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Saltwater Recreational Fisheries

New Council Training 2019



Saltwater Recreational Fisheries

Presentation Outline

Recreational Fisheries Overview

Rec Community Priorities

Our Role

The Modern Fish Act

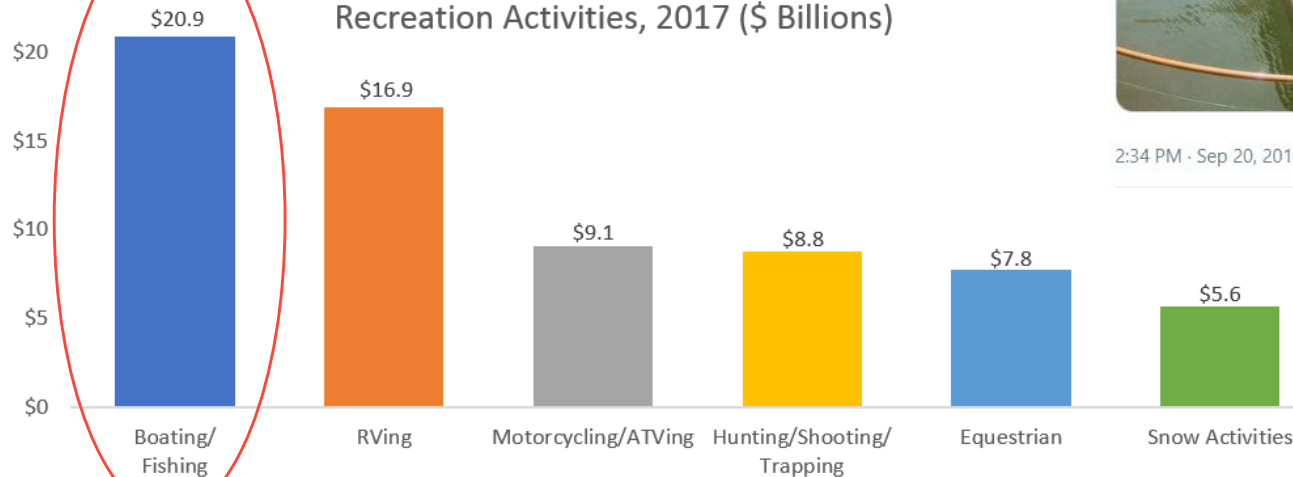


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Outdoor Recreation

- BEA, 2017
- \$427.2 billion
- 2.2% of US GDP
- \$20.9 billion – boating/fishing, largest activity

Nominal Value Added for Largest Conventional Outdoor Recreation Activities, 2017 (\$ Billions)



BEA News
@BEA_News

We're not telling fish stories! Boating/fishing really was the biggest conventional #OutdoorRecreation activity in the U.S. economy, accounting for \$20.9 billion of GDP in 2017. It was the leader in 29 state economies plus D.C. go.usa.gov/xVyyJ



