

NOAA
FISHERIES

Greater
Atlantic
Region

Greater Atlantic Region Recreational Fisheries Implementation Plan

Presentation of Draft Plan for Council Comment

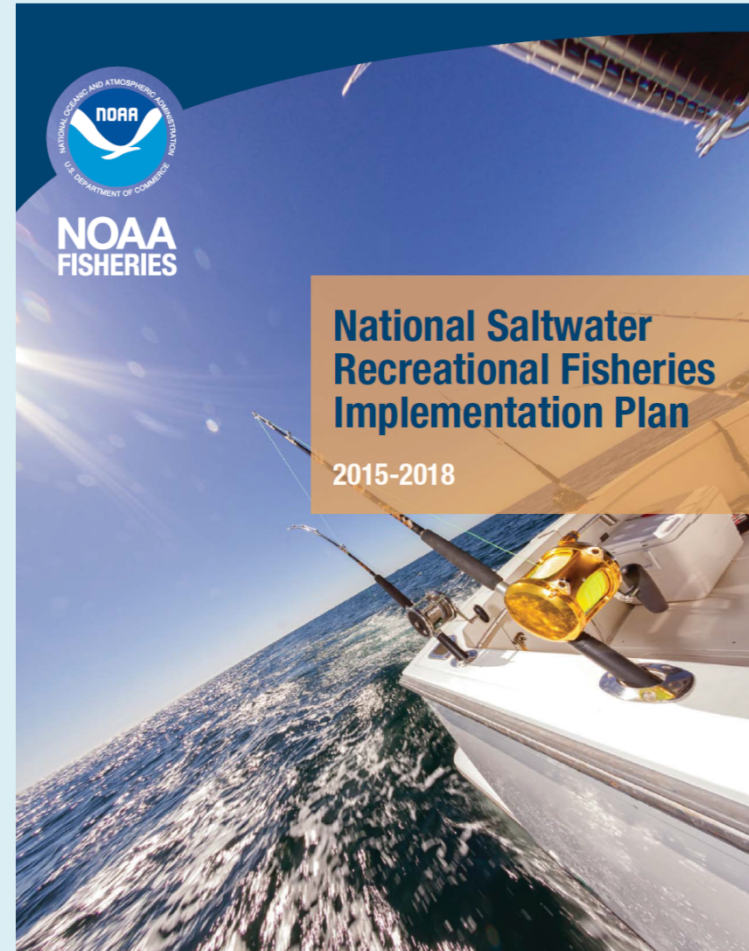
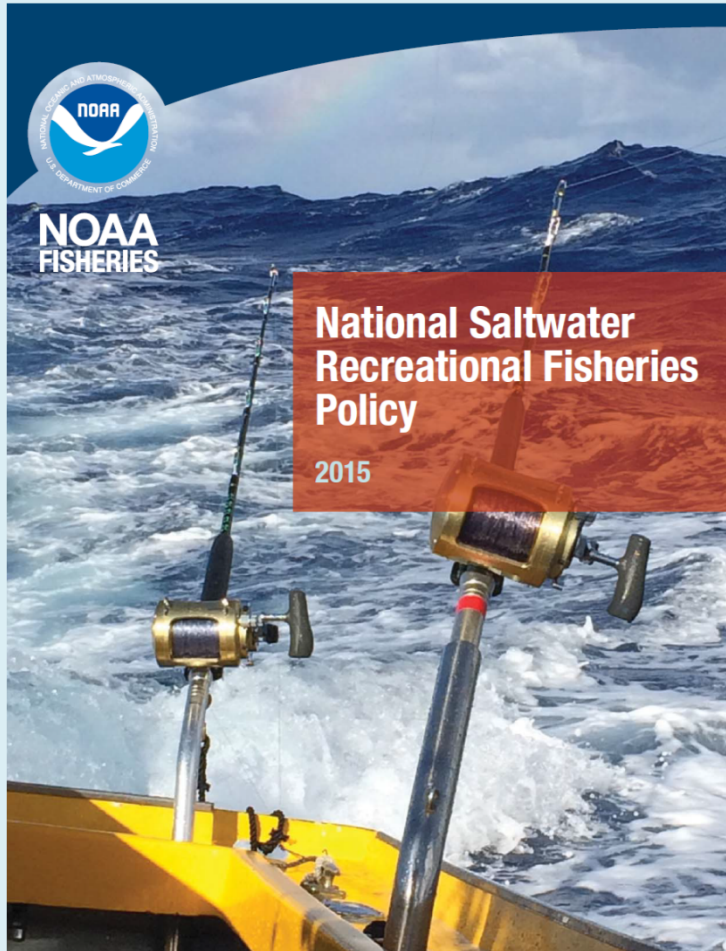
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National Focus on Recreational Fisheries



