



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

Recreational  
Fisheries

# Saltwater Recreational Fisheries

A Priority In Motion



Photo courtesy of NOAA ONMS

# Discussion Outline

- **Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Overview**
- **National Summit**
- **Regional Issues**

**WHAT PROPORTION OF GDP  
DID OUTDOOR RECREATION  
REPRESENT IN 2016?**

# HOW BIG IS OUTDOOR REC?

**\$412** billion of U.S. GDP in 2016

→ or **2.2%** of the economy



**\$38.2 billion**  
*Boating/Fishing*



**\$30.8 billion**  
*RVing*



**\$19.5 billion**  
*Motorcycling/ATVing*

- Outdoor recreation GDP measures the value of production within the United States.
- Activities are measured by gross output, essentially sales or receipts.



[www.bea.gov/data/special-topics/outdoor-recreation](http://www.bea.gov/data/special-topics/outdoor-recreation)  
Statistics released in September 2018



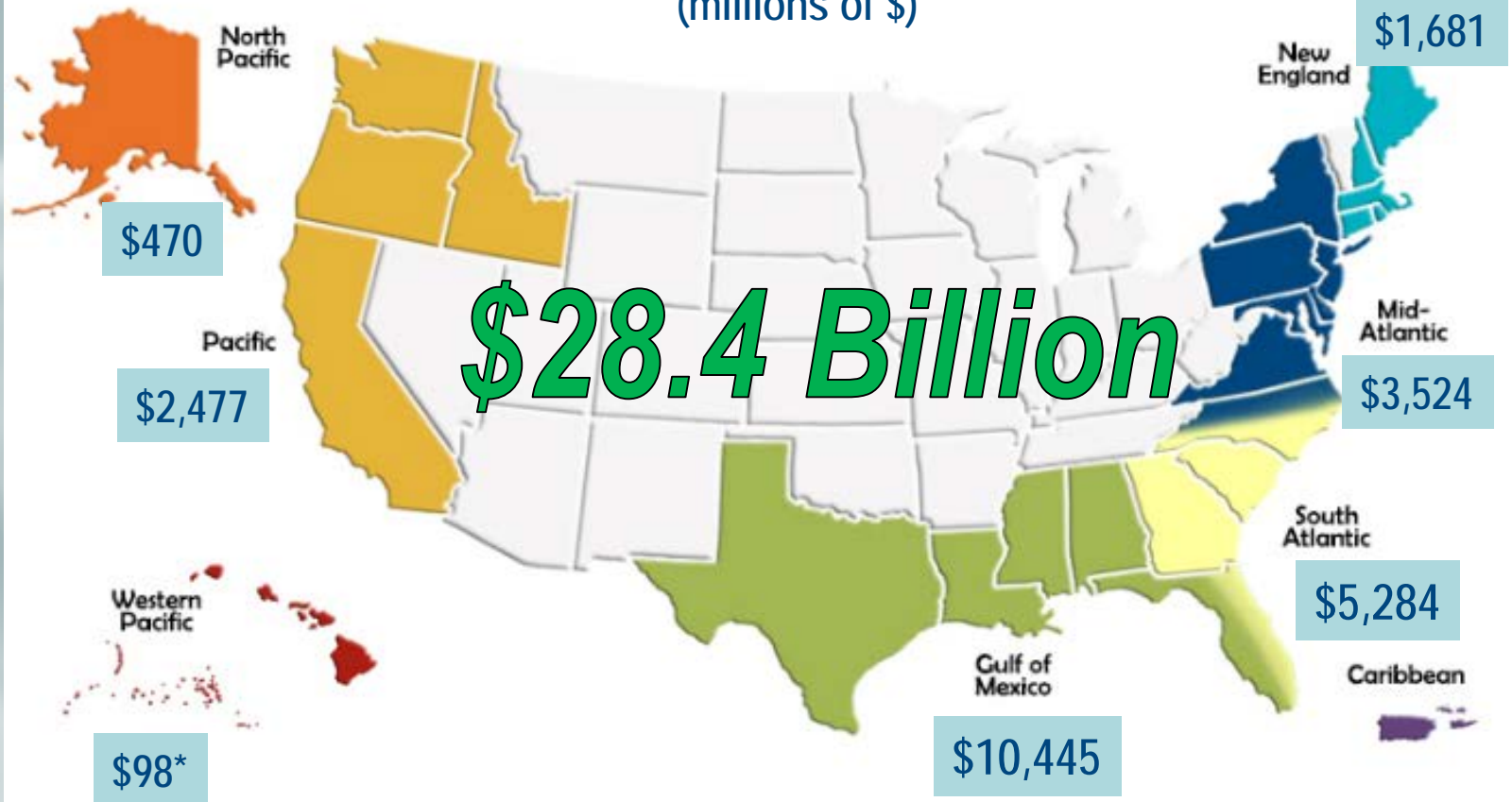
NOAA FISHERIES

# HOW MUCH WAS SPENT ON SALTWATER RECREATIONAL FISHING TRIPS AND DURABLE GOODS IN 2015?



# Marine Recreational Fisheries Expenditures 2015: Trips and Durable Goods

(millions of \$)



New England



Mid-Atlantic



South Atlantic



Caribbean



Gulf of Mexico



Pacific



Western Pacific



North Pacific



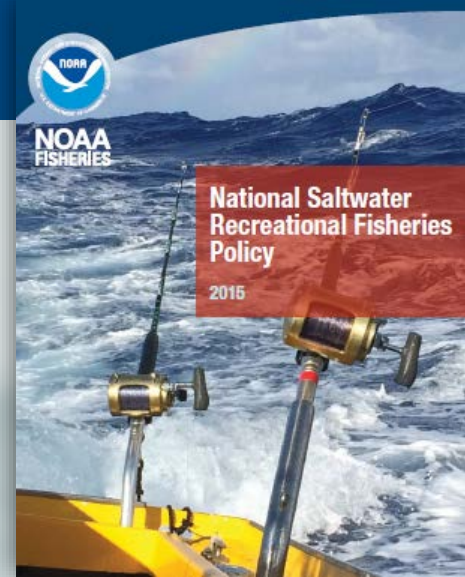
# Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

## *Purpose*

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

# NMFS Policy:

*“...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



# 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

According to anglers, what are the top three concerns for the future of recreational fishing?





# Key Concerns

## Alaska

- Halibut allocation
- Representation in the management process
- Communication challenges

**Long-term concern:** Habitat destruction/degradation

## West Coast

- Sanctuaries and monuments
- Access and availability
- Communication challenges

**Long-term concern:** Access; fishery demographics





# Key Concerns

## Southeast

- Frustration, process exhaustion
- Data
- Access and species availability

**Long-term concern:** Loss of access/opportunity

## Greater Atlantic

- Data
- Regulatory stability
- Access/opportunity

**Long-term concern:** Regulation & loss of access



# Key Concerns

## Pacific Islands

- Communications
- Inclusion and partnership
- Challenges of geographic scale

**Long-term concern:** Lack of young participants



## Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

- Post-release mortality
- Reporting compliance

**Long-term concern:** Accuracy of stock assessments

THANK YOU!!

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<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/recreational>

# BACK-UP SLIDES

# 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