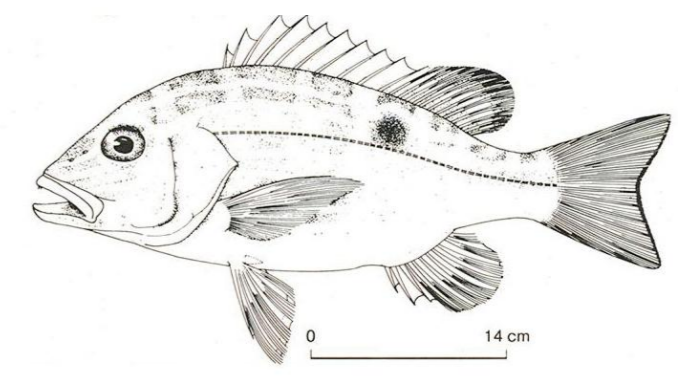


Lane snapper

Lutjanus synagris
Pargo biajaiba



Description

Range: The lane snapper, a bony fish of the family Lutjanidae, is found throughout the shelf areas of the Gulf of Mexico and along the Western Atlantic coast from North Carolina to southeastern Brazil. This species is fairly abundant in south Florida and on the Campeche Bank.

Habitat: This demersal fish can occur over all bottom types, but is most common in coral reef areas and sandy bottoms. The depth range is from 0 to 130 meters. Juveniles favor grass flats, reefs, and soft bottom areas to depths of 20 meters.

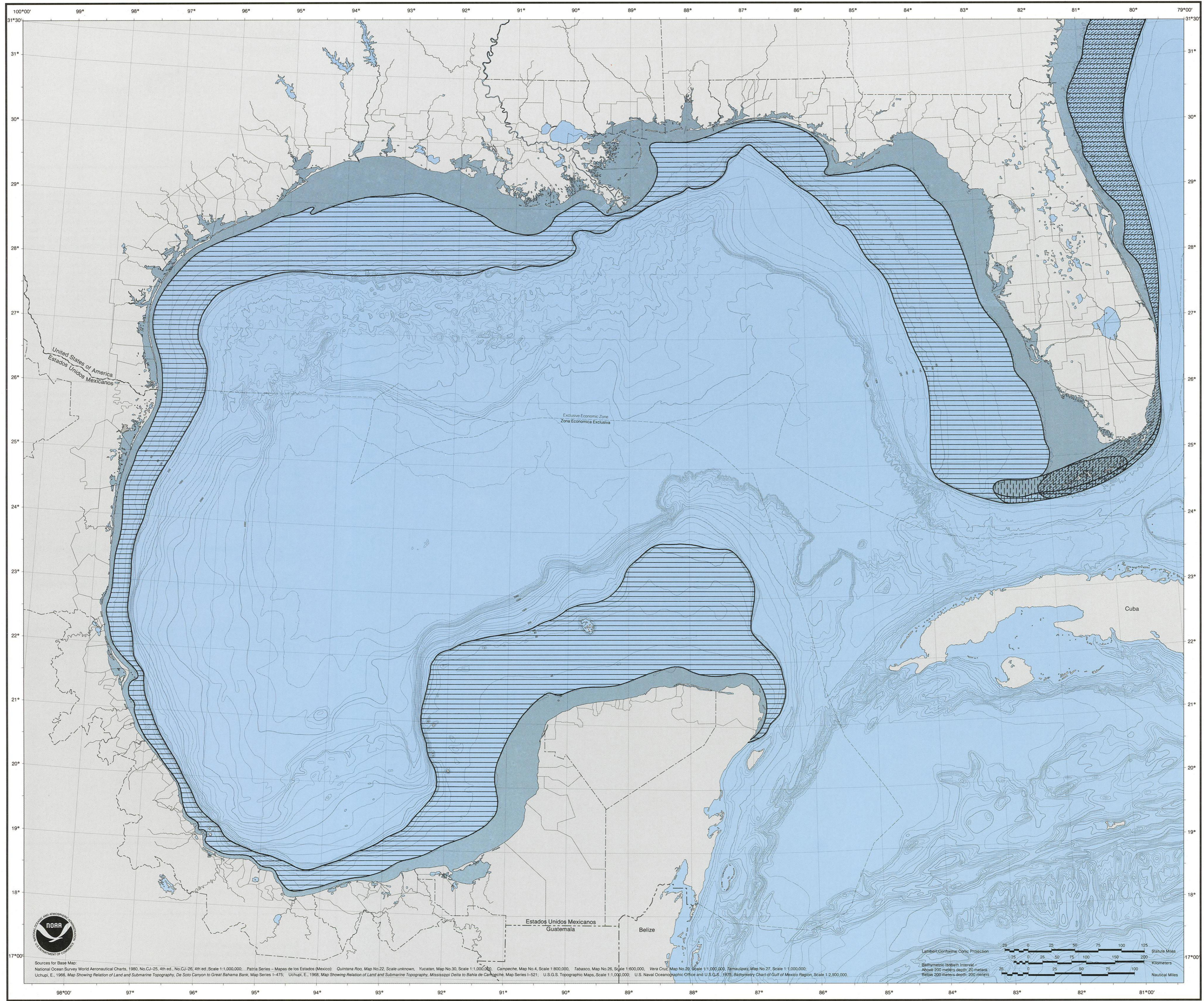
Feeding and Behavior: The predator feeds on small fishes and benthic crabs, shrimps, and worms. Juveniles eat copepods, grass shrimps, and other small invertebrates. The lane snapper is known to form schools, especially during spawning season.

Reproduction: Spawning probably occurs during mid-summer in offshore ocean waters. Nursery areas are located in mangrove and grassy estuaries in the southern Gulf and in shallow areas with both sandy and muddy bottoms along the northern Gulf coast.

Movement: Adult lane snapper show very little movement.

Fisheries: The lane snapper is a relatively small component of the commercial snapper fishery. It is harvested commercially only in the Florida Keys. Catches are marketed fresh or frozen. Recreational fishing grounds for the species extend along the entire east Florida coast and the Keys.

References: Fischer, W., ed., 1978; Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 1980b; McClane, A.J., ed., 1974; Roe, R.B., 1976.



-  **Adult Area (Year-round)**
-  **Nursery Area (Year-round)**
-  **Commercial Fishing Ground (Year-round)**
-  **Recreational Fishing Ground (Year-round)**

Summer spawning occurs throughout adult area.

References

Rivas, L.R., pers. comm.

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