

DRAFT

**Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee
Courtyard Marriott – Lake Union, Seattle, Washington
July 27, 2006**

**Recreational Fisheries Working Group
Resolution for MAFAC Representation at Recreational Data Meeting**

Recreational Working Group:

Bob Fletcher (Chair)

Tony DiLernia

Tom Raftican

Rob Kramer (not in attendance)

In response to the National Research Council report in 2006, entitled “Review of Recreational Fisheries Survey Methods”, the Working Group recommends that MAFAC select the chair of the Working Group or his designee to attend a national scoping meeting of the three marine fisheries commissions, fishery management councils, NMFS, and other collaborative partners and interest groups to identify what is required for recreational data and statistics to meet current and projected data needs. The meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado, September 6-8, 2006.

The Working Group suggests that the MAFAC representative keep in mind the following areas of concern:

- 1) Maintain regional flexibility in recreational fisheries data systems, based on the available tools in each region;
- 2) Answer the question: what do we need this data system to accomplish? Working together, NMFS and the states must decide on the level of accuracy and precision of the data needed for current management, and the timeliness of the results and the appropriate scale of the application.
- 3) Consider some key changes to marine recreational data collection systems:
 - a) eliminate or significantly restrict random digit dialing;
 - b) increase angler intercepts
 - c) survey anglers at a higher rate
 - d) recognize that angler registration alone cannot fix the MRFSS problem
 - e) state agency involvement in the solution is a must

- f) new funds are essential; NMFS should be requested to provide recent expenditure history related to the collection of both commercial and recreational landings and effort data on a regional basis
- g) requiring for-hire operators to submit daily catch and effort reports should be mandatory
- h) basic precept: unless anglers believe that the survey is well designed and implemented, they are unlikely to participate (no credibility, no cooperation)

Motion for Committee to Accept – **PENDING TRANSCRIPTS**

2nd by: **PENDING TRANSCRIPTS**

Accepted – July 27, 2006