



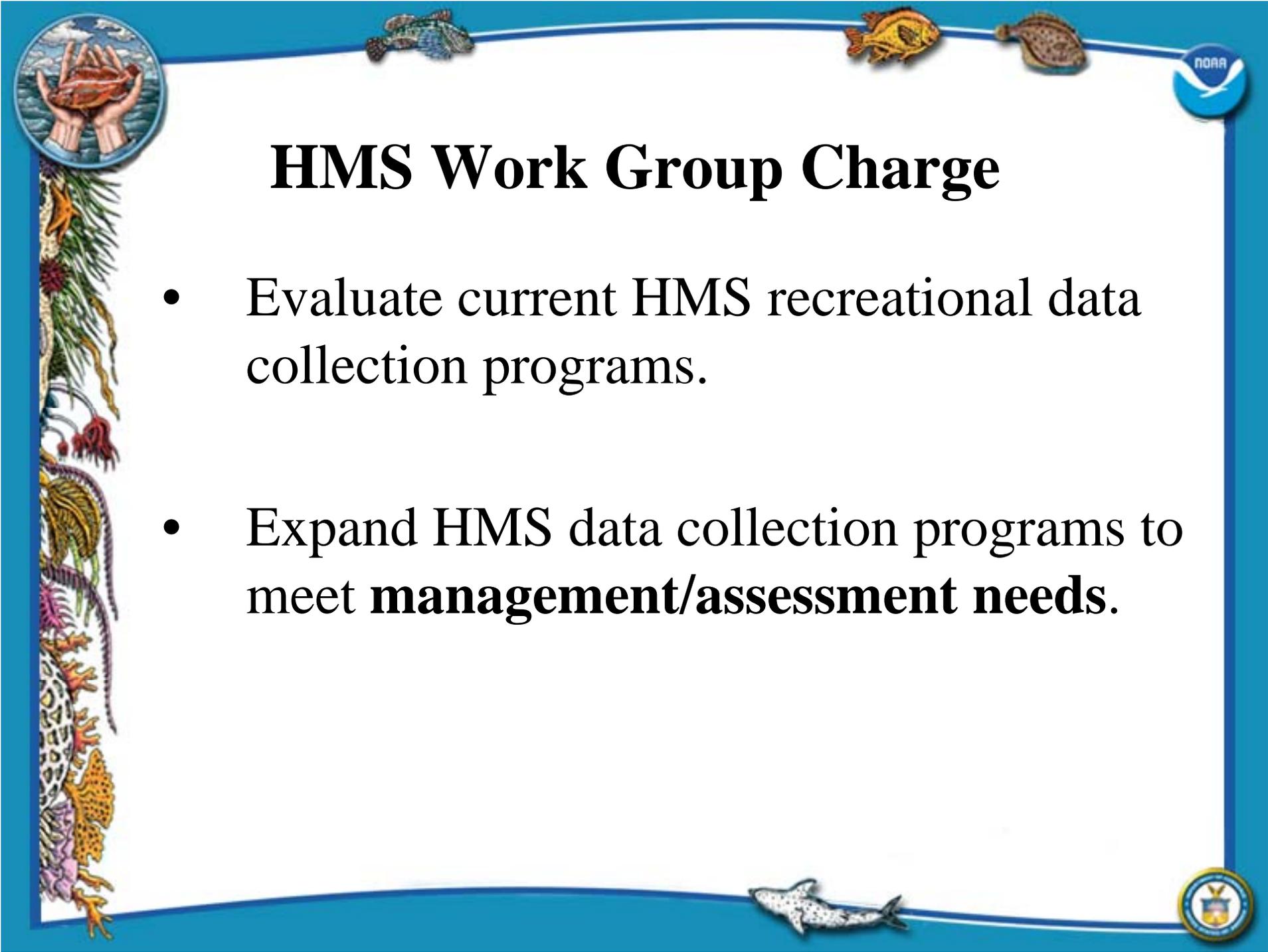
# MRIP HMS Project Results and Recommendations



YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR FISHING DATA

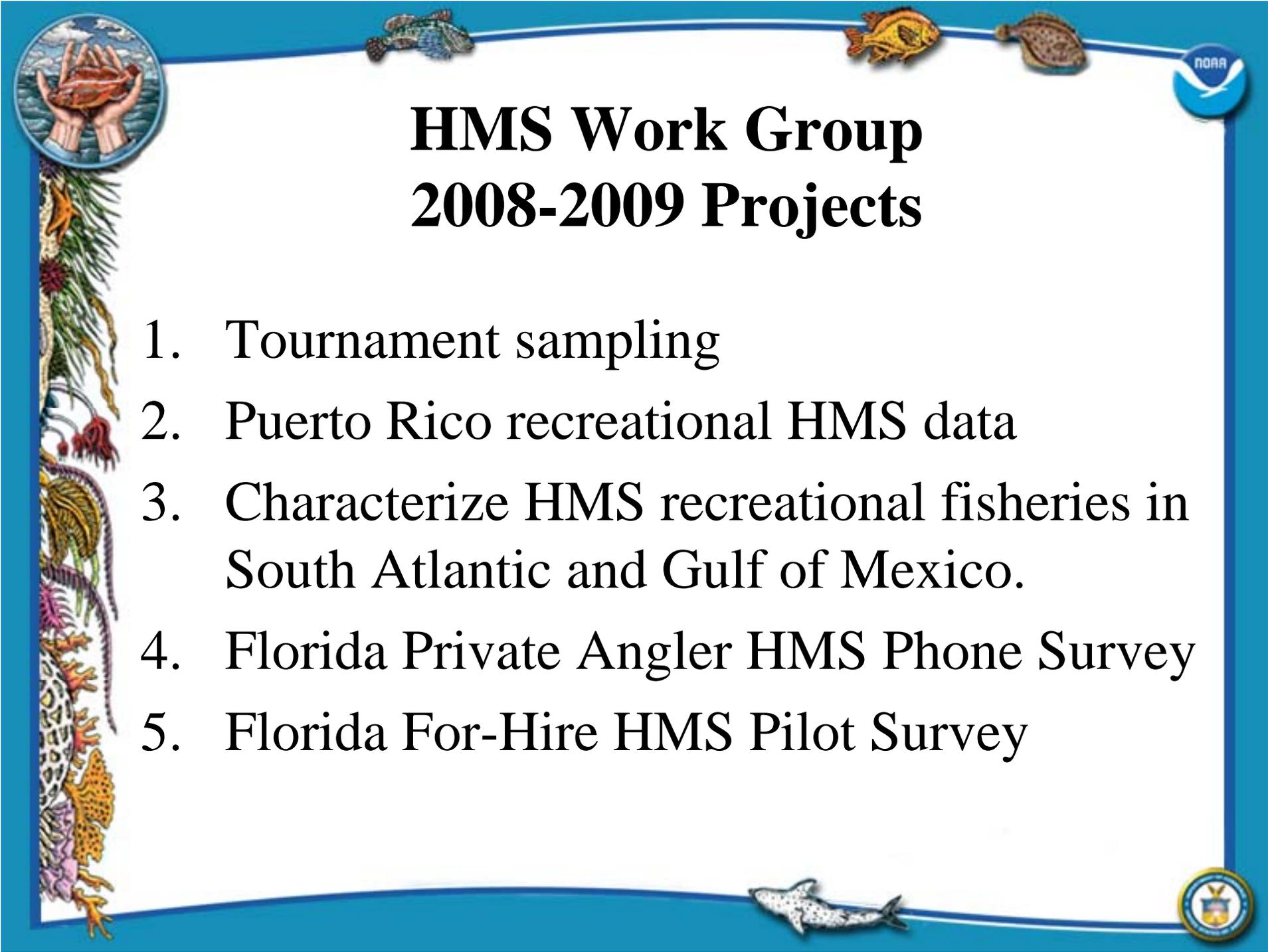
Ronald Salz, NOAA Fisheries  
Presented to HMS Advisory Panel  
May 2010 Silver Spring MD





