

DRAFT SUMMARY FOR DISCUSSION OR CONSENSUS

1. Some of the priorities of recreational fishermen and Sanctuary management needs can be specific to each region and national marine sanctuary.
2. Fishing access and opportunity are priorities for recreational fishermen whether in a national marine sanctuary or elsewhere in the U.S. EEZ.
3. A common, but not universal, perception among recreational fishermen is that marine protected areas, including national marine sanctuaries, take away more (i.e., have more restrictions) than they actually give back (i.e., than benefits).
4. NOAA needs to improve the dissemination of information, communication, and receipt of input from recreational fishermen throughout specific processes including management plans, research, and regulatory activities, etc.
5. NOAA and recreational fishermen should explore opportunities to collaborate on science and education projects throughout the national marine sanctuary system.
6. There is broad interest in working together to enhance the recreational fishing experience in national marine sanctuaries.

COMMITMENTS

NOAA and recreational fishermen are committed to improve recreational fishing. Our first steps:

1. ONMS will develop and distribute a draft “action plan” based on input from this meeting and continue this discussion with recreational fishing representatives.
2. ONMS and NMFS will coordinate on Cooperative Research Program activities in national marine sanctuaries.
3. Director will contact each site superintendent to ensure there is an ongoing dialogue between recreational fishing representative (s) on all management issues or areas of concern.
4. ONMS Director will identify a Point of Contact at each site for recreational fishing concerns and the POC will establish contact with NMFS regional recreational fishing coordinators.
5. ONMS and NMFS Recreational Fisheries Initiative will seek additional regional and national level opportunities for intra-agency collaboration and with recreational fishermen based on the outputs from this meeting.