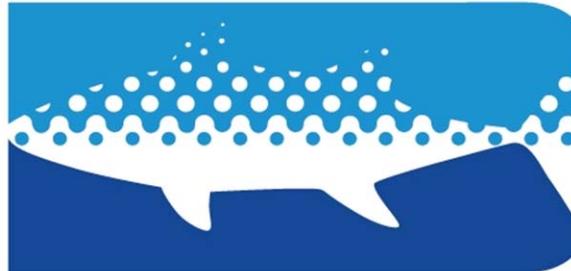




Improving Recreational Fisheries Information

MARINE
RECREATIONAL
INFORMATION
PROGRAM

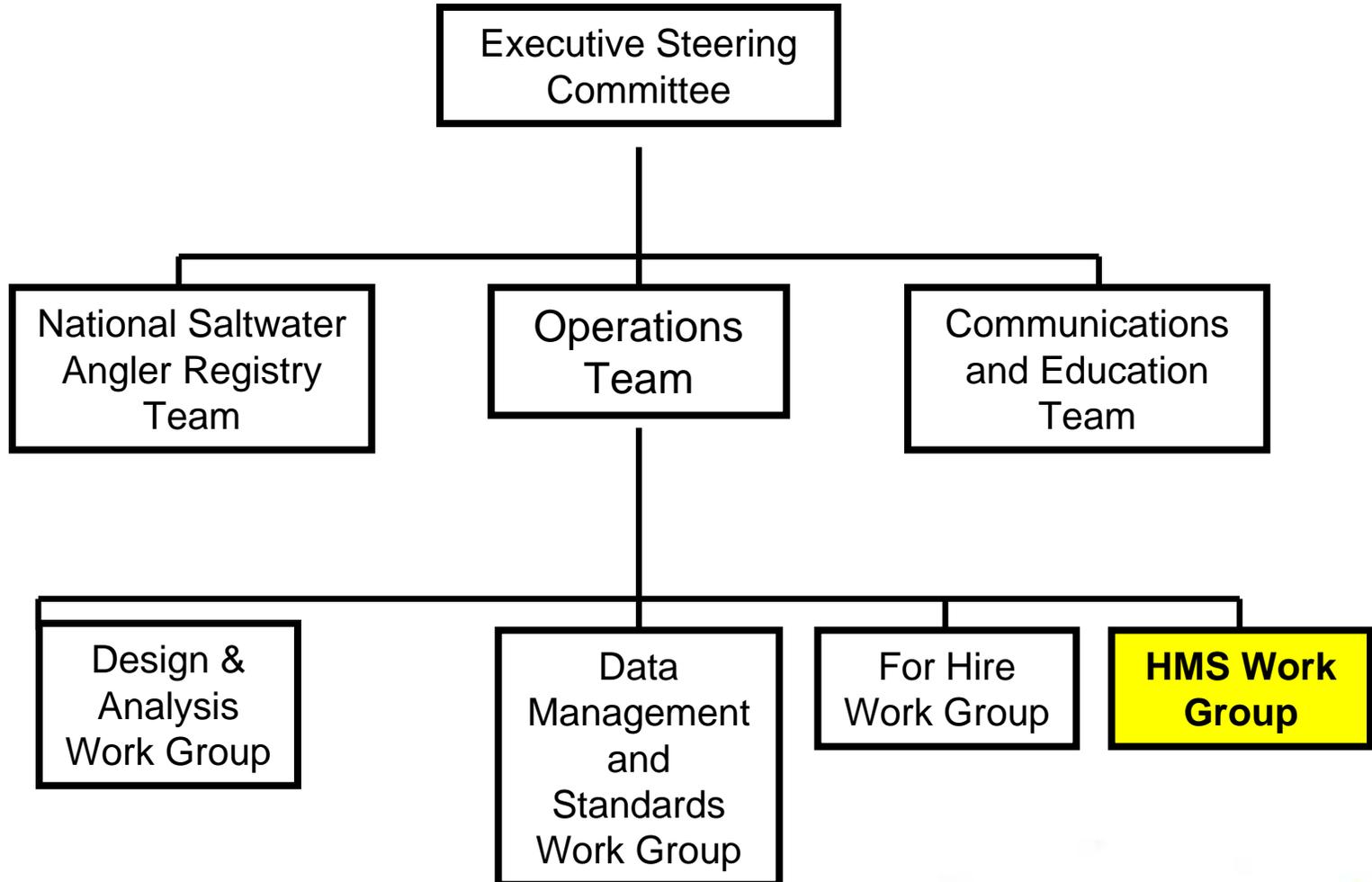


YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR FISHING DATA

Presented by Ron Salz
HMS AP Meeting
October 2, 2008 Silver Spring, MD



MRIP Initiative Structure





HMS Work Group FY08 Projects

- **Explore options for sampling HMS tournaments**
- **Characterize HMS recreational fisheries in the S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.**
- **Florida Private Angler HMS Phone Survey**
- **Florida For-Hire HMS Pilot Survey**
- **Non-Tournament HMS Landings Reporting for Puerto Rico Private Boats**





HMS Tournament Sampling

- **Attempt census of registered HMS tournament operators ME-VA**
 - 31 non-billfish (MRIP or Massachusetts DMR)
 - 32 billfish (RBS)
- **Subsampled 6 tournaments for dockside interviews of captains**
- **Next Steps:**
 - Enter data (Oct. 15)
 - Analyze data and compare with LPS (Nov. 15)
 - Final report with recommendations (Jan. 1)





HMS Characterization Survey S. Atlantic & Gulf of Mexico

- Phone survey questions include: HMS avidity, months, access sites, times, targets, tournaments, catch
- All Angling & General Category permit holders (NC-TX, excluding FL)
 - Texas also Charter/headboat permit holders
- SRG attempted to contact over 7,000 permit holders in September





HMS Characterization Survey

Sample sizes and completion rates

	Total sample	Total vessels completed	Completion rate
Alabama	561	372	66.31
Georgia	137	101	73.72
Louisiana	848	543	64.03
Mississippi	234	165	70.51
North Carolina	3177	2293	72.18
South Carolina	1305	903	69.20
Texas	1063	716	67.36
	7325	5093	69.53





Florida HMS Pilot Surveys

- **HMS Angling category phone survey**
