

Fisheries Information Network (FIN) Report

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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



A vertical photograph on the left side of the slide shows a person standing in a small boat on a body of water. The person is wearing a light-colored shirt and shorts, and is holding a long, thin pole that extends across the frame. The background is a bright, orange-hued sunset sky over a calm lake. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

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



A person is silhouetted against a bright orange sunset sky, standing on a small boat and holding a long pole. The boat is on a body of water with reeds in the foreground. The scene is peaceful and scenic.

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

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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



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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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