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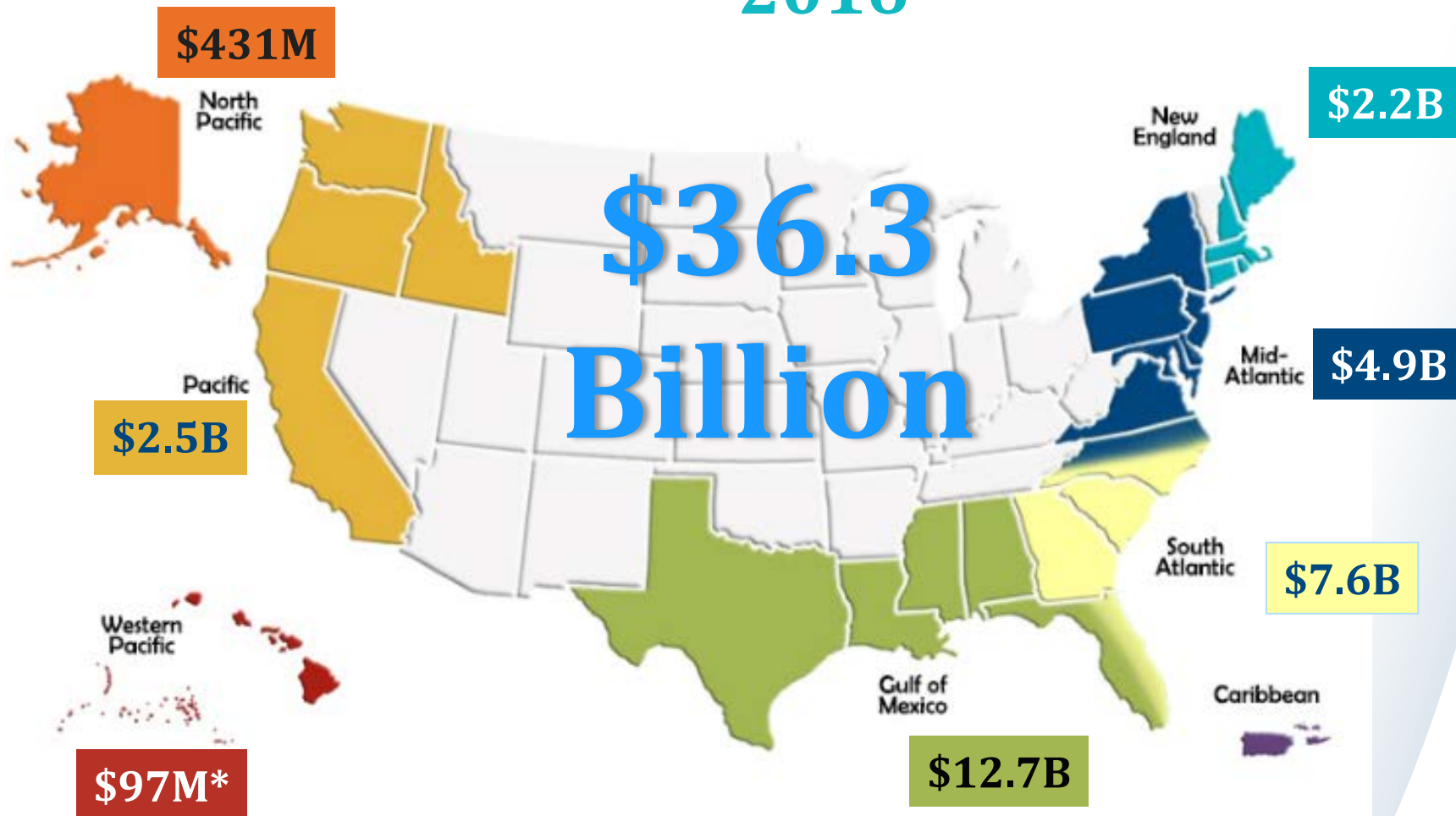
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US Saltwater Recreational Fisheries

- FEUS 2016
- **9.8 million** saltwater anglers
- **63 million** fishing trips
- **486,000** jobs
- **\$24B** income impacts



Marine Recreational Fisheries Expenditures 2016



New England



Mid-Atlantic



South Atlantic



Caribbean



Gulf of Mexico



Pacific



Western Pacific



North Pacific



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US Saltwater Recreational Fisheries

U.S. Recreational Fishing Trip and Durable Expenditures, 2016
(\$ billions)

**\$36.3
billion**

- Private anglers
- For-hire
- Bait and tackle
- Boat and motor
- Travel, hospitality, and service



Community Engagement

- NOAA Recreational Fisheries Initiative
- Recreational fishing coordinators in all regions
- Roundtable meetings, tradeshow, tournaments



Inappropriate Regs
Over Regulation
Regulatory Complexity
Climate Change
Working Waterfront
Expertise
Red Tape
Sustainability
Public Participation
Vision Pollution
Fairness
Catch Limits
Aging Participants
Education
Collaboration
Partnerships
Science Funding
Ecosystem Health
Representation
Crew Availability
Perpetuation
Demographics
Regulatory Uncertainty
Stewardship
Regulations
Inadequate Science
Societal Priorities
Hatchery
Open Access
Cooperation
Depleted Stocks
Communication
Youth Participation
Empathy
Data
Habitat
Opportunity
Trust
Compliance
Family Time
Sea Lions
Displaced Effort
Community Involvement
eNGOs
Democracy
Water Quality
Industry Fracture
Access



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Recreational Fishing Community Priorities

- Allocation/access
 - Data
 - Electronic reporting
 - Econ
- Conservation
 - Release mortality
 - Habitat
- Wind power



Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

Purpose

“...to promote domestic commercial and recreational fishing under sound conservation and management principles.”