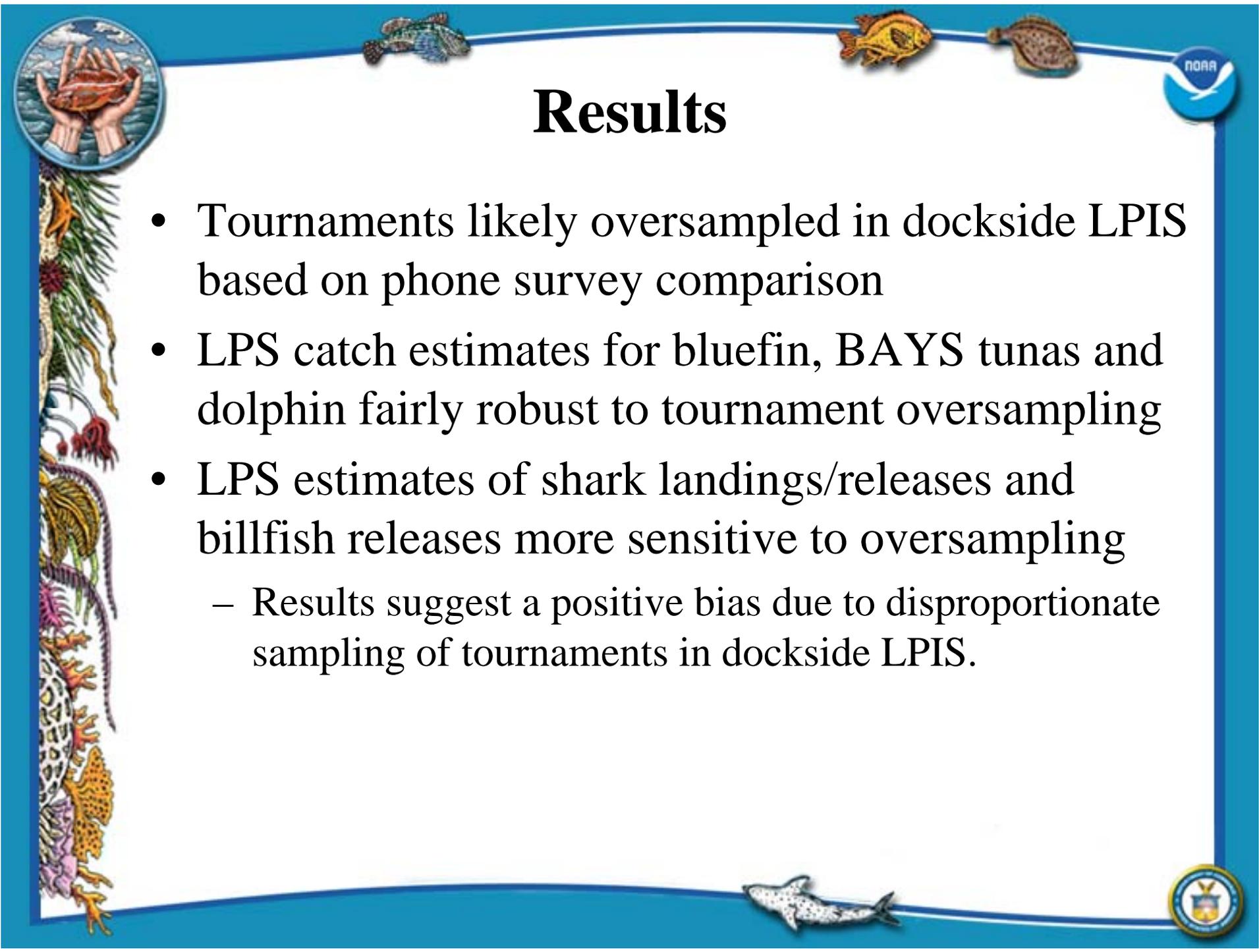
# HMS Work Group Charge

- Evaluate current HMS recreational data collection programs.
- Expand HMS data collection programs to meet **management/assessment needs**.



