



**Rhode Island**  
**Department of Environmental Management**

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**DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
**Marine Fisheries**  
1231 Succotash Rd  
Wakefield, RI 02879

**Phase II**

**Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG)**

**Management of Rhode Island Recreational Fisheries**

**A Marine Recreational Fishing License for RI**

**By**

**Marine Fisheries Section**  
**Division of Fish and Wildlife**

**IWG members**

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## **Introduction**

In December 2000, Governor Lincoln Almond requested that the Coastal Institute at the University of Rhode Island develop a forum to identify the different options before the State of Rhode Island with respect to commercial fishing licensing (Phase I). As a result, the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island enacted the “Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Modernization Act of 2001 (H6544A). The bill mandates that the Department of Environmental Management (DEM), and the University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute (CI), with input from commercial and recreational fishing interests, evaluate a wide range of options for improving fisheries management in Rhode Island. Authorization to investigate and propose a marine recreational fishing license was also part of the bill. This report is presented as a component of the investigation relative to management of recreational fisheries.

## **Status and General Need**

Marine recreational fisheries contribute significantly to the quality of Rhode Island life as a source of food and recreation as well as a major contributor to the economic well being of coastal communities. It supports diverse industries that provide goods and services to anglers including but not limited to bait, tackle, boats, motors, fuel, hotels, and restaurants. Fishing is the most popular form of outdoor recreation in the State, and is the second most popular tourist attraction. Today, thousands of saltwater anglers make over one million fishing trips each year in the state. Any natural resource-based activity of this magnitude is expected to have a significant impact on the resources while and producing substantial social and economic benefits to the State.

In order to protect and enhance marine recreational fisheries for current and future generations, it is imperative that decision-makers have the information and the resources necessary to make wise management decisions. The Marine Recreational Fishing Statistics Survey (MRFSS) is the primary data source concerning marine recreational fishing activity, assessment, and management decisions. Quota allocations between states, and among commercial and recreational users are based on the MRFSS data. The precision and accuracy of this data depends on the sampling intensity, and frequency. More samples provides for better the data and better management. The precision on landing and discard estimates ranges between 10% and 20% for important species such as striped bass, summer flounder, but is less precise for other species (tautog, black sea bass, scup, winter flounder). The cost of the current level of sampling in RI averages about \$150,000.00 annually; with costs split between federal (75%) and state (25%) sources. In year 2000, about 300,000 saltwater anglers participated in the RI marine recreational fishery. Of these, 180,000 were non-residents who made fishing trips in RI. Cost of the MRFSS survey is about \$0.40 per angler per year.

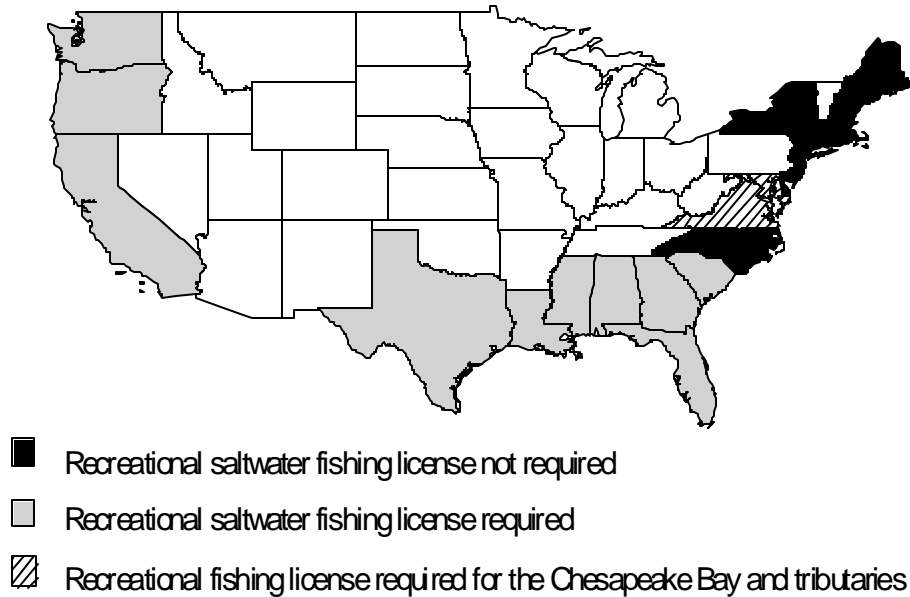
Rhode Island is one of ten coastal States that does not require a recreational saltwater fishing license.

Coincidentally, some interpretations of the RI Constitution prohibit charging a fee for a license to fish recreationally in the marine environment. Lack of a dedicated state funding source limits maintenance and enhancement of marine recreational programs. The only direct financial contribution by marine anglers to marine recreational programs is through a ten percent federal excise tax (with imposed limits) generated from the purchase of fishing tackle, fuel sold at marinas, and sport fishing equipment. These federal tax receipts are returned to the states on a prorated basis. The Rhode Island apportionment of the USF&W administered funds has averaged 2 million dollars in recent years and is at the maximum level. The funds are split between the freshwater and marine programs by RIDFW. These funds are designated as restricted receipt through assent with federal law (RIGL 20-9-3). Federal law requires states to provide a 25% match to receive federal funds. Rhode Island has no dedicated state funds for marine recreational fishing programs. Freshwater recreational anglers purchase licenses and trout stamps that provide the match for federal aid to freshwater programs. These are reserved for exclusive use by the RIDFW in recreational fishing programs (RIGL 20-6-2). Commercial harvesters are required to purchase licenses and the revenues in excess of \$200,000.00 are used to match NOAA federal grants covering research and management of commercial fisheries (RIGL 20-2-28.2). Federal aid to RI marine recreational programs is currently matched with general funds appropriated to RIDFW by the General Assembly or with commercial license receipts. The former is in very short supply and usage of the latter is restricted to those programs that clearly benefit commercial fishers as well.

