

Science, Service, Stewardship



Research & Monitoring Activities

Atlantic HMS Management Division

**NOAA
FISHERIES
SERVICE**

NOAA



Overview

- Research
 - Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs)/Scientific Research Permits (SRPs)
- Surveys & Monitoring
- HMS Research Plan



Research Activities Conducted Under HMS SRPs and EFPs (through March 2014)

Species	Permit	Number	Research
HMS	SRP, EFP	3	Green-stick gear catch composition; tagging and sampling of pelagic sharks and swordfish
Tuna	EFP	1	PSAT tagging BFT
Sharks	EFP, SRP, LOA	10	Migration research and post-release mortality research; migration research on white and pelagic sharks; sampling prohibited shark species landed in tournaments; many shark tagging study; shrimp trawl bycatch; Gulf Of Mexico population surveys.

- Several SRP/EFP/LOA requests are still under review by the HMS Management Division



Other HMS Monitoring Programs

- Commercial
 - Pelagic Observer Program (SEFSC)
 - Shark Bottom Longline Observer Program (SEFSC)
 - Shark Gillnet Observer Program (SEFSC)
 - Shark Research Fishery (SEFSC)
 - Logbook Reporting Requirements (HMS Logbook) (SEFSC)
 - Mandatory if selected; Authorized but not implemented for CHB
 - Dealer Reports (HMS Mgmt Div)
- Recreational
 - Recreational Billfish Survey (SEFSC)
 - Non-tournament billfish/swordfish call-in (HMS Mgmt Div)
 - Automated Landings Reporting System (HMS Mgmt Div)
 - MD & NC tagging programs – sharks added 2013 (Science & Technology)
 - HMS angler, charter/headboat economic studies (HMS Mgmt Div and S&T)
 - LPS/MRIP Pilot Projects (Science & Technology)



HMS Recreational Fishing Economic Studies

- Charter/Headboat Cost and Earnings Logbook Study
 - Collected data on 536 HMS CHB trips in 2013
 - Identified target species, trip location, costs, & revenue
 - Average trip - 12 hours, fare \$2,062, costs \$1,884
 - Working to develop cost-earnings model
- Private HMS Angler Expenditure Survey (ME-NC)
 - Survey of trip and durable goods expenditures in 2011
 - Atlantic HMS anglers spent \$217 million generating total output of \$353 million and supporting ~ 2,400 jobs



Marine Recreational Information Program

- Puerto Rico HMS Catch Card Pilot. *Status:* Final report completed 2012
- Puerto Rico HMS Permit Holder Pilot Survey. *Status:* Final report anticipated June 2014
- Massachusetts Recreational Bluefin Tuna Landings Census Pilot. *Status:* Final report completed 2013
- Large Pelagics Telephone Survey Non-response Study. *Status:* Final report anticipated September 2014
- Large Pelagics Survey Estimation and Design Project. *Status:* Underway April 2013 and ongoing
- Office of Science & Technology lead (Dr. Ron Salz POC)



HMS Research Priorities

- We continue to discuss internally the best way to prioritize and fund HMS research priorities, including ways to incorporate external input and respond to IAC/HMS AP concerns
 - Briefed NMFS leadership to elevate HMS research needs
 - NMFS leadership created an internal working group to review funding processes & priorities, including representation from HMS Management Division, Southeast & Northeast Fisheries Science Centers, & the Office of Science & Technology
- One outcome was FY13 and FY14 funding for the VIMS Shark Longline Survey, the longest time series for Atlantic sharks
- Currently developing HMS Management Division Research Priorities with public input this summer



Discussion

Thank you for your attention

Questions?

Comments?

Concerns?