http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/recreational/noaa_action.html



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National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy

2015

Goals of the National Policy

1. Support and maintain sustainable recreational fisheries resources;
Including healthy marine and estuarine habitats.
2. Promote recreational fishing for the benefit of the nation;
Including social, cultural, and economic benefits.
3. Enable enduring participation and enjoyment of recreational fisheries;
Through science-based conservation and management.

Key Principles of the National Policy

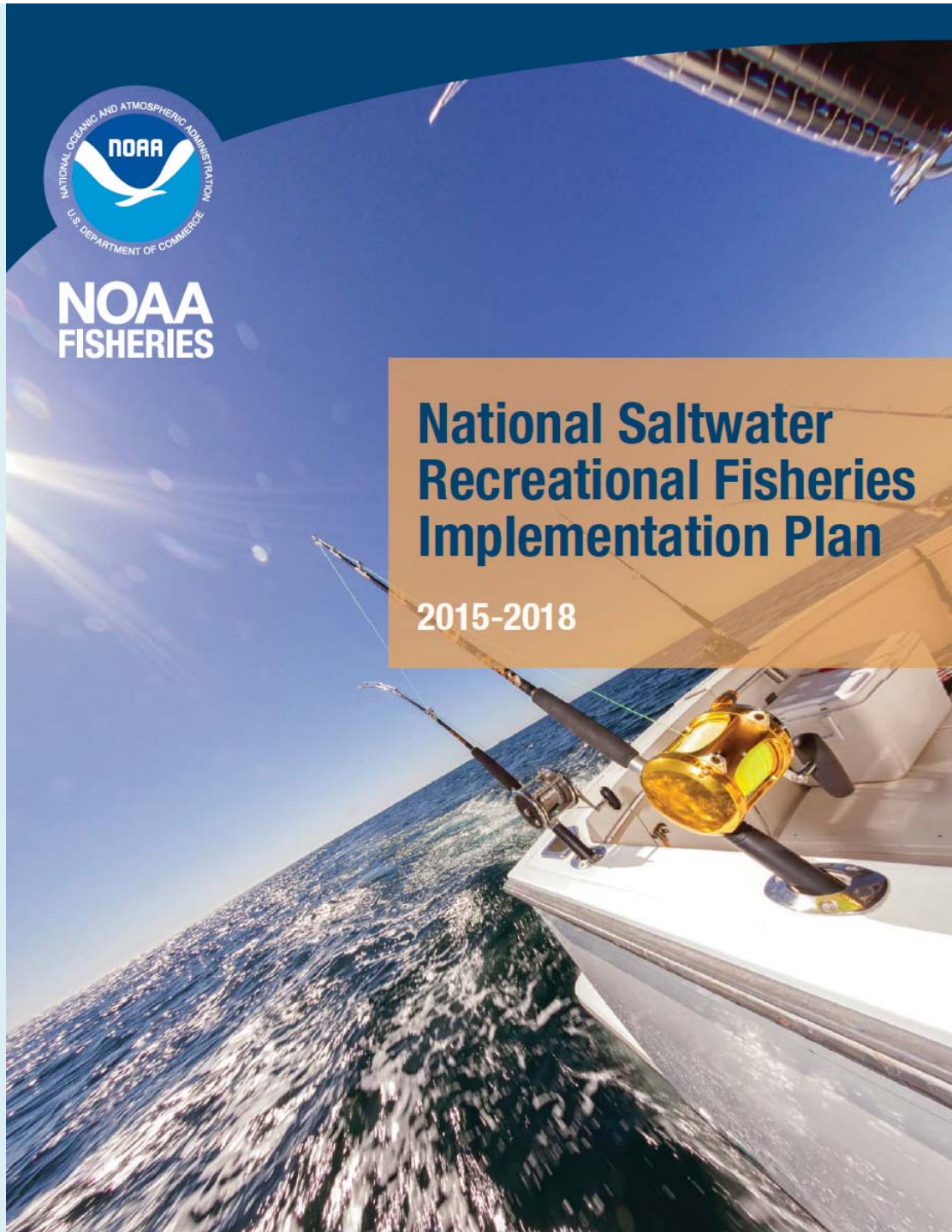
1. Support ecosystem conservation and enhancement.
2. Promote public access to quality recreational fishing opportunities.
3. Coordinate with state and federal management entities.
4. Advance innovative solutions to evolving science, management, and environmental challenges.
5. Provide scientifically sound and trusted social, cultural, economic, and ecological information.
6. Communicate and engage with the recreational fishing public.



