

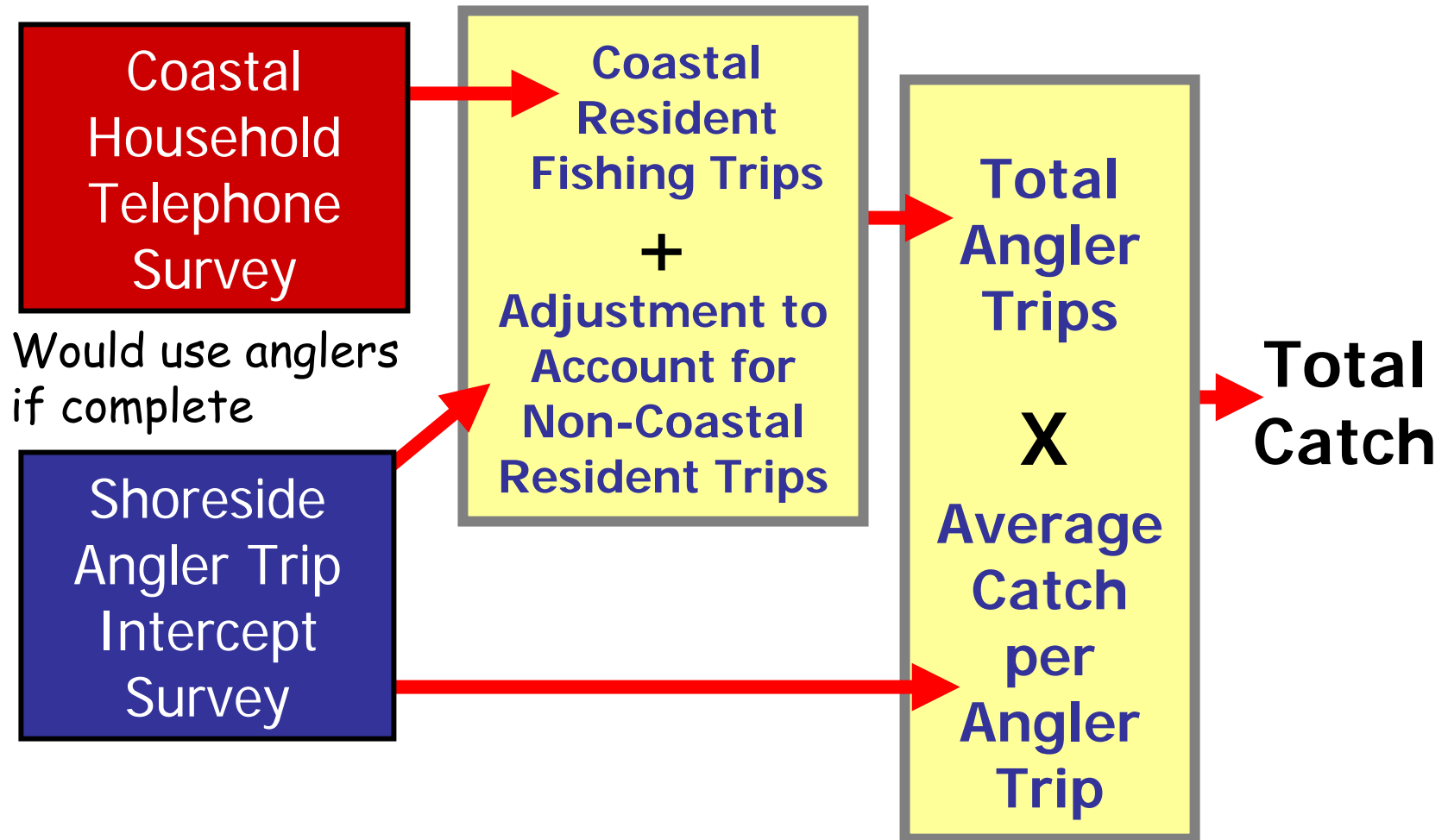
Proposals for Angler
Registration:
A Discussion of Issues

State Director's and Recreational Leaders Meeting
March 29, 2006

Critical Issues in Recreational Data Improvement

- Congress considering Rec. Data Provisions
- Councils and Commission Support is a key factor in resolving recreational data issues

