

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 19, 2014

The Honorable Doc Hastings  
Chairman  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
140 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
1329 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Hastings and Ranking Member DeFazio:

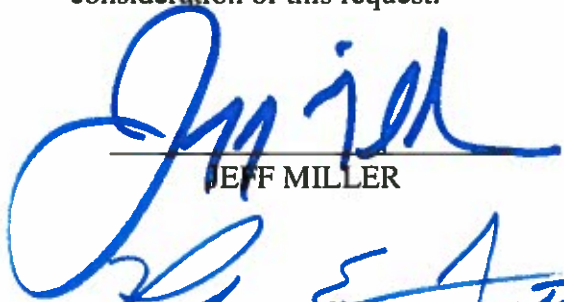
As cosponsors of the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Conservation Act of 2013 (H.R. 3099), we are writing to respectfully request a hearing on this important and timely legislation. Introduced by the immediate past Chairman of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC) Congressman Jeff Miller, along with CSC Co-Chairs Congressmen Bob Latta and Bennie Thompson, and CSC Vice-Chairs Congressmen Rob Wittman and Tim Walz serving as original cosponsors, H.R. 3099 also has the bipartisan support of a significant number of additional Gulf State Members.


Although the Gulf red snapper fishery is more robust than ever before, the current management regime is resulting in the shortest recreational seasons on record. This is causing severe and far reaching economic impacts to communities throughout the Gulf Coast. Expeditious Congressional action is needed to address these impacts by charting a new course for management of Gulf red snapper for the betterment of commercial and recreational fisheries and the entire regional economy.

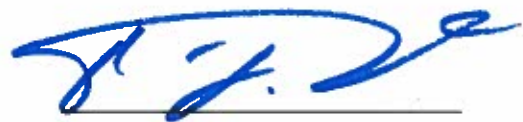
The ongoing and comprehensive breakdown of red snapper management in the Gulf presents an opportunity to put proven state-based management approaches to work and allow this fishery to realize its full economic potential for Gulf State communities while conserving and sustaining a nationally important fishery for future generations.


To that end, we respectfully request that the Committee on Natural Resources schedule a hearing on this vitally important issue as soon as practicable. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JEFF MILLER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ROBERT E. LATTA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
BENNIE THOMPSON

  
ROBERT J. WITTMAN

  
TIMOTHY J. WALZ

  
CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

  
BILL CASSIDY

  
JEFF DUNCAN

  
BLAKE FARENTHOLD

  
JOE GARCIA

  
GENE GREEN

  
STEVEN M. PALAZZO

  
STEVE SCALISE

  
AUSTIN SCOTT

  
MIKE THOMPSON