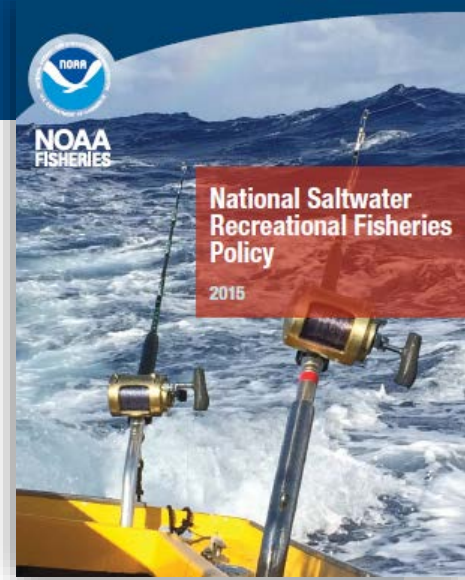
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NMFS Policy:

“...foster, support, and enhance a broadly accessible and diverse array of sustainable saltwater recreational fisheries for the benefit and enjoyment of the nation.”

Goals

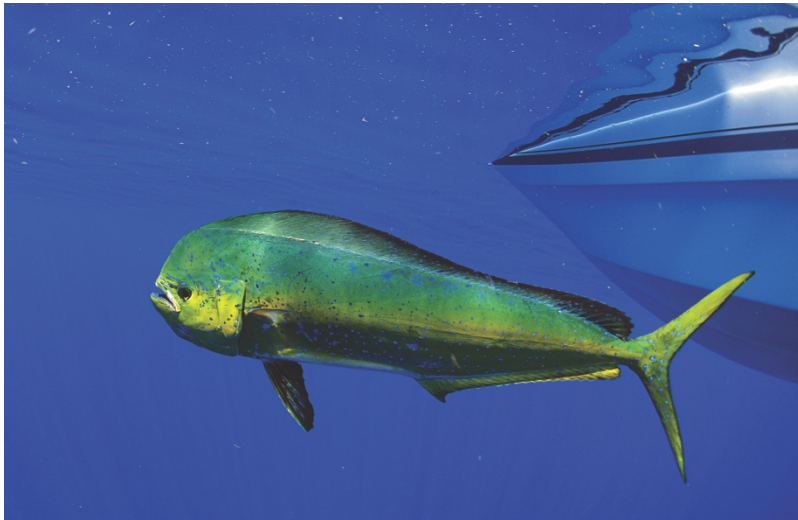
1. Support and maintain sustainable saltwater recreational fisheries resources, including habitats
2. Promote saltwater recreational fishing for the benefit of the nation
3. Enable enduring participation in saltwater recreational fishing through science-based conservation and management



Management Toolbox

Primary Tools

- **Quota allocation and annual catch limits**
- **Seasonal fishery openings/closures**
- **Area closures**
- **Possession limits** by species and/or species complex
- **Size limits** by species



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Management Toolbox

Additional Tools

Gear restrictions

- **Gear prohibitions** (*e.g., nets, fish traps, etc.*)
- **Gear requirements** (*e.g., circle hooks, release gears*)

Practices

- **Prohibition of removal** from the water
- **Manner of release** that maximizes probability of survival (*e.g., descending devices*)
- **Landing condition** to facilitate species identification (*e.g., heads/tails intact*)
- **Restrictions on sale/purchase**

Modern Fish Act

(Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Act of 2018)

S. 1520

One Hundred Fifteenth Congress
of the
United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Wednesday,
the third day of January, two thousand and eighteen*

An Act

To expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REFERENCES.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2018”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

[Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references.](#)

[Sec. 2. Findings.](#)

[Sec. 3. Definitions.](#)

TITLE I—CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

[Sec. 101. Process for allocation review for South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico mixed-use fisheries.](#)

[Sec. 102. Fishery management measures.](#)

[Sec. 103. Study of limited access privilege programs for mixed-use fisheries.](#)

TITLE II—RECREATION FISHERY INFORMATION, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT

[Sec. 201. Cooperative data collection.](#)

[Sec. 202. Research and development.](#)



