Fisheries Information Network (FIN) Report
Gregg Bray

Commission Business Meeting
New Orleans, LA
March 21, 2019

Fisheries Information Network

- **Consists of two major components:**
  - **ComFIN and RecFIN(SE)**

- **Provide a year in review of FIN Activities for 2018**

- **Highlights for 2019**

Recreational Catch/Effort

- **Conducted over 30,000 angler interviews** (Florida [both coasts], Alabama, Mississippi)

- **Warehousing LA Creel data**

- **Continue to assist states with certified specialized surveys**
  - **Trying to assist in sharing survey details**
  - **Assisting with integration/calibration process**

Commercial Trip Ticket Programs

- **Electronic trip ticket reporting**

- **Working with dealers in TX, LA, MS, AL, and FL**
  - **Allows electronic reporting of data**

  - **Currently have over 1,000 dealers submitting reports on-line**
  - **Working with Bluefin Data on VESL development**

FIN Data Management System

- **Over 35 million records loaded into FIN DMS**

- **Commercial data (trip tickets): 1985-2018**
  - **Historical data from NMFS available also**

- **Biological age/length data: 2002-2018**

FIN Data Management System

- **Recreational catch and effort data: 1981-2017**
  - **Includes Gulf States as well as Puerto Rico (2000-2016)**

- **System on-line (as of July 2002)**
  - **Allows for non-confidential and confidential user access**
    - **Currently 48 users with confidential access privileges**

Biological Sampling

- **New temporary funding obtained**
  - **Sept 2018 through Aug 2021**

- **FIN Priority Species**
  - **Black drum, gag, gray snapper, gray triggerfish, greater amberjack, gulf flounder, king mackerel, red drum, red grouper, red snapper, sheepshead, southern flounder, spotted seatrout, striped mullet, vermilion snapper**

- **Focusing current efforts on recreational sampling**

2019 Highlights

- **$6.0M in GulfFIN funding** (2.7% funding deficit for existing work)
  - **Ongoing activities**
    - **Administration of FIN**
    - **Recreational sampling**
    - **Commercial trip tickets**
    - **FIN Data Management System**

  - **NOAA FIS has $5.0M available for fishery dependent data system improvements in 2020**
    - **Electronic reporting and monitoring, Quality management and Continuous improvement, FIN Improvement, Data modernization**
    - **Deadline for pre-proposals is April 24, 2019**

Questions???

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