# HMS Work Group 2008-2009 Projects

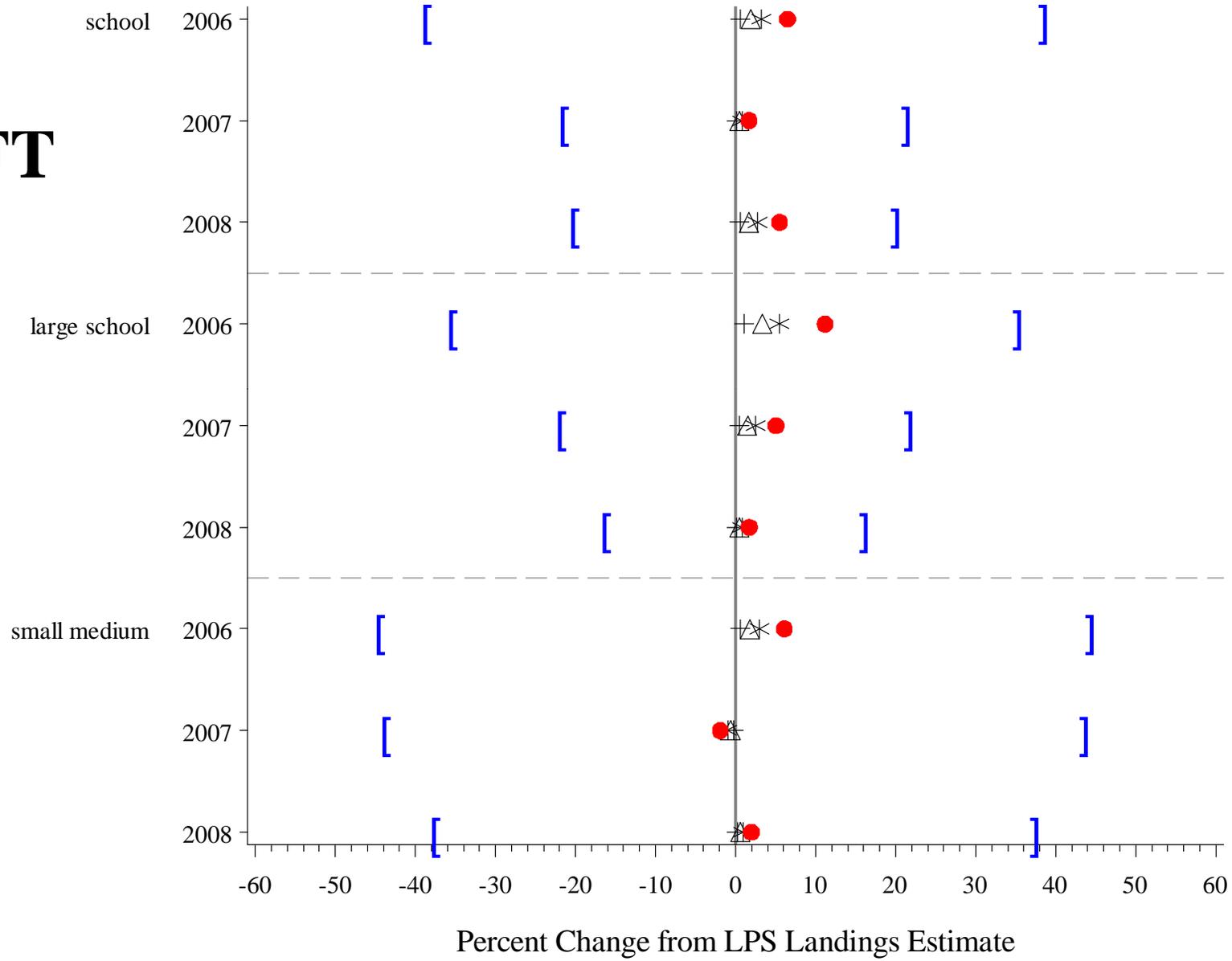
1. Tournament sampling
2. Puerto Rico recreational HMS data
3. Characterize HMS recreational fisheries in South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.
4. Florida Private Angler HMS Phone Survey
5. Florida For-Hire HMS Pilot Survey



