

Recreational Fisheries

A Priority in Motion at NOAA



Russ Dunn, National Policy Advisor on Recreational Fisheries
New Council Member Training • Silver Spring, November 2016

Discussion Outline

- Community Description & Perspective
- Recreational Fisheries Management Tools
- National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy & Regional Implementation Plans
- Marine Recreational Information Program

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

Purpose

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

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES AND COMMUNITY

Recreational Fishing Community and Constituency



Saltwater Recreational Fishing is BIG Business

U.S. Recreational Fisheries Economic Impact Trends, 2014

≈\$61 Billion

**439,000
Jobs**

Jobs	
2014	439,000
2013	420,000
2012	425,000
2011	364,000

Income (BILLIONS)	
2014	\$22.0
2013	\$21.1
2012	\$21.4
2011	\$18.2

Sales (BILLIONS)	
2014	\$60.6
2013	\$58.1
2012	\$58.8
2011	\$55.8

Value Added (BILLIONS)	
2014	\$35.5
2013	\$34.0
2012	\$34.4
2011	\$29.1

**68 Million
Trips**

Total Trips (MILLIONS)	
2014	68.0
2013	71.9
2012	72.0
2011	71.3



NOAA FISHERIES

TOOLS FOR MANAGING RECREATIONAL FISHERIES

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



Management Toolbox (continued)

Secondary Tools

Gear restrictions

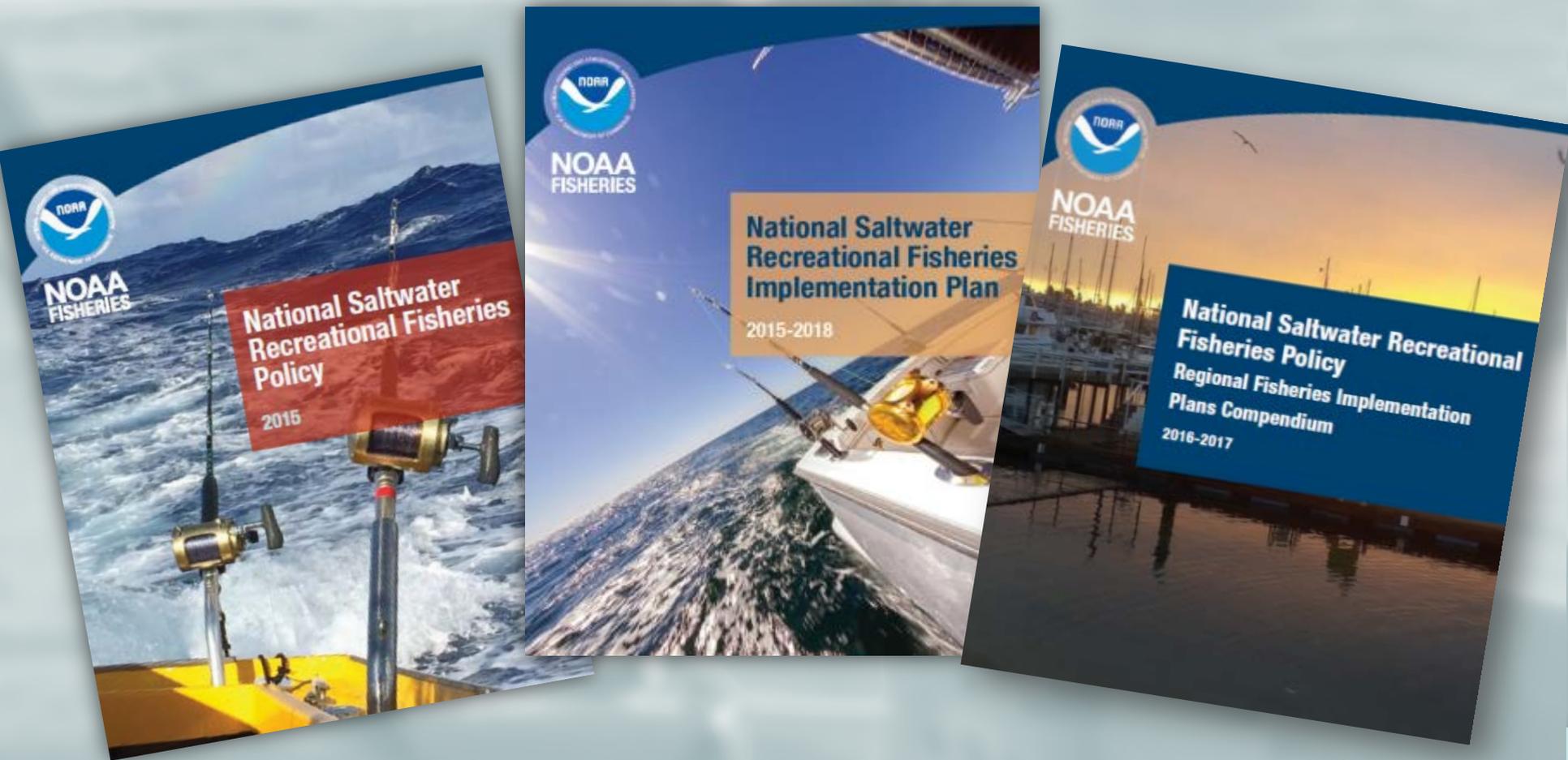
- Gear prohibitions (e.g., nets, fish traps, etc.)
- Gear requirements (e.g., circle hooks, release gears)

