



U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

## Technical Announcement

Date: October 2013

Contact: Caryl Fagot  
(504) 736-2590

### ***Short-term Movement, Home Range, and Behavior of Red Snapper Around Petroleum Platforms in the Northern Gulf of Mexico, as Determined by High Resolution Acoustic Telemetry***

#### **OCS Study BOEM 2013-0123**

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, *Short-term Movement, Home Range, and Behavior of Red Snapper Around Petroleum Platforms in the Northern Gulf of Mexico, as Determined by High Resolution Acoustic Telemetry*

The overfished status of red snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, is one of the most pressing federal fisheries management concerns in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) region. Artificial reefs may be useful tools for fishery managers if they increase production, but many researchers question whether they are a positive influence on reef stock dynamics. This project studied the functions that GOM oil and gas platforms serve as habitat for juvenile and adult reef-associated species. A network of hydrophones was used to track the movement of acoustically tagged fish near a platform with sub-meter accuracy in three-dimensional space. The fish tagged in this study exhibited almost binomial behavior; fish either exhibited high site fidelity—two months or more, or almost none at all—leaving the study area in less than two weeks.

This report is available on CD from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, for \$15.00, and free of charge as a pdf file downloaded from the BOEM Website. Copies can also be viewed at selected Federal Depository Libraries. The addresses are listed below.

To order a CD, use the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region contact information below and reference OCS Study BOEM 2013-0123. To download a pdf copy, use the Environmental Studies Program Information System and search on the study report number:

[http://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data\\_center/other/espis/espismaster.asp?appid=1](http://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data_center/other/espis/espismaster.asp?appid=1)

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Technical Information Service  
5301 Shawnee Rd.

Public Information Office (GM 217G)  
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394  
Phone: (504) 736-2519, 1-800-200-GULF  
Fax: (504) 736-2620

Springfield, Virginia 22312  
Phone: (703) 605-6000, 1-800-553-6847  
Fax: (703) 605-6900  
Website: <http://www.ntis.gov/>

**BOEM Main Website:** <http://www.boem.gov/>