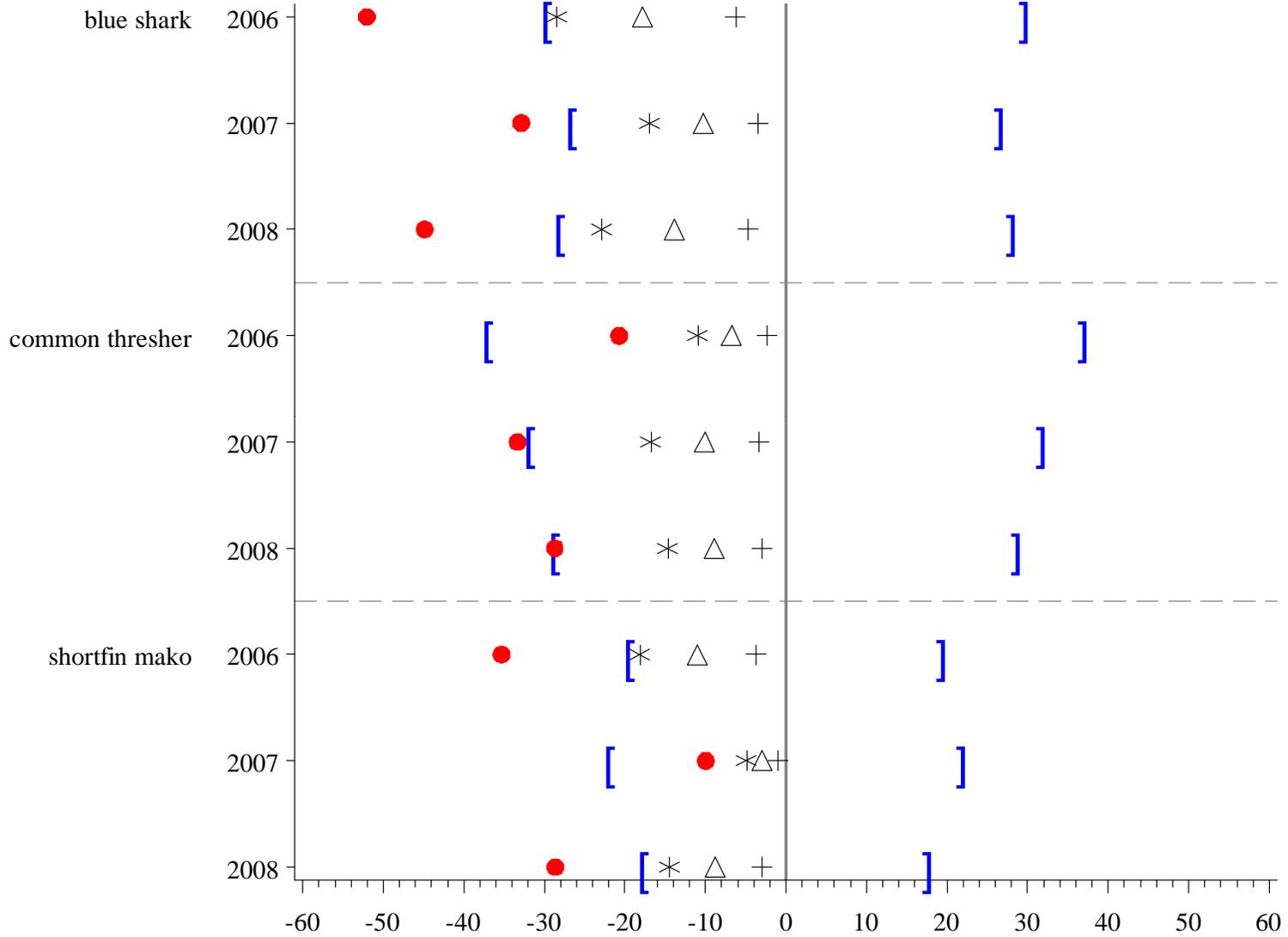
# Results

- Tournaments likely oversampled in dockside LPIS based on phone survey comparison
- LPS catch estimates for bluefin, BAYS tunas and dolphin fairly robust to tournament oversampling
- LPS estimates of shark landings/releases and billfish releases more sensitive to oversampling
  - Results suggest a positive bias due to disproportionate sampling of tournaments in dockside LPIS.

# BFT



[ LCL LPS Estimate      ] UCL LPS Estimate      + 5% Downweighting  
 △ 15% Downweighting      \* 25% Downweighting      ● 50% Downweighting



Percent Change from LPS Landings Estimate

[ LCL LPS Estimate      ] UCL LPS Estimate      + 5% Downweighting  
 Δ 15% Downweighting      \* 25% Downweighting      ● 50% Downweighting



# Tournament Sampling Alternatives

1. Status quo
2. Modified survey approach
3. Tournament census
4. Hybrid census-survey





# Puerto Rico Recreational Private Boat HMS Fishery

- Phase 1: Characterize fishery
- Phase 2: Pilot study to improve catch estimates for marlin and other HMS (in progress)





# Puerto Rico Recommendations

- Improve accuracy/precision of **billfish landings** through pilot catch card program
- Improve accuracy/precision of **billfish release** and **tuna landings** through either:
  1. Specialized HMS survey or
  2. MRIP redesign of MRFSS combined with increased sample sizes





# HMS Characterization Survey S. Atlantic & Gulf of Mexico

- Phone survey of Angling & General Category permit holders (NC-TX, excluding FL)
- Over 5,000 interviewed (70%)
- 12-month recall (Sept. 07 - Aug. 08)





