GSMFC Liaison Report

Inflation Reduction Act Funding Activities

- Goals and Objectives – improve quality and timeliness of recreational fishery dependent data to assist in managing red snapper, will also benefit many additional managed species
  - Improving state and commission data management systems
  - Develop better methods of quality control
  - Establish GSMFC as centralized warehouse for regions fishery dependent data
  - Evaluate ways to validate recreational fishing effort estimates
  - Evaluate ways to improve recreational discard data

Inflation Reduction Act Funding Activities

- Data Management System Improvements – 2024
  - Develop Recreational Data Standards Workshop
  - Evaluation of Data Management Systems
  - Develop and Deploy FIN Data Management System Improvements
- Effort Validation Planning Workshop
- Recreational Discards Workshop

Inflation Reduction Act Funding Activities

- Data Management System Improvements – 2025-2027
  - Improve State Data Management Systems (likely take 2-3 years)
    - GSMFC will contract with IT Specialists, Security Experts, Statistician, Programmers
    - Monies available for hardware, network, communication improvements
    - Will work with each state individually

- Award totals $6.6M

Recreational Fishing Effort Pilot Survey

- 1-year Pilot
- Purpose – test LA Creel Effort Survey in MS and AL
- Weekly telephone survey of licensed anglers
- Phone calls began on January 9th
- Presents unique opportunity to examine differences between state and federal recreational survey
- Gulf states/GSMFC/NOAA Fisheries staff will work cooperatively on analyses

Recreational Survey Programs Meeting

- Scheduled for May 14-16 in New Orleans
- Include state and federal recreational data program managers
- Purpose – restore process for reviewing recreational survey programs and estimates
- Also establish new process for reviewing estimates
  - Develop process for future years
  - Meet in-person annually

Questions?