

**Inflation Reduction Act Funding
Gregg Bray
GulfFIN Program Manager**

**State/Federal Fisheries Management Committee
Gulf Shores, AL
October 17, 2024**



Inflation Reduction Act Funding

- **Infrastructure Agreement:**
 - **Improve state and commission data management systems**
 - **Centralize state recreational data at GSMFC**
 - **Convene three workshops**
 - **Validating recreational fishing effort estimates**
 - **Improving recreational released catch data**
 - **Develop GulfFIN recreational data standards and warehouse**



Inflation Reduction Act Funding

- **Infrastructure Agreement:**
 - **Completed two workshops**
 - **Validating recreational fishing effort estimates**
 - **Improving recreational released catch data**
 - **Published a request for proposals**
 - **Pre proposals due November 15, 2024**
 - **Full proposals due January 15, 2025**
 - **Review team will rank and score**
 - **Final decisions made by Andy Strelcheck and Clay Porch**
 - **GSMFC working with NOAA Fisheries to obtain approximately \$7M to support selected projects**
 - **Develop GulfFIN recreational data standards and warehouse – tentatively scheduled for February 2025**



Inflation Reduction Act Funding

- **Infrastructure Agreement:**
 - **Improve state and commission data management systems**
 - **Centralize state recreational data at GSMFC**
 - **New priority**
 - **AL and MS Creel Survey Transition Plan**
 - **Re-budgeting some monies to support this work**



Inflation Reduction Act Funding

- **For-Hire At-Sea Observer Expansion:**
 - **Current program exists in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi**
 - **\$1M in new monies to support expansion into Louisiana and Texas**
 - **Supports sampling 75 offshore trips per year in each state**
 - **Hiring four independent contractors to be trained as field agents**
 - **Utilizing same methodology and technology**
 - **Targeting 2025 and 2026 for field sampling**



Questions???

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