in sabine lake. |
| 126 | Trout populations are DOWN! We need to keep the population - I think bag limits of 5 help immensely! - we can go back to 10 if they come back to the "old" population. |
| 127 | we should allow this species to flourish unless for some reason it is bad for the balance - these are the favorite game of many I know so i am sure we can help control them if needed :) |
| 128 | We've been down this road already with Redfish, whats the problem? Make it 5 Trout per angler/ per day up and down the entire Texas Coast. Enforce a slot, 15" to 25", or maybe even 15" to 26". Then offer a bonus tag on each license, same as Redfish, whch will allow "1" tagged Trout over 26" per license holder/ per year. I believe the Angling community as a whole has been educated enough and is willing to accept the change. Regardless, the change needs to occur for the betterment of the fishery. |
| 129 | Whatever provides for the best possible fishery. I like trophy trout and high catch rates. |
| 130 | when is the last time you caught more than 5 in a day? |
| 131 | Why do a few fishermen need alot of fish at the expense of risking the future of the species? |
| 132 | Why should Galveston and Sabine be excluded? Are the populations healthier. What about 7 fish limit? |
| 133 | Yes. Establish limit of 2 within slot of 20" to 25". |
| 134 | You only have so much bait so reducing the bag limit makes more smaller fish. Look at Big Lake, La. |

**Appendix C**

**Other Target Species**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | AJ |
| 2 | all if I can |
| 3 | Amber Jack |
| 4 | amberjack |
| 5 | Angelfish to catch not keep |
| 6 | any species of shark |
| 7 | Anything that bites |
| 8 | Atlantic croaker, whiting |
| 9 | billfish |
| 10 | blacktip shark |
| 11 | Blacktip shark, whiting |
| 12 | catch/release only |
| 13 | cobia |
| 14 | Cobia |
| 15 | cobia, shark |
| 16 | croaker |
| 17 | Croaker |
| 18 | croaker and crab |
| 19 | croaker and sandtrout |
| 20 | croaker, sand trout |
| 21 | croaker, whiting, triple tail,bonito,amberjack,ling |
| 22 | croaker;whiting;trout |
| 23 | Croker |
| 24 | dolphin |
| 25 | Dolphin |
| 26 | dolphin-AJs.-wahoo-legal sea bass |
| 27 | dorado |
| 28 | dorado, wahoo, tuna, billfish |
| 29 | Durado |
| 30 | extend that season! |
| 31 | flounder, trout |
| 32 | gaftop sail catfish |
| 33 | golden croaker |
| 34 | Golden Croaker |
| 35 | Gray snapper |
| 36 | Grouper |
| 37 | Grouper, All Snapper Species |
| 38 | I haven't been able to catch much. |
| 39 | jack cravella |
| 40 | Jack Crevalle |
| 41 | just fished with kids! |
| 42 | Lane Snapper |
| 43 | large crocker |
| 44 | larger golden croaker |
| 45 | ling |
| 46 | LING |
| 47 | Ling, Snook, Grouper, Dorado, Tuna, Tarpon, Wahoo, Billfish |
| 48 | Mahi |
| 49 | Mahi, amberjack, cobia, wahoo, tuna |
| 50 | mahi, tuna |
| 51 | Mahi, wahoo, tuna |
| 52 | mangrove snapper |
| 53 | Mangrove snapper |
| 54 | mangrove snapper, Spanish mackerel, cobia, sharks |
| 55 | mauimaui, |
| 56 | Pompano |
| 57 | pompano, amberjack,dorado, wahoo,ling |
| 58 | Pompino |
| 59 | red fish |
| 60 | redfish |
| 61 | sand trout |
| 62 | Sand trout |
| 63 | Sand trout, croaker |
| 64 | Sandies |
| 65 | shark |
