

Science, Service, Stewardship



Recreational Fisheries Engagement Initiative Update Council Coordination Committee

January 10, 2011

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Agenda



- Background: Recreational Fisheries Engagement Initiative (RFEI)
- 2010 Year in Review
 - Overview of Regional Fishery Management Council Meetings
 - NOAA Fisheries Accomplishments
- 2011 Looking Forward
 - Recreational Fisheries Focus: Action Agenda
 - Barotrauma workshop
 - Marine Recreational Information Program
 - Allocation

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Background



Why embark on the RFEI?

- Acknowledgement of strained relationship
- Effort to better fulfill stewardship responsibilities through collaboration
- Key constituency representing/affecting jobs, cultural heritage, resource stewardship
 - 12 million saltwater anglers; ~85 million trips
 - Contributed ~\$82 billion to the national economy
 - Supported an estimated 384,000 jobs



Regional Fishery Management Council Meetings

- Interest in Rec. Fisheries Summit & Action Agenda
- Frequent queries/comments re:
 - Appreciation for NOAA Fisheries' attention to rec. issues
 - Need for improved catch, effort, socio-economic data
 - BP/DWH oil spill
 - Nat. Saltwater Angler Registry
 - Nat. Ocean Policy
 - Nat. Catch Shares Policy
 - Allocation
 - Commercial concerns re: recreational favoritism





2010 NOAA Fisheries Service Recreational Accomplishments

- MAFAC Recreational Fisheries Working Group
- Appointment of National Policy Advisor
- Rec. Fisheries Summit & Release of Action Agenda
- BP/Deepwater Horizon Disaster Outreach and Relief Appropriation
- National Ocean Policy
- Catch Shares Policy
- Marine Recreational Information Program
- Barotrauma Workshop Grant



NMFS Monofilament
Recovery & Recycling



2011 Recreational Fisheries Focus

Continued implementation of Recreational Action Agenda

- Improved recreational fishing opportunities
 - *e.g. Recreational Fisheries Barotrauma Workshop*
- Improved recreational catch and effort data
 - *e.g. Marine Recreational Information Program*
- Improved recreational social and economic data
 - *e.g. analysis of socio-economic data collection programs*
- Improved communication
 - *e.g. Engage recreational fishermen on CMSP dialogue*
- Institutional orientation
 - *e.g. Recreational fisheries module for new FMC members*
- Spring 2011 Action Agenda progress report



2011 Barotrauma Workshop

- Priority issue for Saltwater Recreational Summit participants
- NOAA Fisheries grant to Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
 - Project lead: FishSmart (Loftus/Radonski)
- Workshop and post-workshop outreach components
- 12 member steering committee* : academics, FMC members & staff, private sector; NGO, SeaGrant, NOAA Fisheries
- ~45-50 participants; March 2011



Barotrauma Project Goals

- *Identify gaps* in the current state of knowledge/areas in need of additional research
- *Identify best practices* for employment by anglers/consideration by regulatory agencies to increase the survival of angler-sought saltwater fishes
- *Develop messages* tailored / directed to anglers to encourage adoption
- *Provide guidance* to regulatory agencies/bodies to reduce the interaction and lethality of recreational interactions through the consideration of management action

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Marine Recreational Information Program



- National Saltwater Angler Registry
 - 2010 registry implemented
 - 2011 registry to be used to collect trip data
- 2011 Recreational Data Timeliness Workshop
- Re-estimation of MRFSS data to begin 2011
- Blue Ribbon Panel Recommendations on Recreational Fisheries Data Collection

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- Questions??
 - Comments??
 - Thank you



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Regions-at-a-glance

Region	Angler Trip & Durable Equipment Expenditures (\$'000s)	Economic Impacts of Recreational Fishing Expenditures (\$'000s)
Gulf of Mexico	\$12,544,820	\$3,075,710
Southeast Atlantic	\$7,479,816	\$265,600
Mid-Atlantic	\$4,161,460	\$328,723
Pacific	\$1,970,478	\$207,043
New England	\$1,838,632	\$81,191
Western Pacific	\$588,474	\$301,946
Alaska	\$388,944	\$254,950
Caribbean	N/A	N/A



Top Ten Recreational Species

Ranking	Species	Catch (# of Fish)
1	Drum: seatrouts	50,688,000
2	Drum: croaker & sandspot	46,588,000
3	Summer Flounder	24,519,000
4	Striped Bass	13,986,000
5	Sharks	5,488,000
6	Rockfish/Scorpion fish	2,307,000
7	Salmon	1,214,000
8	Small Tunas/Atlantic Bonito	1,027,000
9	Pacific Halibut	875,000
10	Large Tuna	791,000