Tertiary Tools

Practices

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

Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy & National & Regional Implementation Plans

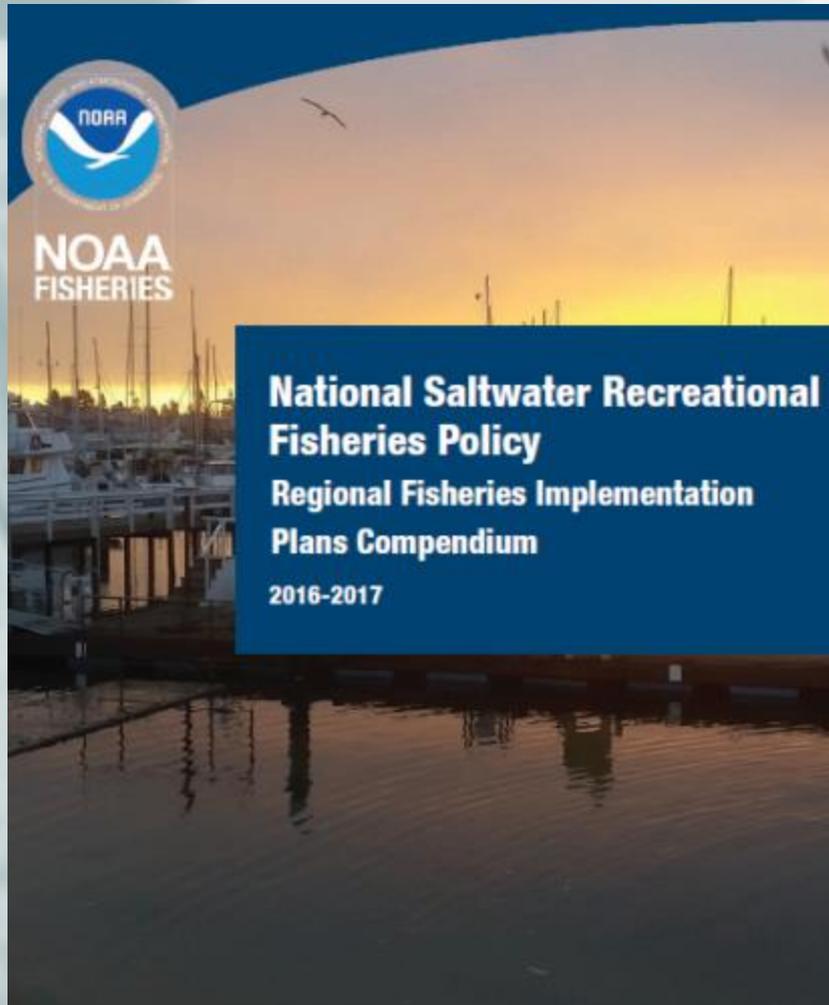


It is the policy of NMFS to:

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

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

Recreational Fisheries Policy Regional Implementation Plans



- Support NOAA Fisheries Core Mission and Recreational Fisheries Policy
- Developed in consultation with recreational community, councils, and other management partners
- Region specific tangible commitments
- All five NOAA Fisheries Regions and Atlantic HMS Management Division
- 2 year time-frame
- <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov>

Region	Selected Objective
Pacific Islands	Improve understanding of community concerns, attitudes, and socio-economic impacts regarding the loss of fishing access and opportunities.
Alaska	Improve agency awareness of recreational fishing issues and projects in Alaska and share knowledge with partnering agencies and management bodies.
West Coast	Strengthen existing partnership with state Fish and Wildlife Agencies and other state resource agencies to collect needed data for conservation and management of west coast co-managed species.
Greater Atlantic	Collaborate on the development of critical science priorities and data to improve stock assessments/ inform fisheries management.
Atlantic Highly Migratory Species	Explore ways to bolster compliance, education, and outreach on Atlantic HMS issues.
Southeast	Engage recreational anglers to enhance understanding of the fishery management process and empower stakeholders to contribute to the process.