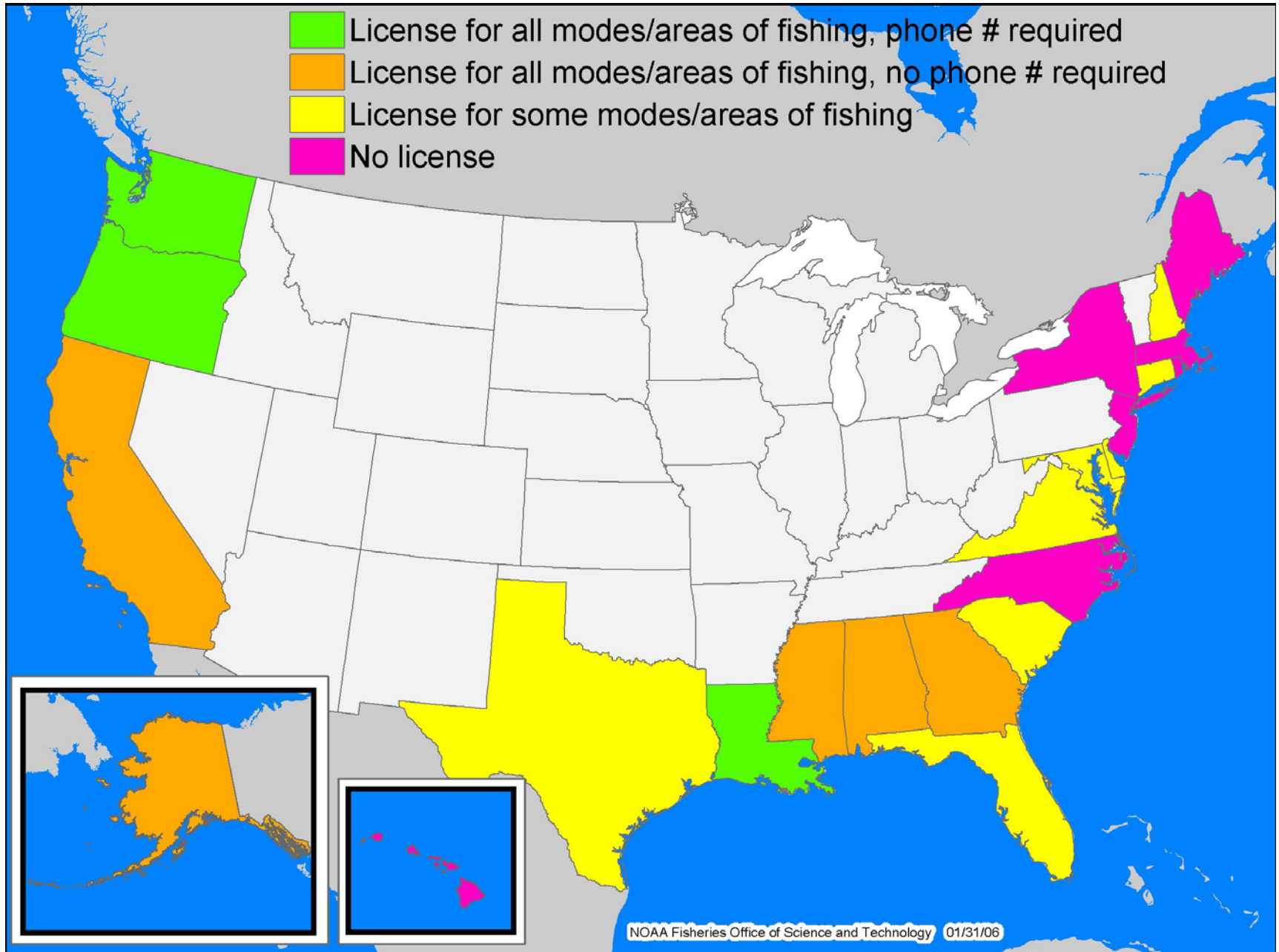
Typical Rec. Survey Design



Recommendations for Recreational Fishing Registries

- U. S. Ocean Commission
- The President's Ocean Action Plan
- NOAA Recreational Fisheries Strategic Plan
- Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program
- Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Information Network
- Pacific Recreational Fisheries Information Network
- Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) Reauthorization Administration & Senate
- NRC?

