



NOAA
FISHERIES

Recreational
Fisheries
Initiative

Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Summit 2018

Council Coordination Committee Meeting

May 24th 2018

Russ Dunn

2018 National Saltwater Rec. Fish Summit

NMFS - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (March 2018)

Theme: Improving Opportunity and Stability in
Recreational Fisheries

Objective: Identify a discrete suite of challenges
where tangible progress can be made
through collaboration

Discussion Topics

- Innovative Management Alternatives and Approaches
- Socio-Economics in Recreational Fisheries Management
- Angler Engagement in Collaborative Data Collection and Reporting
- Expanding Recreational Fishing Opportunity through Conservation

General Takeaways

- Sustained engagement with rec. community has improved relations
- Remaining challenges are complex & difficult to address
- On the water improvements are needed
- Collaboration, transparency, & understanding are desired

Innovative Management

- Substantial enthusiasm for finding appropriate fisheries to pilot novel/innovative management
- Recognition that many innovative approaches are possible under existing law
- Fishermen, councils, and NOAA need to collaborate to move innovative management forward.
- Acceptance of an iterative approach

Socio-Economics

- *Perspective: better data, more analyses, and greater consideration in management will improve rec. opportunity*
- Push to provide the Councils with “needed socio-economic information”
- Public input into the NMFS Socioeconomic strategic plan is desired

Data Collection and Reporting

- *Perspective: more, better, and more timely catch/effort data will lead to more fishing opportunity*
- Data was a central discussion point raised by constituents in every session—catch, effort, socioeconomic.
- Recreational electronic catch & effort reporting seen inevitable, but challenges were recognized
- Strong desire to advance ER with private angler ER pilot program(s) outside the Gulf

Conservation

- Reducing recreational discard mortality remains a priority
- Innovative gears have a roll to play to improve rec. fish conservation and fishing opportunity
- Foster additional habitat and forage fish conservation

Engagement and Building Trust

Increased engagement & communication is needed to build additional trust. Suggested actions included:

- Greater participation / transparency in priority setting & planning
- More collaborative research and greater involvement in research design
- Enhance fishing opportunity
- Improve angler confidence in data
- Expand understanding of the science and management process (MREP)

Discussion Items

- What were the FMCs' key Summit takeaways, including on potential collaborative activities?
- How can NMFS more effectively engage the Councils and recreational community?

Areas for additional FMC – NMFS dialogue

- Alternative/Innovative management pilot project
- Socioeconomic data/information needs
- Council role in ensuring ER data compatibility
- Angler engagement

Questions?