

H.R. 1382, the “Give Our Fishermen Immediate Snapper Help Act” or the “GOFISH Act”

Sponsor: Congressman Weber (R-Texas)

Introduced on March 7, 2017

Referred to the House Natural Resources Committee

Section 1 – Short Title

Section 2 – Red Snapper Fishing Seasons in The Gulf of Mexico.

The bill would waive the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, any fishery management plan under that Act, or any other Federal law to establish fishing seasons for 2017 and 2018.

The bill would establish a red snapper fishing season for the recreational sector in the Gulf of Mexico that would last 62 consecutive days and begin on July 1.

The bill would maintain the allocation of red snapper and the duration of the red snapper fishing season for the commercial fishing sector as was applied to that sector for the 2016 fishing season.

The bill would mandate that the allocation and duration of the red snapper fishery for the charter fishing sector may not be less than the allocation and duration that was applied to that sector during the 2016 fishing season.

The bill would mandate that the catch limit and size limit for each sector shall be no less than the catch limit and size limit that was applied to each sector in the 2016 fishing season.

The bill would require the Secretary of Commerce to issue a proposed rule to implement the requirements stated above for the 2017 and 2018 fishing seasons.