

Tab R, No. 4

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison Report

Gulf Council Meeting
St. Pete, FL



INFLATION REDUCTION ACT FUNDING

- Infrastructure Agreement:
 - Improve state and commission data management systems
 - Centralize state recreational data at GSMFC
 - Convene three workshops
 - Validating recreational fishing effort estimates
 - Improving recreational released catch data
 - Develop GulfFIN recreational data standards and warehouse

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT FUNDING

- Infrastructure Agreement:
 - Completed two workshops
 - Validating recreational fishing effort estimates
 - Improving recreational released catch data
 - Published a request for proposals
 - Pre proposals due November 15, 2024
 - Full proposals due January 15, 2025
 - Review team will rank and score
 - Final decisions made by Andy Strelcheck and Clay Porch
 - GSMFC working with NOAA Fisheries to obtain approximately \$7M to support selected projects
 - Develop GulfFIN recreational data standards and warehouse – tentatively scheduled for February 2025

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT FUNDING

- Infrastructure Agreement:
 - Improve state and commission data management systems
 - Centralize state recreational data at GSMFC
 - New priority
 - AL and MS Creel Survey Transition Plan
 - Re-budgeting some monies to support this work

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT FUNDING

- For-Hire At-Sea Observer Expansion:
 - Current program exists in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi
 - \$1M in new monies to support expansion into Louisiana and Texas
 - Supports sampling 75 offshore trips per year in each state
 - Hiring four independent contractors to be trained as field agents
 - Utilizing same methodology and technology
 - Targeting 2025 and 2026 for field sampling

GSMFC ANNUAL MEETING

- Annual Commission Meeting
 - Held last month in Gulf Shores, Alabama
 - This meeting marked our 75th Annual Meeting

QUESTIONS?

