

East Coast Forum
May 4-7, 2014 • Beaufort, NC

Identifying, Communicating, and Managing for Recreational Objectives

Final Agenda

Forum objectives

The purpose of the 2014 East Coast Forum is to explore the steps councils are taking to identify, communicate, and manage for recreational and for-hire management objectives. Participants will have the opportunity to:

- Share their experiences with regional recreational management issues, and consider how these issues are shaping the national discourse about recreational fisheries management and policy;
 - Examine the steps councils have taken to identify recreational management objectives;
 - Explore the roles and responsibilities associated with data collection and analysis in support of recreational fisheries management, with a focus on electronic reporting (ER) methods;
 - Consider ideas and themes of discussion from NOAA Fisheries' April 2014 National Recreational Saltwater Fishing Summit;
 - Share experiences navigating challenging discussions; and
 - Discuss the efforts councils are undertaking to engage the recreational community in the management process, identify values and preferences, and support long-term planning.
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Please note, the term "recreational" in this agenda is intended to include private recreational and for-hire fisheries and stakeholders.

Sunday, May 4th

6:30 – 9:00 pm Welcome reception

Front Street Grill at Stillwater, 300 Front St. (private event space upstairs at The Landing). Walking directions provided. This is casual! Late arrivals are encouraged to join.

Monday, May 5th

Meeting room: Repass Center, Duke University Marine Lab (DUML)

7:30 – 8:30 am Breakfast and transportation to DUML

Shuttle service and walking directions provided. Coffee and light breakfast will be provided in the Repass Center.

- 8:30 – 9:00 am** **Opening remarks and participant introductions**
- *John Henderschedt, Executive Director, Fisheries Leadership & Sustainability Forum (Fisheries Forum)*
 - *Katie Latanich, Program Manager, Fisheries Forum*
 - Participants and invited experts
- 9:00 – 10:00 am** **Opening discussion: The evolution of recreational saltwater fishing**
Rip Cunningham, Conservation Editor, Salt Water Sportsman; former chairman, New England Fishery Management Council
- 10:00 – 10:15 am** **BREAK**
- 10:15 – 12:00 pm** **Roundtable discussion: Regional recreational management issues**
Objective: Share regional experiences with managing recreational fisheries and identifying recreational management objectives.
Fisheries Forum facilitators

Discussion questions:

- How would you describe the current and ongoing recreational management issues in your region? What is characteristic or unique about your region?
- How has the management of recreational fisheries in your region evolved over time? What events and decision points shaped this trajectory?
- What specific recreational management objectives has your council identified? Where do these objectives reside?
- What experiences do you think are most valuable to share from your region?

- 12:00 – 1:00 pm** **LUNCH** (provided)
Repass commons and back deck
- 1:00 – 3:30 pm** **Group discussion: Electronic reporting (ER) and recreational fisheries: Roles, responsibilities, and relationships**
Objective: Investigate the roles and responsibilities of councils in exploring applications for ER in private recreational and for-hire fisheries.
(Session will include panel remarks, full group discussion, and small breakouts.)
- Perspectives
- *Gordon Colvin, Contractor, Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP), NOAA Fisheries Office of Science & Technology*
 - *Ken Brennan, Coordinator, Southeast Region Headboat Survey, NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fisheries Science Center*
 - *Dave Donaldson, Interim Executive Director and FIN Data Program Manager, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission*

Discussion questions:

- What is the process for identifying objectives, priorities, and information needs for recreational catch and effort data improvements, including ER implementation? Who is involved in these discussions?
- What additional roles and responsibilities do councils have in supporting discussions about ER implementation? How do these intersect with the roles and responsibilities of other management and data collection partners (states, Fishery Information Networks (FINs), NOAA Fisheries)?
- What experiences and lessons learned from council discussions about ER/EM implementation in commercial fisheries, might also inform discussions about ER implementation in recreational fisheries?

3:30 – 3:45 pm **BREAK**

3:45 – 5:00 pm **Presentation and discussion: Economic analysis of recreational fisheries**
Objective: Investigate the models and research methods used to characterize the economic contributions of recreational fisheries, and provide insight into angler behavior and preferences.
Dr. Rita Curtis, Chief, Economics & Social Analysis Division, NOAA Fisheries Office of Science & Technology

6:30 – 9:00 pm **Reception and dinner**
Beaufort Grocery Co., 117 Queen Street (private annex)
Walking directions provided

Tuesday, May 6th

7:30 – 8:30 am **Breakfast and transportation to DUML**

8:30 – 10:15 am **Presentation and discussion: National and cross-regional recreational management issues**
Objective: Review ideas and perspectives shared at the April 2014 National Saltwater Recreational Summit, and examine recreational management issues with cross-regional relevance.
Danielle Rioux, Recreational Fisheries Policy Specialist, NOAA Fisheries

Discussion questions:

- From your perspective, which of the priorities and concerns discussed at the Summit resonate most with the challenges your region is facing?
- What issues do your council, and recreational stakeholders in your region, view as priorities for reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act? What different perspectives and opinions have you encountered?
- How might the management of recreational fisheries continue to evolve?

10:15 – 10:30 am BREAK

10:30 – 12:00 pm Small group discussions: Navigating challenging discussions

Objective: Share experiences with leading and contributing to constructive discussions about challenging management issues.

Fisheries Forum facilitators

12:00 – 1:00 pm LUNCH

1:00 – 2:45 pm Panel discussion: Engaging the recreational community

Objective: Examine the strategies councils have adopted to reach out to the recreational community, share information, elicit ideas and perspectives, and support long-term planning.

Perspectives:

- *Dr. Michelle Duval, North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries; Vice Chairman, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council*
- *Emily Muehlstein, Fisheries Outreach Specialist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council*
- *Mary Clark, Communications Program Coordinator, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council*

Discussion questions

- What strategies does your council use to engage with recreational stakeholders? What information products do you provide? How have these strategies and information products evolved over time?
- What is different or distinctive about engaging with recreational stakeholders? In your view, what are the goals, attributes and outcomes of successful engagement with the recreational community?
- How do you utilize the information obtained through targeted outreach to the recreational community?

2:45 – 3:00 pm BREAK

3:00 – 4:30 pm **Putting it all together: Next steps toward identifying, communicating, and managing for recreational objectives**
Fisheries Forum facilitators

Discussion questions:

- How might the management of recreational fisheries continue to evolve in the future? What do you see as the emerging issues and challenges?
- From your perspective, what is the value of identifying and communicating clear goals and objectives for recreational fisheries management?
- What experiences do you think are most valuable to share from your own council region? What insight have you gained from the experiences of other council regions?

4:30 – 5:00 pm **Wrap-up and closing remarks**

6:30 – 9:00 pm **Reception and dinner**
Blue Moon Bistro, 119 Queen Street. Walking directions provided.

Wednesday, May 7th

8:00 – 8:30 am **Transportation to DUML**
Meet at boathouse for coffee and bagels. Shuttle service and walking directions provided.

8:30 – 2:00 pm **Field trip to Cape Lookout National Seashore**
Box lunch provided.