# Florida Private Angler HMS Phone Survey

- Survey randomly selected Angling category permit holders
- 10% (about 400 vessels) selected every two-weeks from May 08 - April 09
- Two week recall
- Annual estimates of catch and effort





## S. Atlantic & Gulf Recommendations

- Improve accuracy and precision of **YFT and SKJ landings** and **billfish and shark releases** through either:
  - MRIP redesign of MRFSS
  - Specialized HMS survey
- Elements of new survey
  - Address potential under-coverage biases:
    - 1) private access, 2) return times, 3) tournaments
  - Utilize list frame or multi-frame for effort  
(state licenses, federal registry, HMS permit)
  - Sufficient sample sizes for precise HMS estimates
  - Divide FL into smaller sub-regions for sampling





## S. Atlantic & Gulf Recommendations

- Improve accuracy and precision of **billfish/swordfish landings** through enforceable census program
  - Expand catch card programs
  - Modify mandatory phone/online reporting system
- If important to management, census program could be expanded to improve landings estimates of less common sharks/tunas





# S. Atlantic & Gulf Recommendations

## Increase outreach efforts

1. HMS permit requirements and differences between permit types
2. HMS reporting requirements with emphasis on why this is important to them
3. HMS tournament registration/reporting requirements





MRIP homepage: [www.countmyfish.noaa.gov](http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov)

HMS reports: [www.countmyfish.noaa.gov/projects/hms.html](http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov/projects/hms.html)

