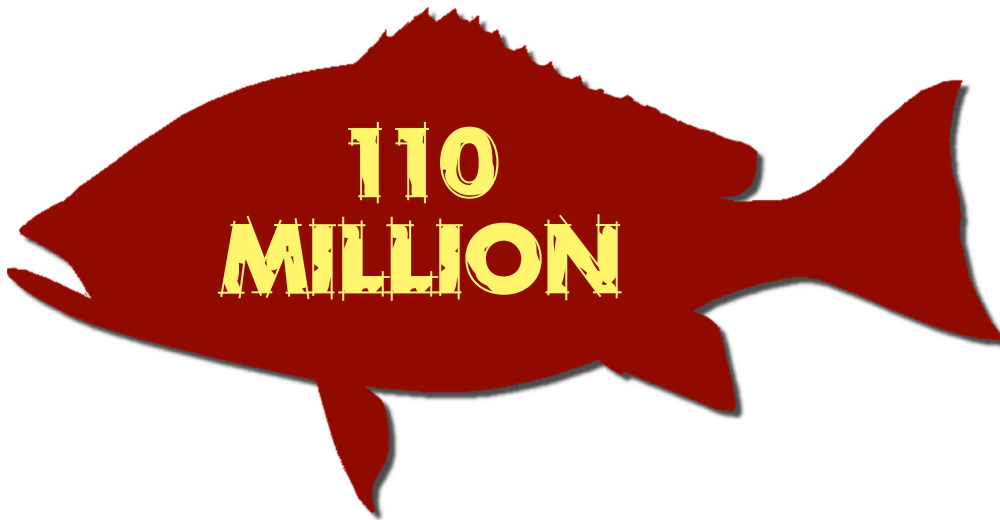# The Great Red Snapper Count
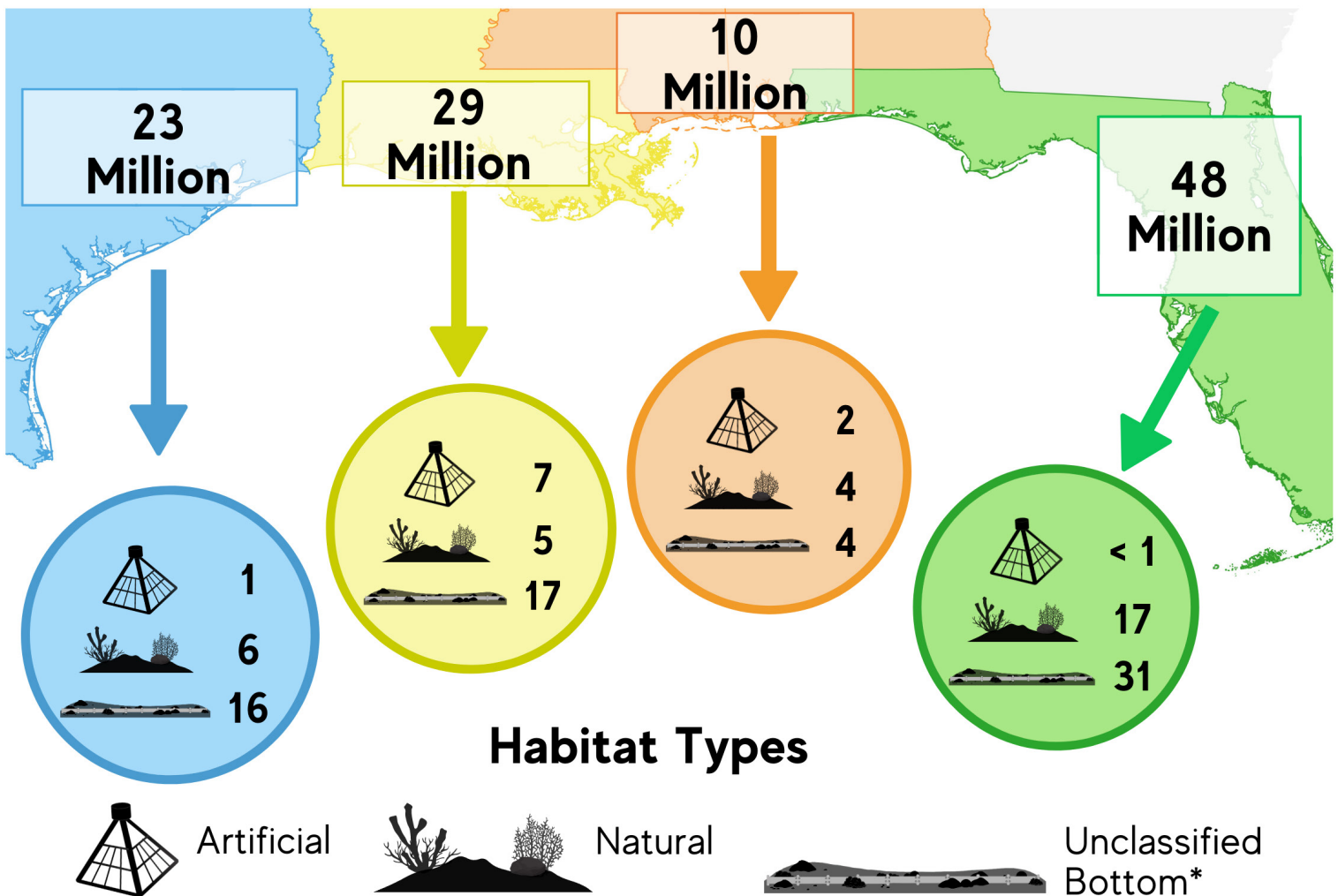## PROJECT RESULTS

110 MILLION

The **Great Red Snapper Count** project team estimated a population size of 110 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.

23 Million

29 Million

10 Million

48 Million

23 Million:
- Artificial: 1
- Natural: 6
- Unclassified Bottom: 16

29 Million:
- Artificial: 7
- Natural: 5
- Unclassified Bottom: 17

10 Million:
- Artificial: 2
- Natural: 4
- Unclassified Bottom: 4

48 Million:
- Artificial: < 1
- Natural: 17
- Unclassified Bottom: 31

Habitat Types

Artificial

Natural

Unclassified Bottom*

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. Photo by Brian Fore

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.

B. Photo by Andy Venables

C. Photo by Merritt McCall

D. Photo by Merritt McCall

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.

Thank You!

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

Sea Grant Mississippi-Alabama • THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI • USF UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA • MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY • TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CORPUS CHRISTI | HARTE RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR GULF OF MEXICO STUDIES • AUBURN UNIVERSITY • UF|UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA • LSU LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY • TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY GALVESTON CAMPUS • VIMS | WILLIAM & MARY VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE • SMU • FIU FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY • USA UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA