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Saltwater Recreational Fishermen Boon for Economy, Says NOAA

Recreational saltwater anglers pumped more than \$31 billion into the U.S. economy in 2006, with Florida, Texas, California, Louisiana and North Carolina receiving the largest share according to a new study issued by NOAA's Fisheries Service.

At the national level, saltwater anglers are estimated to have spent \$5.8 billion on trip-based expenses, such as ice, bait, and fuel, and another \$25.6 billion on fishing equipment and durable goods like fishing rods, fishing tackle, and boats.

The top five coastal recreational fishing states are: Florida (\$16.7 billion), Texas (\$3.2 billion), California (\$3.0 billion), Louisiana (\$2.9 billion), and North Carolina (\$2.0 billion).

In addition to quantifying angler expenditures, this study examines how these expenditures circulated through each state's economy and the national economy using a regional assessment. The \$31.4 billion in total U.S. expenditures in 2006 contributed \$82.3 billion in total sales, \$39.1 billion to gross national product, \$24 billion in personal income, and supported nearly 534,000 jobs.

The Economic Contribution of Marine Angler Expenditures in the United States 2006 is available online at: <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st5/index.html> A hardcopy of this report may be obtained by contacting Scott Steinback via email at scott.steinback@noaa.gov or by mail at the address below:

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