

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

1200 Glynn Avenue, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-9990

J. Leonard Ledbetter, Commissioner

Duane Harris, Director

Coastal Resources Division

912/264-7218

5 June 1985

MEMORANDUM

TO: Susan Shipman

FROM: John Pafford

SUBJECT: Regulatory Recommendations concerning Red Drum and
Spotted Seatrout

Based on the findings and recommendations stated in the completion report for Coastal Resources Division's five-year study entitled "Population Dynamics and Life History Aspects of Major Marine Sportfishes In Georgia's Coastal Waters" and communications with marine recreational fishermen, I would like to request the following regulations be considered for submission to the General Assembly for enactment into Georgia law:

- Establish a daily creel limit of two (2) red drum per person for red drum (Sciaenops ocellatus) measuring over thirty-two (32) inches total length.
- Establish a minimum size limit of fourteen (14) inches total length for the minimum creel length for red drum (Sciaenops ocellatus).
- Establish a minimum size limit of twelve (12) inches total length for the minimum creel length for spotted seatrout (Cynoscion nebulosus).

These specific management measures are also recommended by the Atlantic Fishery Management Plan for red drum and spotted seatrout. The Marine Recreational Fisheries Program biologists requested similar red drum regulations to be included in last year's list of regulatory additions and changes submitted by the Division, and I would like to again stress the need for such regulations. If you have any questions or actions you want me to take, please contact me. I appreciate your time and attention to this concern.

JP/lw

cc: Duane Harris

Jim Music

Nick Nicholson ✓