| 66 | Shark |
| 67 | sharks |
| 68 | Sharks |
| 69 | sheephead |
| 70 | Sheephead |
| 71 | sheephead, croaker |
| 72 | sheephead, whiting, crocher |
| 73 | sheepshead |
| 74 | Sheepshead |
| 75 | SHEEPSHEAD |
| 76 | snook |
| 77 | snook, sheepshead,whiting, croaker |
| 78 | spanish mack |
| 79 | Spanish mack |
| 80 | spanish mackeral |
| 81 | Spanish Mackeral |
| 82 | spanish mackeral,gulf trout |
| 83 | tarpon |
| 84 | Tarpon |
| 85 | tarpon, tripletail,ling,shark |
| 86 | TRIPLE TAIL |
| 87 | tripletail |
| 88 | Tripletail |
| 89 | Tripletail! |
| 90 | Tuna |
| 91 | Wahoo |
| 92 | whiting |
| 93 | Whiting |
| 94 | Whiting croaker dorado triple tail |
| 95 | Whiting, blacktip shark |
| 96 | whiting, pompano, |

**Appendix D**

**County of Respondent**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Abilene |
| 2 | Anderson |
| 3 | Andrews |
| 4 | angelina |
| 5 | Angelina |
| 6 | aransas |
| 7 | Aransas |
| 8 | aransas county |
| 9 | atascosa |
| 10 | austin |
| 11 | Austin |
| 12 | Bandera |
| 13 | bastrop |
| 14 | Bastrop |
| 15 | Bee |
| 16 | bell |
| 17 | Bell |
| 18 | bexar |
| 19 | Bexar |
| 20 | BEXAR |
| 21 | Bexar and Aransas |
| 22 | bexar county san antonoi tx |
| 23 | bexar san antonio TX 78249 USA |
| 24 | Bosque |
| 25 | Bowie |
| 26 | brazoria |
| 27 | Brazoria |
| 28 | BRAZORIA |
| 29 | brazos |
| 30 | Brazos |
| 31 | Brazos- President of Brazos Valley CCA |
| 32 | Brewster |
| 33 | Brown |
| 34 | Burleson |
| 35 | burnet |
| 36 | Burnet |
| 37 | Caldwell |
| 38 | calhoun |
| 39 | Calhoun |
| 40 | cameron |
| 41 | Cameron |
| 42 | CAMERON |
| 43 | Cameron County |
| 44 | Canada |
| 45 | chambers |
| 46 | Chambers |
| 47 | cherokee |
| 48 | Cherokee |
| 49 | Clay |
| 50 | colin |
| 51 | Colin |
| 52 | collin |
| 53 | Collin |
| 54 | COLLIN |
| 55 | Colorado |
| 56 | comal |
| 57 | Comal |
| 58 | COMAL |
| 59 | Comal County |
| 60 | Comanche |
| 61 | cook |
| 62 | coryell |
| 63 | Coryell |
| 64 | dallas |
| 65 | Dallas |
| 66 | DALLAS |
| 67 | Dallas and Nueces |
| 68 | Dawson County |
| 69 | Deaf Smith |
| 70 | denton |
| 71 | Denton |
| 72 | DENTON |
| 73 | dewitt |
| 74 | Dewitt |
| 75 | Dimmit |
| 76 | Duval |
| 77 | Duvall |
| 78 | Ector |
| 79 | el paso |
| 80 | El paso |
| 81 | El Paso |
| 82 | ellis |
| 83 | eLLIS |
| 84 | Ellis |
| 85 | ELLIS |
| 86 | elpaso |
| 87 | fayette |
| 88 | Fayette |
| 89 | Floyd |
| 90 | fort bend |
| 91 | fort Bend |
| 92 | Fort Bend |
| 93 | FORT BEND |
| 94 | Fort Bend County |
| 95 | Fort Bend; Monterey CA |
| 96 | Freestone |
| 97 | frio |
| 98 | ft bend |
| 99 | Ft Bend |
| 100 | Ft. Bend |
| 101 | FT. BEND |
| 102 | FtBend |
| 103 | galveston |
| 104 | Galveston |
| 105 | GALVESTON |
| 106 | Gillespie |
| 107 | gillispie |
| 108 | Gimes |
| 109 | Glaveston |
| 110 | gonzales |
| 111 | Gonzales |
| 112 | grayson |
| 113 | Grayson |
| 114 | gregg |
| 115 | Gregg |
| 116 | GREGG |
| 117 | grimes |
| 118 | GRIMES |
| 119 | guadalupe |
| 120 | Guadalupe |
| 121 | HAARYS |
| 122 | Hale |
| 123 | hardin |
| 124 | Hardin |
| 125 | harris |
| 126 | Harris |
| 127 | HARRIS |
| 128 | harris county |
| 129 | Harris County |
| 130 | Hayes |
| 131 | hays |
| 132 | Hays |
| 133 | HAYS |
| 134 | henderson |
| 135 | Henderson |
| 136 | HENDERSON |
| 137 | Hidalggo |
| 138 | hidalgo |
| 139 | Hidalgo |
| 140 | hidalgo county |
| 141 | Hidalgo County |
| 142 | hill |
| 143 | Hill |
| 144 | Hockley |
| 145 | hood |
| 146 | Hood |
| 147 | hopkins |
| 148 | Hopkins |
| 149 | houston |
| 150 | Houston |
| 151 | houston texas |
| 152 | Jackson |
| 153 | Jasper |
| 154 | jefferson |
| 155 | Jefferson |
| 156 | JEFFERSON |
| 157 | Jefferson County, TX |
| 158 | Jim wells |
| 159 | JIM WELLS |
| 160 | johnson |
| 161 | Johnson |
| 162 | JOHNSON |
| 163 | Jones |
| 164 | Karnes |
| 165 | kaufman |
| 166 | Kaufman |
| 167 | kendall |
| 168 | Kendall |
| 169 | Kent |
| 170 | kerr |
| 171 | Kerr |
| 172 | kleberg |
| 173 | Kleberg |
| 174 | Lamar |
| 175 | lampasas |
| 176 | Lampasas |
| 177 | lavaca |
| 178 | Lavaca |
| 179 | Leon |
| 180 | liberty |
| 181 | live oak |
| 182 | Live Oak |
| 183 | llano |
| 184 | Llano |
| 185 | Lubbock |
| 186 | Mason |
| 187 | matagorda |
| 188 | Matagorda |
| 189 | McClennan |
| 190 | Mclennan |
| 191 | McLennan |
| 192 | Medina |
| 193 | Menard |
| 194 | midlan |
| 195 | midland |
| 196 | Midland |
| 197 | milam |
| 198 | Milam |
| 199 | Mills |
| 200 | Mitchell |
| 201 | Mongtomery |
| 202 | montgomery |
| 203 | Montgomery |
| 204 | MONTGOMERY |
| 205 | Montgomery county, Texas |
| 206 | Morris |
| 207 | Nacogdoches |
| 208 | navarro |
| 209 | Navarro |
| 210 | NAVARRO |
| 211 | neuces county |
| 212 | Newport News City |
| 213 | Newton |
| 214 | nolan |
| 215 | nueces |
| 216 | Nueces |
| 217 | nueces county |
| 218 | nueces, c.c. |
| 219 | orange |
| 220 | Orange |
| 221 | palo pinto |
| 222 | Palo Pinto |
| 223 | panola |
| 224 | Panola |
| 225 | parker |
| 226 | Parker |
| 227 | polk |
| 228 | pope |
| 229 | Potter |
| 230 | Randall |
| 231 | Refugio |
| 232 | Refugio and Harris county. Fish Copano Bay and Offatts Bayou/Galveston Beachfront. |
| 233 | Robertson |
| 234 | robertson county |
| 235 | Rockwall |
| 236 | Rusk |
| 237 | Sabine |
| 238 | san jacinto |
| 239 | San Jacinto |
| 240 | san patricio |
| 241 | San patricio |
| 242 | San Patricio |
| 243 | San Saba |
| 244 | scurry |
| 245 | shelby |
| 246 | Shelby |
| 247 | smith |
| 248 | Smith |
| 249 | spring |
| 250 | stephens |
| 251 | Stephens |
| 252 | tarrant |
| 253 | Tarrant |
| 254 | Tarrent |
| 255 | taylor |
| 256 | Taylor |
| 257 | Titus |
| 258 | TITUS |
| 259 | Tom Green |
| 260 | Tomball |
| 261 | travis |
| 262 | Travis |
| 263 | TRAVIS |
| 264 | Travis - propery owner in Aransas County also - |
| 265 | Travis and Aransas |
| 266 | trinity |
| 267 | tyler |
| 268 | U.S. |
| 269 | United States |
| 270 | UNITED STATES |
| 271 | United States of America |
| 272 | us |
| 273 | Us |
| 274 | US |
| 275 | usa |
| 276 | Usa |
| 277 | USA |
| 278 | USA USA USA |
| 279 | Uvalde |
| 280 | Van Zandt |
| 281 | victoria |
| 282 | Victoria |
| 283 | victoria texas |
| 284 | waller |
| 285 | Waller |
| 286 | Washington |
| 287 | webb |
| 288 | Webb |
| 289 | wharton |
| 290 | Wharton |
| 291 | Wichita |
| 292 | willacy |
| 293 | Willacy |
| 294 | williamson |
| 295 | Williamson |
| 296 | WILLIAMSON |
| 297 | Williamsono |
| 298 | Willimason |
| 299 | Wilson |
| 300 | Wise |
| 301 | Wood |