



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

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Managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being and the benefit of people.

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I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and a very happy new year! As you may know, the Snook Research Program has experienced some changes over the last year. Most importantly, our tireless and faithful leader, Ron Taylor, decided to retire after spending nearly 30 years dedicated to the study of snook. I've talked to him often since he left; he is doing well and seems to have grown a particular fondness for his porch swing.

We have also recently completed The 2015 Stock Assessment Update of Common Snook, which should be available soon (perhaps by the time you receive this letter). It will be available on our website (http://www.myfwc.com) if you are interested in reading it. Please know, the data you provide through the Angler Logbook Program was used in this assessment; most importantly, the lengths of the released fish have become an integral part of the assessment. Thank you for continuing to help provide that valuable information!

We currently have 38 guides and recreational anglers listed as participants in this program but have only received 2015 trip data (192 total trip reports) from 9 of you. We are hoping there are many more reports yet to be submitted. If you have not already, please return your 2015 datasheets to us as soon as possible. In addition, please take a moment to fill out the second page of this letter and return it, with or without trip datasheets, in the enclosed SASE.

In addition, we are looking for a few additional participants. We will happily add anyone interested in participating, although we really need participants from the areas listed below. If you know of someone who regularly fishes these areas and may be interested in participating in our logbook program, please have them contact me.

Gulf North (Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Manatee Counties) Gulf South (Collier and Monroe Counties, including the Everglades NP) Atlantic North (Brevard, Indian River, and St. Lucie Counties) Atlantic South (Broward and Dade Counties)

Thank you for your continued participation in this program. I hope you know how appreciative we are of your time and effort!

Sincerely,

Alexis Trotter

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