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Modern Fish Act - Overview

- **Purpose:** *“to expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes”*
 - Numerous reports, studies, and guidance
 - Management measures for recreational fisheries, reaffirms Annual Catch Limit requirements
 - Recreational registry and data collection programs



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Modern Fish Act Sections

Title I

- **Section 101** – Study of allocations in mixed use fisheries
- **Section 102** – Fishery management measures
- **Section 103** – Study of limited access privilege programs for mixed-use fisheries



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Modern Fish Act Sections

Title II

- **Section 201** – Cooperative (Fed, state, non-gov) data collection
- **Section 202** – MRIP implementation of NAS 2017, state data partnerships



Summary: Recreational Fisheries

- **9.8 million** direct participants
- Extensive **economic impacts**
- **Stakeholders** in many industries
- **Priorities:** allocation, data, conservation
- **MSA** management requirement
- Wide array of **tools available** for managers
- Modern Fish Act



Recreational Coordinators

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Questions?



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Sec 2 - Findings

Adds Finding to the Magnuson-Stevens Act:

“While both provide significant cultural and economic benefits to the Nation, recreational fishing and commercial fishing are different activities. Therefore, science-based conservation and management approaches should be adapted to the characteristics of each sector.”



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Sec 101 – Mixed-Use Fisheries Allocation Report

- **Government Accountability Office (GAO) Report to Congress on allocation of fishing privileges in mixed-use fisheries in **South Atlantic** and **Gulf of Mexico Councils**.** Report to include:
 - recommendations on allocation criteria
 - sources of information to support use of such criteria
 - assessment of budget requirements for allocation reviews
 - recommendations of procedures for allocation reviews and adjustments
- GAO required to consult with stakeholders. NOAA Fisheries to provide information to GAO upon request.

Sec 102 – Fishery Management Measures

Councils must comply with existing MSA provisions:

- Annual Catch Limits, National Standards, Accountability Measures, Rebuilding Requirements, etc.

Councils have the authority to:

*Use fishery management measures in a recreational fishery (or the recreational component of a mixed-use fishery)...such as **extraction rates, fishing mortality targets, harvest control rules, or traditional or cultural practices of native communities** in such fishery or fishery component.*



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Sec 103 – Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs)

- **National Academy of Sciences** study on LAPPs in mixed-use fisheries (except PFMC and NPFMC) to include:
 - Assessment of progress meeting program goals
 - Assessment of economic, social, and ecological effects and impacts on stakeholders
 - Recommendations of policies to address these stakeholder impacts and factors to consider when designing and maintaining LAPPs to mitigate impacts
 - Review of best practices and challenges in design and implementation of LAPPs (in all 8 Councils)
- **NOAA** must submit a Report to Congress on study.



Sec 201 – Cooperative Data Collection

- **Report to Congress:** Facilitating greater incorporation of data from [State agencies and non-governmental sources](#) into fishery management decisions. In consultation with **Council SSCs and Commissions.**



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Sec 202 – Recreational Data Collection

- **State Partnerships/Guidance:** NOAA must establish state partnerships and develop best practices and guidance for implementing state recreational registry and data collection programs.
- **Biennial Report to Congress:** Accuracy of information collected through state registries/data collection, how state registries/data collection are used, and priorities for improving recreational fishing data collection.
- **State Grant Program:** Authorizes, but doesn't require, grants to states to improve state registries and data collection programs.
- **NAS Study & Report to Congress:** NAS study on using MRIP for in-season management and subsequent report to Congress recommending changes to MRIP and management to address the NAS report recommendations.



Sec 301 – Rule of Construction

- Nothing in the Act changes existing MSA requirements related to overfishing, including:
 - 301(a) – National Standards
 - 302(h)(6) – Annual Catch Limits
 - 303(a)(15) – Accountability Measures
 - 304(e) – Rebuilding requirements

Summary - Modern Fish Act

- Numerous reports, studies, and activities in cooperation with the GAO, NAS, Councils, Commissions, and other stakeholders.
 - **Allocation** in South Atlantic & Gulf of Mexico
 - LAPPs
 - **Cooperative data collection** – non-governmental data sources
 - **State recreational data collection**
 - MRIP for **in-season management**
- Highlights a variety of **management measures** for recreational fisheries
- **Reaffirms existing Magnuson requirements** related to overfishing



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