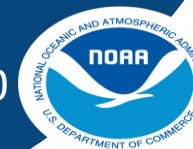


# The Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Act Section 102 (P.L. 115-405)

SAFMC-GMFMC Joint Working Group – May 18, 2020

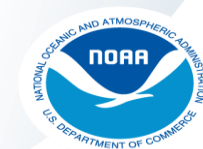


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# Modern Fish Act Overview

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

- Authorizes management measures for recreational fisheries, reaffirms Annual Catch Limit requirements
- Requires numerous reports, studies, and guidance
- Seeks improvements in recreational data collection programs and federal-state partnership



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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(a)

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.*

Maintains existing MSA provisions:

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



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# Section 102(b)

## Report to Congress describing Council actions pursuant to §102:

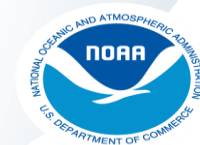
- Mid-Atlantic Council – Conditional AMs
- South Atlantic/Gulf Councils – Extraction rates; fishing mortality rates; conditional AMs, possibility of annual assessments to allow for more timely updates to ACLs
- Pacific Council– Harvest control rules
- North Pacific Council – Quota leasing & Purchasing
- Western Pacific Council – Customary Exchange



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# Related Activity

- March 2018 – National Recreational Fisheries Summit discussions
- Oct 2018 – SAFMC workshop on alternative management w/ASA, CCA, Yamaha
- Dec 2018 – MFA signed into law
- March 2019 – SAFMC meeting discussion
- Nov 2019 – CCC discussion of alternative management
- Jan 2020 – Overview of CCC discussion to GMFMC
- March 2020 – MFA sect. 102 report transmitted to Congress
- May 2020 – Joint SAFMC-GMFMC working group



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# Conclusion

- Modern Fish Act authorizes approaches that expand management flexibility
- Multiple approaches being applied/explored to suit regional/fishery needs:
  - harvest rate, mortality rate, harvest control rules, market based quota reallocation, etc.
- Joint SAFMC-GFMC working group has NOAA Fisheries full support and is an important tool to explore the flexibilities offered by the MFA.

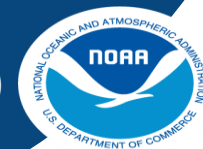


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# Questions?

Thank you

Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council, January 2020



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