Implementation Plan Commitments

Plan Area	# Commitments	Duration
National	69	2015 – 2018
Pacific Islands	35	2016 - 2017
Alaska	26	2016 – 2017
West Coast	44	2016 – 2017
Greater Atlantic	44	2016 – 2017
Atlantic Highly Migratory Species	30	2016 – 2017
Southeast	44	2016 – 2017
Total	292	



RECREATIONAL DATA

The Marine Recreational Information Program

The improved way of collecting and reporting recreational fishing catch and effort data.



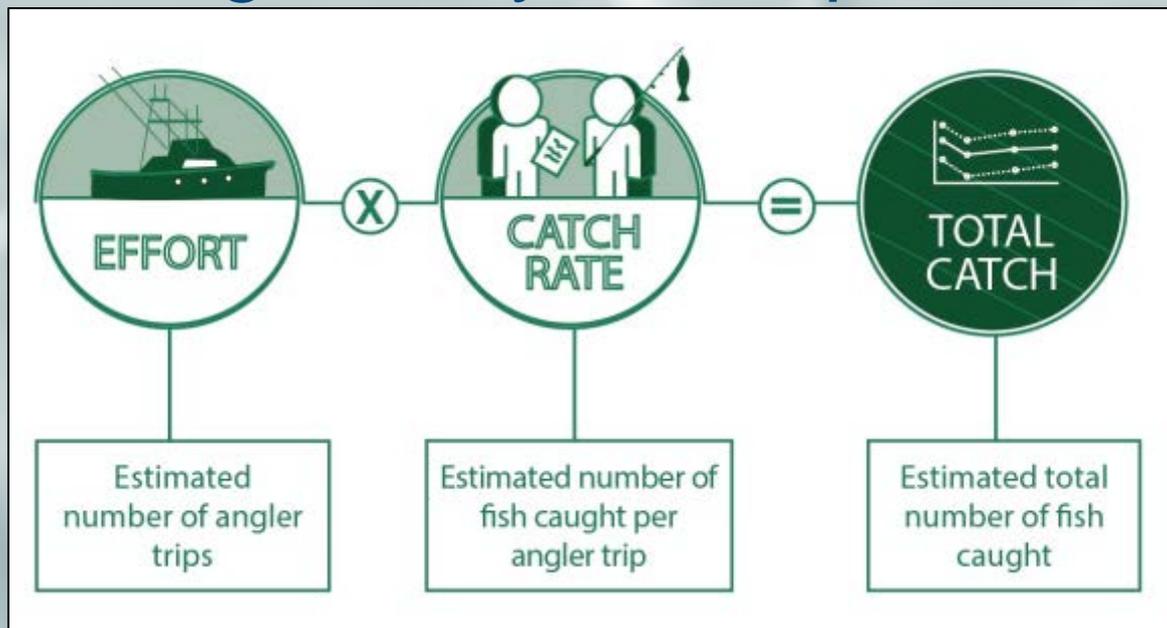
MRIP plays a critical role in sustainably managing our ocean resources by providing estimates of fishing activity that are both **accurate** and **trusted**.

Find out how at www.CountMyFish.noaa.gov.

Recreational Data

Catch & Effort

Most recreational catch data is estimated from data collected by surveys that sample fishing activity in two phases:



Detailed descriptions of survey methods and catch estimates can be found at:
www.CountMyFish.noaa.gov

Recreational Data

Socio-economics

Data for decision-making

- Nationwide Angler Expenditure Survey 2016-2017
- Atlantic HMS Tournament Economic Survey



More information and to learn about economic resources you can use, check us out online at:
www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st5

National Team

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Regional Recreational Fisheries Coordinators

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Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

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NOAA Fisheries Rec Fish Initiative Contact Information

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/
recreational/get_connected.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/recreational/get_connected.html)

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Questions ?

OUR WEBSITE:

[HTTP://WWW.NMFS.NOAA.GOV/SFA/
MANAGEMENT/RECREATIONAL/](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/recreational/)

Guiding Principles

1. Support ecosystem conservation and enhancement
 - Restoration, conservation, enhancement of habitat
2. Promote public access to quality recreational fishing opportunities
 - Expand fishing opportunities based on conservation gains
3. Coordinate with state and federal management entities
 - Aligning program goals and implementation strategies

Guiding Principles

4. Advance innovative solutions to evolving science, management, and environmental challenges
 - Cutting edge tools
5. Provide scientifically sound and trusted social, cultural, economic, and ecological information
 - Partnering with external interests; engaging in cooperative research
6. Communicate and engage with the recreational fishing public
 - Expanded regional engagement