Current Status of State Registries



MSA - Federal Registry Program*

- “(1) **FEDERAL PROGRAM.** The Secretary shall establish and implement a **regionally based registry program for recreational fishermen** in each of the 8 fishery management regions.
- The program shall provide for:
 - the registration (including identification and contact information) of **individuals** who engage in recreational fishing in the EEZ, for anadromous species, or for Continental Shelf fishery resources beyond the EEZ, and
 - if appropriate, the registration (including the ownership, operator, and identification of the vessel) of **vessels** used in such fishing.”

* Current version of Senate MSA Reauthorization Bill (S.2012)

MSA– State Program Exemptions*

- “(2) **STATE PROGRAMS.** The Secretary shall **exempt** from registration under the program recreational fishermen and charter fishing vessels licensed, permitted, or registered under the laws of a State **if the Secretary determines that information from the State program is suitable** for the Secretary’s use or is used to assist in completing marine recreational fisheries statistical surveys, or evaluating the effects of proposed conservation and management measures for marine recreational fisheries.”

* Current version of Senate MSA Reauthorization Bill (S.2012)

MSA – Improve Data Collections*

- “(3) **DATA COLLECTION.** Within 24 months after the date of enactment of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 2005, the Secretary shall establish a program to **improve the quality and accuracy of information** generated by the Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey, with a goal of achieving acceptable accuracy and utility **for each individual fishery.**”



* Current version of Senate MSA Reauthorization Bill (S.2012)

MSA – Data Collection Requirements*

- Unless the Secretary determines that alternate methods will achieve this goal more efficiently and effectively, the program shall, to the extent possible, include:
 - an **adequate number of dockside interviews** to accurately estimate recreational catch and effort,
 - use of **surveys that target anglers registered or licensed** at the State or Federal level to collect participation and effort data, and
 - collection and analysis of vessel **trip report data from charter (for-hire) fishing vessels.**

* Current version of Senate MSA Reauthorization Bill (S.2012)

MSA – Reporting Requirement*

- “(4) **REPORT.** Within **24 months** after establishment of the program, the Secretary shall submit a **report to Congress** that describes the progress made toward achieving the goals and objectives of the program.”



* Current version of Senate MSA Reauthorization Bill (S.2012)

Goals of Registry Program

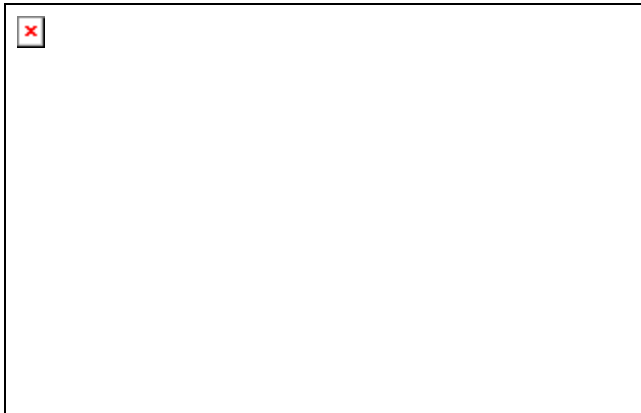
- More complete accounting of participation
- More effective communication with participants
- More efficient sampling to collect fishing data
 - more data can be collected with available funds
- More precise effort and catch estimates



Maximizing Efficiency

- Surveys based on directories of known participants can be much more efficient than household surveys.
- How much more efficient?
 - FHS use of vessel directory is **25-30** times more efficient than MRFSS household survey approach for sampling for-hire fishing effort
 - PSSP use of angler directory is **5-6** times more efficient than MRFSS household survey approach for sampling private boat and shore angler effort

Likely Minimum Data Elements



- Name – First, middle and last names
- State and county of permanent residence
- Mailing address – street, city, state, zipcode
- Phone numbers – permanent residence and others
- Registration number
- Date of registration
- Category of registration

Issues for Discussion

- How much can just federal requirements do?
- How can we encourage states to partner in this effort? (they are better equipped to register anglers!)
- How do Council requirements drive improved data programs?
- Discussion of proposed legislation and how this relates to NRC findings
- Ways forward