

# What do Fisheries Managers Need from FIS?

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# Fisheries Management Needs

- Sustainable Fisheries Management depends on timely and accurate Information from the Fisheries Information System
- New requirements of the Magnuson Stevens Act, including Annual Catch Limits, require improvements in FIS

# What must FIS Support?

- Information on fishery participants:
  - Permits, licenses, etc.
- Monitoring compliance with reporting requirements
- Setting annual catch limits
- Monitoring catch and effort
- Evaluating alternative management strategies

# Fishery Participation

- Improve permits system
  - Provide one-stop shopping for customers
  - Establish consistent fee collection policies
  - Promote sharing of permits information among fisheries and regions
  - Standardize unique identifiers of individuals and vessels to allow better tracking
  - Utilize latest technologies to accelerate and streamline processing of information

# Monitoring Compliance

- Compliance with reporting requirements
  - Utilize unique identifiers to link reporting and performance information with permits
  - Provide more timely access to reporting data
  - Provide more timely access to performance data
- Compliance with fishing regulations
  - Improve NMFS' ability to independently verify self-reported information on frequency and nature of fishing activity (VMS, observers, etc.)

# Setting Catch Limits

- Setting appropriate targets for total allowable catch
  - More timely and accurate stock assessments require fishery dependent data including catch, effort and biological data from FIS

# Monitoring Catch Limits

- More accurate and timely tracking of catch relative to established targets and limits
  - More accurate accounting of effort and catch
  - More timely updates of effort and catch
  - Provide easier access to different types of data (effort, landings, discards, bycatch, etc.)
  - Provide easier access to different sources of data (dealer reports, logbooks, observer data, etc.)

# Monitoring Catch Limits

- Greater resolution of fishing performance information to evaluate catch by:
  - Individuals, sectors, or communities
  - Fishing gear types
  - Fishing areas
  - Fishing seasons
- More timely decisions to prevent overages
  - Easier and more timely access to cumulative totals

# Evaluating Management Strategies

- Improved scope, quality and access for all types of fishery-dependent information:
  - Catch and effort
  - Bycatch
  - Biological (age structure, sex ratio, etc.)
  - Economic
  - Sociocultural
- Better integration of different types of data and statistics to allow one-stop shopping through web-based portals

# New Requirements for FIS

## Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act of 2006

- Prevent overfishing through use of annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs)
- Expand use of market-based fishery management through limited access privilege programs
- Improved recreational fishery data
- Encourages use of latest technologies for real-time tracking and monitoring of fishing vessels

# New Demands on FIS

- Higher priority on measuring fishing impacts at the species and stock level
- Greater need for real-time monitoring
- Greater need for shortening time lags between collection of data and delivery of catch and effort statistics
- Higher priority on implementing new technologies to speed the turn-around of information

# Questions?

