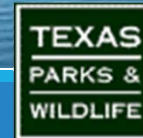


Tab R, No. 3

# GSMFC Liaison Report



ENHANCE • PROTECT • CONSERVE



# History

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- Established in 1949 by Congress
- Compact among the five Gulf States (Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida)
- Promote the better utilization of the marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico



# History

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- GSMFC is composed of three members from each of the five Gulf States
  - Head of the marine resource agency
  - Member of the state legislature
  - Citizen who has knowledge of and interest in marine fisheries
- Annual meetings of the GSMFC are held in October
  - Meetings are rotated between the states



# History

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- Functions of the GSMFC
  - Serve as a forum to discuss various issues regarding marine data collection, management, industry, research, etc.
  - Develop coordinated regional policies to address those issues
  - Provide coordination and administration for cooperative state/federal programs
    - Interjurisdictional Fishery Program (IJF)
    - Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP)
    - Sport Fish Restoration Program (SFRP)
    - Fisheries Information Network (GulfFIN)
    - Fisheries Disaster Programs



# Inflation Reduction Act Funding Activities

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- Effort Validation Planning Workshop
  - Held June 4-6, 2024 in New Orleans
  - Discussed variety of alternative methods for estimating effort
  - Best method(s) still to be determined but will probably be a suite of options and may vary by state



# Inflation Reduction Act Funding Activities

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- Recreational Discards Workshop
  - Held July 30 – August 1, 2024 in New Orleans
  - Participants from all Gulf States, private recreational industry, NOAA Fisheries and various other agencies



# Inflation Reduction Act Funding Activities

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- Recreational Discards Workshop
  - Presentations addresses various issue including:
    - Understanding magnitude of released catch estimates for key stocks
    - How current survey efforts collect released catch data
    - Concerns and struggles regarding collecting discards data
    - New approaches
      - At-sea observers in for-hire fleet
      - Remote monitoring video camera systems
      - Citizen science angler reporting applications
      - Using pre-trip notification catch cards



# Inflation Reduction Act Funding Activities

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- Steering committee is using findings from Effort and Discards workshops to develop a request for proposals (RFP)
  - Purpose – solicit research projects in these two important areas of recreational fisheries data
- Approximately \$10M in available funding for projects
- Targeting Fall 2024 to publish RFP
- Targeting early 2025 to select research projects (as determined by panel of reviewers)
- Targeting CY2025 to begin research projects



# Questions?

