

# ORGANIZATION



YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR FISHING DATA

Groups of experts from both inside and outside of government have been convened to deal with distinct aspects of the Marine Recreational Information Program initiative. Groups are tasked in these focus areas: Data Management and Standards, Design and Analysis, For-Hire Fisheries, Highly Migratory Species, National Saltwater Angler Registry, and Communications and Education. This approach promotes a survey redesign process that is inclusive and transparent.

## EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Executive Steering Committee is made up of the chairs of the interstate fisheries commissions, prominent members of the fishery management councils, and representatives of NOAA Fisheries. This state-federal group is the initiative's decision-making body.

Randy Fisher	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Bob Fletcher	Sportfishing Association of California, NOAA Marine Fish Advisory Cmte.
Gordon Colvin	NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology ( <i>executive secretary</i> )
Doug Mecum	NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Regional Office
Vince O'Shea	Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Miguel Rolon	Caribbean Fishery Management Council
Kitty Simonds	Western Pacific Fishery Management Council
Larry Simpson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Nancy Thompson	NOAA Fisheries, Northeast Fisheries Science Center

## OPERATIONS TEAM

The Operations Team oversees the day-to-day work of the expert work groups and reports directly to the Executive Steering Committee.

Preston Pate, Chair  
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Rob Andrews	NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology
Mike Armstrong	Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Robert Beal	Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Dick Brame	Coastal Conservation Association
Mike Cahall	Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program
Bob Clark	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Richard Cody	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Paul Dalzell	Western Pacific Fishery Management Council
Guillermo Diaz	NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Jason Didden	Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Dave Donaldson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Mark Fisher	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Graciela Garcia-Moline	Caribbean Fishery Management Council
Rob Kramer	International Game Fish Association
Dr. Russell Porter	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Dr. Ron Salz	NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology



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Dr. Gary Shepherd  
Dr. Cindy Thomson

NOAA Fisheries, Northeast Fisheries Science Center  
NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Fisheries Science Center

### **NATIONAL SALTWATER ANGLER REGISTRY TEAM**

The Angler Registry team is in charge of creating a national “phonebook” of anglers to ensure that saltwater anglers are accurately accounted for.

Gordon Colvin, Chair  
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Phil Anderson	Washington Department of Fish and Game
Dick Brame	Coastal Conservation Association
Robert Clark	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Jim Donofrio	Recreational Fishing Alliance
Ed Ebisui	Western Pacific Fishery Management Council
George Lapointe	Maine Department of Marine Resources
Ron Regan	Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Dr. Ken Richkus	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mark Robson	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Eric Schwaab	Maryland Department of Natural Resources, NOAA Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee
Brad Spear	Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Spud Woodward	Georgia Department of Natural Resources

### **COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION TEAM**

The Communications and Education team carries out strategic communications to ensure partners and constituents are engaged in the redesign process and kept well informed and apprised of the initiative’s progress.

Forbes Darby, Chair  
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Marty Golden	NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Regional Office
Ann McElhaton	Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program
Maggie Moonie-Seus	NOAA Fisheries, Northeast Regional Office
Jared Mott	Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Paul Perra	NOAA Fisheries, Northeast Regional Office
Marla Trollan	NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Office
Bobbi Walker	National Association of Charterboat Operators

### **DATA MANAGEMENT AND STANDARDS WORK GROUP**

The Data Management and Standards group is charged with developing a common set of minimum data elements, setting national and regional standards for coding systems, and improving coordination between federal, state, and regional survey programs.

Kathy Knowlton, Chair



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Gregg Bray	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Lauren Dollinger Few	NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology
Ricky Gease	Kenai River Sportfishing Association
Fred Golofaro	The Fisherman Magazine
Bruce Joule	Maine Division of Marine Fisheries
Vivian Matter	NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Scott Meyer	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Dennis O'Hern	Fishing Rights Alliance
Mike Quach	NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Science Center
Carlos Rivero	NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Beverly Sauls	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Geoffrey White	Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program
Patty Zielinski	NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology

#### **DESIGN AND ANALYSIS WORK GROUP**

The Design and Analysis group is taking the lead to develop and test new data collection methodologies. This includes testing assumptions, determining appropriate methodological changes to reduce bias in the estimates, and assessing sample sizes and survey approaches needed to provide the levels of resolution required by managers and scientists.

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Han-Lin Lai	NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology
Sarah Malloy	NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Science Center
Jim Martin	Recreational Fishing Alliance
Rick Methot	NOAA Fisheries, Northwest Fisheries Science Center
Tim Miller	NOAA Fisheries, Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Roy Morioka	Recreational Fisherman, Hawaii
Jeff Muir	Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources
Bob Muller	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Doug Mumford	North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
Mike Murphy	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Russ Nelson	Nelson Consulting
Mike Sakamoto	Recreational Fisherman, Hawaii
Bob Shipp	University of South Alabama
Dave Simpson	Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
Wade Van Buskirk	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Ray Webster	International Pacific Halibut Commission
Erik Williams	NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Chris Wilson	North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
Dan Wolford	Coastside Fishing Club



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### FOR-HIRE WORK GROUP

The For-Hire group is responsible for enhancing the accuracy, timeliness, and accountability of data and statistics obtained from the for-hire sector.

Beverly Sauls, Chair  
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Michelle Kasprzak	Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Kathy Knowlton	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Craig Lilyestrom	Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
Scott Meyer	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Beverly Sauls	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Gary Shepherd	NOAA Fisheries, Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Tom Sminkey	NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology
Mike Sosik	Northeast Charter Captains Association
William Tobias	US Virgin Islands Division of Fish and Wildlife
Bob Zales	National Association of Charter Boat Operators

### HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES WORK GROUP

The Highly Migratory Species group is charged with refining and enhancing data collections programs that targeting HMS anglers.

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Guillermo Diaz	NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Dave McGowan	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Greg Skomal	Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
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