



Saltwater Recreational Fisheries **POLICY**

AGENDA

National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy

- What, Why, and How?
- Who have we been talking with?
- Timeline: Where are we now?
- Scope and draft goals
- Recent input
- Discussion

What is a **POLICY**

DOES:

Influence how we carry out responsibilities under the law

DOES NOT:

Have the force or effect of law
Create regulations



Why do we need a **POLICY**

- 1. Institutionalizes our commitment.
- 2. Guides agency actions over the long-term.
- 3. Helps ensure we remain accountable to our recreational stakeholders.



Policy Development Process & Timeline



Building the

POLICY

B1 Recreational Fisheries Policy Presentation - Item 15
OCTOBER 2014

Public
Comment

MAFAC
White Paper

Regional
Roundtables

Town
Halls

Recreational Saltwater
Fishing Summit

Morris-Deal
Commission
Report

POLICY

We've been talking with lots of people

- All Council meetings (*North Pacific next month*) and *Atlantic HMS AP*
- All three Commissions
- State Agency webinar
- National Public Town Halls (webinars and in-person)
- MAFAC RecFish Working Group webinar
- Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council meeting
- National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Councils

We've presented to more than two dozen meetings and webinars in total.

POLICY

Who and what activities should be considered under the policy?

- **Shore and private/non-for-hire vessel?**
- **For-hire vessels?**
- **Recreational fishing industries?**
- **Non-commercial fishermen ?**
- **Expense fishing?**
- **Subsistence fishing?**

POLICY

What we have heard

- Sale of fish/expense fishing conflicts with nature of recreational fishing.
- Subsistence fishing is different than recreational.
- Include non-angling activities fish watching/ecotourism.

Possible goals of the

POLICY

1. Foster and enhance sustainable, healthy, and diverse recreational/non-commercial fisheries and public access to them.
2. Integrate saltwater recreational/non-commercial considerations throughout NOAA and the federal fisheries management system.
3. Encourage partnership, engagement, and innovation.
4. Enhance transparency, follow-through, and long-term continuity of action.

Possible Goals of the **POLICY**

What we have heard

1. Include a science and data theme.
2. Consistency and stability.
3. Opportunity and access (inclusive of allocation).
4. Abundance drives recreational fisheries.
5. Federal – state partnership.
6. Singular recreational community with diverse needs.
7. Fishing culture and communities.

What are your thoughts about the

POLICY

We've outlined some draft goals and heard some additional suggestions. Now it's your turn...

- 1. Do these goals sound reasonable?**
- 2. What ideas are missing?**
- 3. Any red flags?**
- 4. Are there any potential impacts which concern you?**

Possible goals of the

POLICY

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POLICY

Recap

1. The policy is a set of high-level principles to guide Agency action over the long-term.
2. Policy helps ensure Agency accountability.
3. A draft policy will be available for review this fall.

Thank you for your comments.

Tell your friends and colleagues.

Submit comments and follow our
progress online at

www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/recreational/

And on Twitter @ *[#ifishsaltwater](https://twitter.com/ifishsaltwater)*