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National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Implementation Plan

2015-2018



Examples from National Implementation Plan

- Support ecosystem conservation and enhancement
 - Advance adoption of release survival techniques and best practices to reduce impacts of recreational fisheries on marine ecosystems by communicating research findings to fishery managers and fishermen.
- Promote public access to quality recreational fishing opportunities
 - Support conservation education and local fishing opportunities for children and non-traditional fishery participants.

Examples from National Implementation Plan

- Coordinate with state and federal management entities
 - Incorporate recreational fisheries issues as a priority in state-federal Joint Enforcement Agreements.
- Advance innovative solutions to evolving science, management, and environmental challenges
 - Prepare a white paper assessing existing marine, freshwater, and terrestrial natural resource self-reporting applications to understand current uses, limitations, and potential applications in fisheries science and management.

Examples from National Implementation Plan

- Provide scientifically sound and trusted social, cultural, economic, and ecological information
 - Transition to the use of new mail-based recreational fishing effort surveys on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, including incorporation of new data into stock assessments.
- Communicate and engage with the recreational fishing public
 - Test and implement mobile platforms as a way to communicate fishery regulations.

Greater Atlantic Region Recreational Fisheries Implementation Plan

Draft for Comment

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Regional Implementation Plan

- **Text Document**
 - Addresses goals, objectives, and approaches to recreational fisheries.
- **Action Agenda**
 - Concrete actions.
 - Consistent with the National Policy and the National Implementation Plan.
 - Includes timing and is a way of tracking progress.

Examples from the GAR Implementation Plan

- Support ecosystem conservation and enhancement
 - Increasing awareness of ethical angling practices for targeted and protected species by ensuring consistent and accurate information is being distributed to the public on barotrauma, other safe fishing practices, and protected species interactions.
- Promote public access to quality recreational fishing opportunities
 - Improve coordination between GARFO and the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

Examples from the GAR Implementation Plan

- Coordinate with state and federal management entities
 - Collaborate with ACCSP on smartphone application that complies with state and Federal trip reporting requirements.
- Advance innovative solutions to evolving science, management, and environmental challenges
 - Collaborate with Rutgers University researchers on a recreational fishery independent survey to estimate black sea bass distributions and abundance.

Examples from the GAR Implementation Plan

- Provide scientifically sound and trusted social, cultural, economic, and ecological information
 - Develop and undertake a survey to better understand the extent of interactions with sea turtles in mid-Atlantic recreational fisheries.
- Communicate and engage with the recreational fishing public
 - Support development of a Fish Rules smartphone application for recreation fishing regulations in the Greater Atlantic Region to improve angler compliance.



Questions?

