



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Office of the
Assistant
Administrator

National Recreational Saltwater Fisheries Policy

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

June 9, 2014

The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of various fishing lures and fishing line. In the foreground, several colorful lures with long, flowing skirts in shades of pink, orange, yellow, and blue are visible. Behind them, there are large coils of clear and blue fishing line, some secured with black ties. The overall scene is brightly lit, highlighting the textures and colors of the fishing gear.

AGENDA

- Summit Overview
- National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy



SUMMIT VIDEO

Summit Agenda

1. Angler Satisfaction: Management & Policy Considerations
2. Healthy Recreational Fisheries
3. Science & Data
4. Successful Relationships
5. Regional Engagement

Discussion Highlights

Identified challenges

- Predictability and consistency
- Need for new management approaches
- Inadequate tools and resources re data collection
- Habitat loss
- Post-release survival
- Commercial orientation of decision-makers
- Communication
- Decentralized and diverse constituency
- Lack of angler involvement
- State/Federal coordination



Discussion Highlights

What are some potential solutions?

- Create a national marine recreational fishing policy
- Use social and economic data to inform allocation decisions
- Enhance angler coordination and collaboration w/NOAA re: regulatory and scientific activity
- More consistent communication
- Up-to-date technology for catch accounting
- Manage to protect the forage base
- Require governors to nominate at least one recreational representative for council seats



Outcomes and Next Steps

Delivering on Summit commitments

National Policy

Finalize and distribute Summit report

Formulation of National Action Agenda



Recreational Fisheries Policy

- Provide long-term Agency guidance
- Institutionalize commitment to healthy recreational fisheries
- Platform for a common understanding of agency perspectives.



Building the **POLICY**

Public
Comment

MAFAC
White Paper

**Regional
Roundtables**

**Town
Halls**

**Recreational Saltwater
Fishing Summit**

**Morris-Deal
Commission
Report**

Possible goals for the

POLICY

1. Foster and enhance sustainable, healthy, and diverse recreational/non-commercial fisheries and public access to them.
2. Integrate saltwater recreational/non-commercial considerations throughout NOAA and the federal fisheries management system.

Possible goals for the

POLICY

3. Encourage partnership, engagement, and innovation.
4. Enhance transparency, follow-through, and long-term continuity of action.

Scope of the

POLICY

How do you define “recreational fisheries”?

Who and what constitutes recreational fisheries?

- **Shore and private/non-for-hire vessel?**
- **For-hire vessels?**
- **Recreational fishing industries?**
- **Non-commercial fishermen ?**
- **Expense fishing?**
- **Subsistence fishing?**

Discussion

Q1: What would you like us to know about these potential goals?

Q2: Are there other goals / issues which should be considered?

Q3: How could / should we incorporate / embody these considerations in a policy?

Policy Development Process



POLICY

Recap

1. We're delivering on our commitment.
2. The policy is a set of high-level principles to guide Agency decisions over the long-term.
3. Input and suggestions should be submitted up until September 12.
4. A draft policy will be available for review this fall.

A woman with curly hair, wearing a white baseball cap and sunglasses, is smiling and holding a large fish (likely a salmon) on a boat. The background shows a blue sea and a clear sky with several seagulls flying. A Yamaha 200 outboard motor is visible on the left side of the boat.

THANK YOU

COMMENTS

or

QUESTIONS??

- BACK UP SLIDES

Action Agenda Update Process

