



NOAA Fisheries Service Introductions and Updates

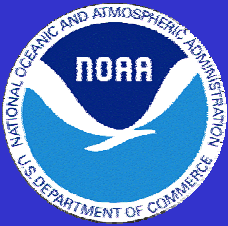
**Bill Hogarth
State Directors' Meeting
April 11, 2005**



Updates



- Managing Our Nations Fisheries II – very successful meeting
- NRC Studies – on track
- National Data Workshop – under development
- 2003 State Director meeting – moving forward on Action Items
- Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization
- National Permit Program – review initiated
- Improving Outreach with our partners



NRC Studies

We're working with the NRC to complete studies on:

- Recreational Fisheries Data
- Effects of fishing on ecosystems
- Methyl Mercury

Details of these studies will be discussed on Tuesday morning



National Data Workshop



- We will be conducting a workshop for a national review of data collection and management systems
 - Coordination of state, federal, and commission data needs for assessment & management
 - Use of new technologies to collect data in cost effective ways that improves data quality
 - Importance of data quality standards in the collection of integrated data
- Details of this review will be discussed on Tuesday morning



Excellent Progress Made On Action Items



- 29 Action items identified at our 2003 meeting
 - 11 Completed items
 - State Communication Plans
 - 14 Ongoing items
 - Transferring management authority to states
 - In rulemaking for transfer of red drum to ACA
 - State partners receiving more timely notifications of agency activities
 - 2 in progress
 - 2 overcome by events (2003 funding issues)



State Communication Plans



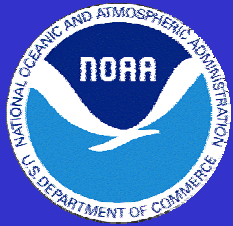
- Approved “*NOAA Fisheries Policy for Improved Communications with State Management Partners*”
- Implemented *Policy* throughout agency
- Each Plan:
 - fosters state-federal partnerships
 - encourages productive, cooperative interactions with State partner agencies at all levels
 - designates a state-federal contact (or contacts) to serve as the focal point for State partner interactions.



Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization

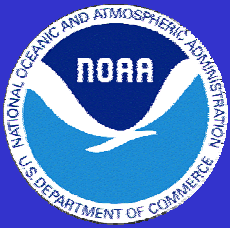


- We are addressing a number of principal issues for MSA Reauthorization
- We will be discussing these issues here, on Tuesday afternoon, and at the Council Chairs' and Executive Directors meeting at the end of the month.
- We will provide input during Congressional hearings and will continue to work with the Hill, partners and stakeholders.



National Permit Project

- Mission – to adopt a uniform policy for issuing and managing fishery permits throughout the Nation
 - Develop a uniform policy for recovery of permit administrative costs
 - Implement information technology system improvements for more effective data collection
- The program will:
 - Allow appropriate linkage of current and historical data;
 - Enable standardization of permit application and renewal, electronic submission of fees, and near-real-time access
 - Relieve fishermen of the burden of duplicative data submission



Outreach



- Recreational Fisheries Strategic Plan
- Management and Conservation Partnerships
 - States, Councils and Commissions
 - Industry and Trade Groups
 - Anglers
 - NGOs
- Improving Internal Coordination
 - Sanctuaries, Fisheries Service, SeaGrant



Working Together



- HMS Tournaments
- LNG permitting
- Section 6 permitting on protected resources
- Joint enforcement agreements

