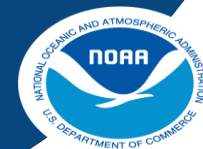


The Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Act (P.L. 115-405)

Flexibility under the Magnuson-Stevens Act for
Alternative Management Approaches

Joint Workgroup for Section 102 of the Modernizing Recreational
Fisheries Management Act of 2018, June 3, 2021

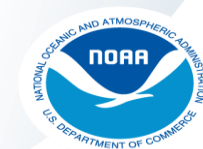


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Modern Fish Act Overview

Purpose: “to expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes”

- Numerous reports, studies, and guidance
- Authorizes management measures for recreational fisheries, reaffirms Annual Catch Limit requirements
- Recreational registry and data collection programs



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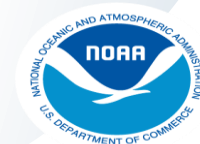
Modern Fish Act Sections

Title I

- **Section 101** – Study of allocations in mixed use fisheries
- **Section 102** – Fishery management measures
- **Section 103** – Study of limited access privilege programs for mixed-use fisheries

Title II

- **Section 201** – Cooperative (Fed, state, non-gov) data collection
- **Section 202** – MRIP implementation of NAS 2017, state data partnerships



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Section 102

Councils have the authority to:

Use fishery management measures in a recreational fishery (or the recreational component of a mixed-use fishery)...such as extraction rates, fishing mortality targets, harvest control rules, or traditional or cultural practices of native communities in such fishery or fishery component.

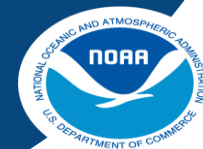
Existing MSA provisions still apply:

- Annual Catch Limits, National Standards, Accountability Measures, Rebuilding Requirements, etc.



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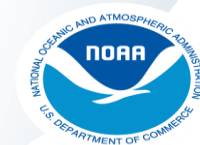
Examples of Flexible Management Approaches



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Flexibility within National Standard 1

- Conditional Accountability Measures
- Carry-over of Unused Quota
- Phase-in of Catch Levels
- Defining Stocks in Need of Conservation and Management
- Multi-year Overfishing Definition
- Rebuilding Timeline Flexibility
- Alternative Approaches for management and Status Determination Criteria (data poor fisheries)



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Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council

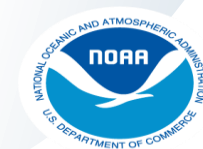
Recreational Reform Initiative – Stability in management measures, flexible management process, accessibility aligned with stock status

- Pre-defined management measures based on indicators of stock health and fishery performance
- Revise current annual timeframe for evaluating fishery performance
- Set recreational specifications to a new multi-year process
- Establish guidelines for maintaining status quo regs

More information on the Mid-Atlantic Council's Recreational Reform Page

<https://www.mafmc.org/actions/recreational-reform-initiative>.

Contact julia.beaty@noaa.gov (MAFMC). Savannah Lewis, slewis@asmfc.org (ASMFC)



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Pacific Fisheries Management Council

Pacific Groundfish

- 9 overfished groundfish stocks rebuilt (e.g., bocaccio, canary rockfish, cowcod, lingcod, etc.)
- Harvest Control Rules established for both rebuilding and rebuilt conditions
- Coastwide depth-based conservation areas implemented
- Inseason management applied
 - Continuous monitoring
 - Council review of season status at each council meeting

Presentation from Nov. 2019 CCC Pacific Fishery Management Council

http://www.fisherycouncils.org/s/PFMC_Nov2019CCC_final.pdf

Contact John.DeVore@noaa.gov (PFMC).



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Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Management of Cobia

- 3 year coast wide specifications
 - Quota
 - Vessel & individual possession limits
 - Minimum size
 - Landings evaluated against catch targets as 3-year averages
- Commercial fishery closure based on pre-determined trigger

Presentation from Nov. 2019 CCC presentation http://www.fisherycouncils.org/s/ASMFC_CCC.pdf

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Cobia management <http://www.asmfc.org/species/cobia>

Contact Toni Kerns tkerns@asmfc.org (ASMFC).



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Additional Examples

- MAFMC/SAFMC Conditional Recreational Accountability Measures.
- CFMC Island Based Fishery Management Plans.
- NPFMC Halibut Catch Share Program Recreational Quota Entity (RQE)

For more examples, see NOAA Report to Congress on Sec. 102 of the Modern Fish Act.

https://media.fisheries.noaa.gov/2021-05/ModernFishAct_Sec102_ReportToCongress_FINAL_4_22_20_508.pdf?null



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Takeaways

- Modern Fish Act authorizes approaches that expand management flexibility
- Stability, predictability, opportunity
- Multiple approaches being explored/applied to suit regional/fishery needs:
 - Multi-year specs, annual specs, harvest rate, harvest control rules



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