 - **Entire state**
 - **About 5,000 permit holders**
 - **Two week reporting periods**
 - **5% of vessels contacted**



Preliminary Phone Data: Florida HMS Angling Category

Weeks	Completed interviews	HMS Trips	Estimated HMS Trips	Trips Targeting Swordfish	Swordfish Kept /released
7/07-7/20	242	59	1,178	18 (31%)	1 / 1
7/21-8/03	261	60	1,111	13 (22%)	3 / 3
8/04-8/17	244	51	1,010	13 (25%)	0 / 1
8/18-8/31	263	37	680	12 (32%)	0 / 0
9/1-9/14	281	30	555	10 (33%)	0 / 2



Florida HMS Pilot Surveys

- HMS Angling category phone survey
 - Two week reporting periods
 - 5% of vessels contacted (about 5,000 on frame)
- **For-hire HMS phone survey**
 - Southeast FL and Keys
 - One week reporting period
 - 10% drawn every week



Preliminary Phone Data: Florida HMS For-Hire Vessels

Month	Completed interviews with HMS Vessels	Trips Targeting Swordfish	Swordfish Kept /released
May	278	2	0 / 0
June	237	6	3 / 0
July	213	2	0 / 0
August	137	1	0 / 0

* 336 Florida HMS For-Hire Vessels on Sample Frame (S. East & Keys)



Florida HMS Pilot Surveys

- HMS Angling category phone survey
 - Two week reporting periods
 - 5% of vessels contacted (about 5,000 on frame)
- For-hire phone survey
 - One week reporting period
 - 10% drawn every week
- **For-hire dockside survey**
 - **Southeast FL & Keys**
 - **10 assignments drawn per week (2 night, 8 day)**
 - **253 HMS interviewed trips (Apr 30 - Sep. 14)**
 - **Very little night fishing activity**





Florida HMS For-hire Dockside Survey Preliminary Data Summary

HMS Spp Group	HMS Target - No Catch	HMS Target w/ Catch	HMS Bycatch	Total
Sailfish	50	30	14	94
Billfish	22	0	1	23
Swordfish	4	1	0	5
Shark	27	18	25	70
Tuna	14	5	30	49
Sailfish/Tuna	0	3	0	3
Sailfish/Shark	1	1	2	4





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