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Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Red Snapper Effort Workshop

Leads:
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Climate-Ready Fisheries: $349 Million

- Strengthen science and survey enterprise
- Propel stock assessments for fish and protected species forward
- Build a dynamically managed fisheries system
- Incorporate environmental data into projections

Funding Allocations

Expand and Modernize Stock Assessments
- Data Acquisition and Management $145 million
- Climate, Ecosystems, and Fisheries Initiative $40 million

Region-Specific Fisheries and Protected Resources
- Regional Fisheries Management Councils $20 million
- North Atlantic Right Whale $82 million
- Red Snapper $20 million
- Pacific Salmon (includes funding opportunity for salmon recovery) $42 million

Sub-Component Overview

Why is this important?

- Prominence - Red snapper is the flagship species for the largest recreational fishery in the world. They are highly prized for their cultural and recreational value.

- Scope - There are more saltwater anglers in the Southeast than the number of residents in the states of Alaska, Hawaii, Rhode Island and Delaware combined.

- Survey - Elected officials and stakeholders question the precision and accuracy of federal and state recreational fishing statistics, especially for red snapper.

What is the purpose? How is this transformational?

- The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission will become the clearinghouse for more timely and accurate recreational statistics gathered through a new state-federal partnership in the Gulf of Mexico. (**$10.65 mil**)

- Estimates of effort and discards will be developed using state of the art methods to validate and improve the estimates obtained by cost effective approaches executed through the state-federal partnership. (**$7.35 mil**)

- Advanced video and acoustic cameras, combined with artificial intelligence, will estimate the abundance of red snapper and other reef fish with unprecedented accuracy and efficiency. (**$2 mil**)

Recreational Fishery Survey Data

Goal:

- Develop GulfFIN infrastructure improvements to support integration of state recreational fishery dependent survey data through development of data standards, evaluation of data management systems, and modernizing these systems.

Progress:

- Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) received a multi-year award to modernize GulfFIN.

- GSMFC is holding three workshops to plan activities for each sub-initiative.
  - Explore methods for validating recreational effort estimates - **Held June 2024**
  - Explore methods for collecting recreational discard data - **Held August 2024**
  - Develop recreational data standards - **Scheduled early 2025**

Expected Impact:

- An improved GulfFIN database will modernize state recreational data management systems, including state-federal data exchange, quality assurance/control, compliance with data standards, and production of final integrated catch estimates for use in science and management.

Recreational Fishing Effort & Discards

Goal:

- Enumerate offshore anglers using video and other techniques to compare with state and federal estimates for select regions.
- More precise at sea-based estimates of discards from for-hire component.

Accomplishments / Execution Progress:

- **GSMFC awarded $1 million to expand to expand for-hire at-sea sampling in federal waters off Texas and Louisiana.** Coverage for at-sea discard sampling throughout the entire region.

- **Request for Proposals - Research to advance new techniques and technologies for estimating recreational effort and discards in the GOM -** approximately $7mil to support

Expected Impact:

Enhance estimates of recreational fishing effort and discards, which represent two of the greatest sources of uncertainty in managing and assessing Gulf of Mexico reef fish.

NOAA
FISHERIES

Reef Fish Abundance Estimation

Goal:

- Develop and implement video and acoustic camera survey systems with automated image analysis and habitat mapping.

Accomplishments / Execution Progress:

- **Funding awarded in FY 24; prep work is underway**
  - $1.09 M to CIMAS (CI)
  - $0.91 M for equipment and other costs

Expected Impact:

Leverage synergies with other IRA Strategic Initiatives by harnessing the power of advanced technology and artificial intelligence to provide more timely scientific advice from video and acoustic surveys.
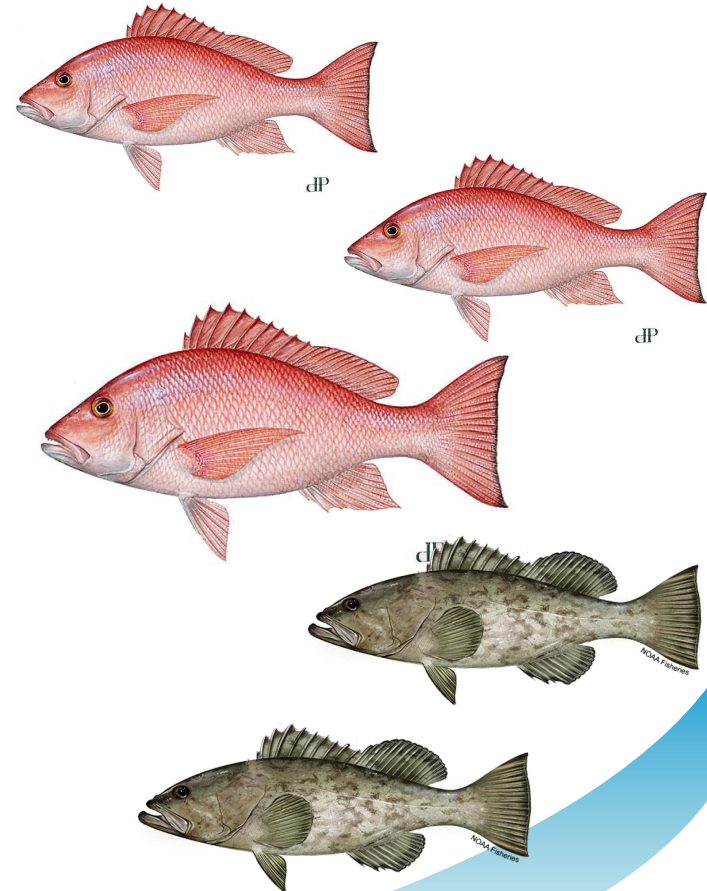
Data and Partnerships

Strengthening Federal-State Partnership

Increasing Precision and Credibility of Recreational Data

U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | National Marine Fisheries Service