

Annotated Agenda
MAFAC Meeting, Silver Spring, Maryland
October 13-15, 2015

Recreational Fisheries – Updates on Implementing National Policy and Economic Surveys

Objective/Purpose (Updates and Informational)

Provide an update on the development of regional implementation plans and other Recreational Fisheries Initiative activities, and provide an overview of different economic surveys

Background/Synopsis of Presentations

Regional Implementation of the National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy

Russ Dunn
Senior Advisor for Recreational Fisheries

NOAA Fisheries released a National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy and an attendant National Implementation in the Spring of 2014. Associated with the release of the National Implementation plan was a commitment by NOAA Fisheries to step implementation of the national policy down to the regional level through development of region-specific plans by our field offices. The National Recreational Initiative team will provide a concise implementation status update and overview of recent actions.

Release of the Marine Recreational Bait and Tackle Economic Survey

Cliff Hutt, PhD
Research Associate, Economics & Social Analysis
Division, Office of Science and Technology

In 2014, in response to a need identified by recreational fishing industry groups, NOAA Fisheries conducted the Marine Recreational Bait and Tackle Economic Survey (RBTES) to better understand the economic condition and contributions of retail stores that sell marine recreational fishing bait, tackle, and related equipment (excluding boats). This study focused on retail stores that are independently owned small businesses that sell bait and tackle to saltwater anglers in coastal and near coastal communities located in 23 U.S. states on the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, Pacific coasts, Alaska, and Hawaii. Independent retailers were estimated to have generated a total of \$854 million in sales of saltwater fishing bait, tackle, and related equipment in 2013. National input-output analysis estimated that these sales contributed \$2.3 billion in total economic output including \$796 million in income supporting over 16 thousand jobs in the United States in 2013.

National Recreational Fishing Expenditure Survey & Sample Frame Pilot Study for US based CPFV trips to Non-US waters

Sabrina Lowell, PhD
Economist, Economics & Social Analysis
Division, Office of Science and Technology

The 2014 National Recreational Fishing Expenditure Survey was conducted in all coastal states except Hawaii to estimate angler expenditures on durable goods used for marine recreational fishing. The survey was conducted in 2014 and a report is forthcoming. Expenditures on rods and reels, tackle, fishing related gear, fishing licenses, boats and boat-related expenditures, vehicles and related expenditures, and second homes were estimated by resident status for each state. Spending on boats and related expenditures accounted for the largest share of mean annual expenditures in most states.

The Southwest Fisheries Science Center is currently fielding a survey to test which method of

contacting anglers on CPFV (commercial passenger fishing vessels) to non-US waters yields the best response rates. The methods are in-person interviews, survey hand-outs with angler mail back, and contact information collected in the field in conjunction with a mail survey. The survey started in late summer and will run through October. Results will be used to determine the best method of collecting angler trip expenditure information in the future. Additional information on recreator zip codes will be used to characterize the fishery's participants.

Action to be taken by MAFAC

No action, at this time.