National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Initiative
Agenda

➢ National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Initiative

➢ National Policy and Implementation Plan

➢ Recent collaboration with ONMS

➢ On the Horizon
## Saltwater Recreational Fishing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Nationally</th>
<th>FL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saltwater Anglers</td>
<td>11 million</td>
<td>1.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>72 million</td>
<td>9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>$25 billion</td>
<td>$4.4 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Impacts</td>
<td>$52 billion</td>
<td>$3.9 billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOAA’s Recreational Fisheries Initiative

Establish and maintain a strong and trusting partnership with the recreational fishing community through action

- Change NOAA Fisheries’ approach to recreational fisheries
- Engage the recreational fishing community
RecFish Initiative

Change NOAA Fisheries approach to recreational fisheries

- National Policy Advisor for Recreational Fisheries
- Regional Recreational Coordinators
- National and Regional Recreational Action Agendas
- National Policy & Implementation Plan
- Example of success: Saltonstall-Kennedy Grants
RecFish Initiative

Engage the saltwater recreational fishing community

- 2 National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Summits
- Regional listening sessions
- National Angler Attitudes and Perspectives Survey
- National and regional barotrauma and release mortality workshops
Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy & Implementation Plan
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.”

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
Support ecosystem conservation and enhancement

- Advance adoption of release survival techniques and best practices
- Enhance public education & support partnerships, including angler-based control efforts, to address invasive species

Promote public access to quality recreational fishing opportunities

- Support review of harvest allocations on a regular basis, including issuance of guidance developed w/CCC
- Collaborate w/Office of National Marine Sanctuaries to ID and highlight recreational fishing opportunities
Coordinate with state and federal management entities

- Undertake joint state-federal angler education projects to improve understanding of fisheries regulations
- Establish regular dialogue with U.S.F.W.S. to ID mutual priorities and partnership opportunities

Advance innovative solutions to evolving science, management, and environmental challenges

- Develop & implement a Bio-economic Length Structured Angler Simulation Tool (BLAST) to assess effects of management actions
- Conduct acoustic tagging and telemetry studies to better understand commonly targeted recreational species
Implementation Plan

Provide scientifically sound and trusted social, cultural, economic, and ecological information

- Initiate National Research Council review of MRIP
- Develop a national strategic plan to guide socio-economic research on recreational fisheries

Communicate and engage with the recreational fishing public

- Work with stakeholder groups to host roundtable discussions
- Maintain open lines of communications and “no surprises” approach
Collaboration with ONMS

- National Policy & Implementation Plan
  - Enhance public education / angler awareness re: invasive species
  - Identify and highlight recreational fishing opportunities
  - Acoustic and tagging studies re: site fidelity, habitat use
  - Improve angler participation in sanctuary management processes and data collection

- Regional Recreational Fisheries Coordinator Meeting

- Constituent Communications (e.g. SAC nomination process, joint meetings)

- Discussions re: meeting of SAC recreational fishing representatives (2016)
On the Horizon

- Regional implementation plans (early 2016)
  - In development

- Artificial Reef Workshop (mid - 2016)
  - ASMFC – NMFS

- Detailed Status update (2017)
Questions?
Comments?
Thank you
Russell.Dunn@noaa.gov