### **Saltwater Recreational Fishing in the United States**

There are twenty-one coastal states in the continental United States, twelve that require the purchase of a license to fish recreationally in saltwater regions of the state (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Continental coastal states that require a license for recreational saltwater fishing



For most of the 12 states, these regions include inland bodies of saltwater and oceanic waters located within three miles of the shoreline. Two exceptions are Virginia and Maryland, which only require a license to fish within the Chesapeake Bay and other inland bodies of saltwater. Waters governed under federal jurisdiction are between 3 and 200 miles from the shoreline. Recreational licenses are not required in the federal EEZ, however many states require a license to land fish that were caught recreationally within federal waters (Valliere & Murphy, 2001).

Fees for recreational fishing licenses are required in 12 states and prices are structured to reflect residency status. In most states fees for non-residents are more expensive than fees for residents. Non-resident fees range between \$7.50 - \$110.00 and average \$38.00. Resident fees range between \$7.50 - \$29.00 and average \$15.00. Prices also vary depending upon the age of an individual. State programs specify a minimum age that a license is required, which range between 14 and 17 years. Individuals younger than the specified minimum age are exempt from the license requirement. Likewise, individuals older than an established maximum age are exempt from license requirements or are eligible for reduced rates (Valliere and Murphy, 2001).

**Table 1. Coastal Marine Recreational Licenses**

	License Fees		Age License Required		Short Term License		Boat License <sup>1</sup>	
	Resident	Non-resident			Yes	No	Yes	No

<b>Alabama</b>	\$16.00	\$31.00	16-64 <sup>4</sup>	X			X
<b>California</b>	\$28.10	\$75.85	16 and over <sup>6</sup>	X			X
<b>Florida<sup>3</sup></b>	\$13.50	\$31.50	16-64	X		X	
<b>Georgia</b>	\$9.00	\$24.00	16 and over <sup>5</sup>	X			X
<b>Louisiana</b>	\$15.00	\$110.00	16-60 <sup>4</sup>	X			X
<b>Maryland<sup>2</sup></b>	\$9.00	\$14.00	16+ <sup>5</sup>	X			X
<b>Mississippi</b>	\$12.00	\$25.00	16-64 <sup>4</sup>	X			X
<b>Oregon</b>	\$19.75	\$48.50	14 and over <sup>6</sup>	X			X
<b>South Carolina<sup>3</sup></b>	\$5.50	\$5.50	16 and over	X			X
<b>Texas</b>	\$29.00	\$40.00	17-70	X			X
<b>Virginia<sup>2</sup></b>	\$7.50	\$7.50	16-64	X		X	
<b>Washington</b>	\$18.00	\$36.00	15 and over <sup>7</sup>	X			X
<b>Average</b>	\$15.00	\$38.00					

Source: (Valliere & Murphy 2001)

There are a variety of other license types offered by state programs. For example, the states of Florida and Virginia offer a boat license for privately owned boats that permit all individuals on a vessel to fish. Long-term or lifetime licenses, which are transferable among family members, permit individuals to participate in a suite of activities such as freshwater fishing, saltwater fishing and hunting. Many state programs offer exemptions or reduced license fees for individuals with certain disabilities.

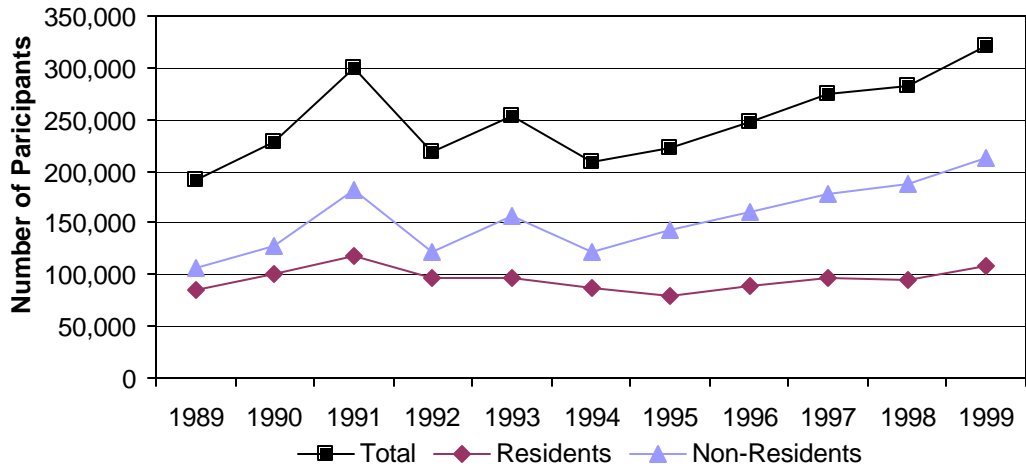
Several states require the purchase of stamps or tags to fish for certain species. For example, in Oregon the purchase of stamps are required to fish for salmon, sturgeon and halibut. The State of Rhode Island requires the purchase of a trout conservation stamp by any person wishing to keep or possess a trout, salmon, or char caught in Rhode Island waters. The revenues generated from these stamps are generally earmarked for the conservation and enhancement of those species. Another strategy utilized to generate revenues for conservation is the promotion of automobile license plates that feature a wildlife or aquatic species. The State of Georgia offers for sale license plates that have a picture of a northern bobwhite and utilized the proceeds to fund management programs for nongame wildlife. Plates cost an additional fifteen dollars over the cost of standard plates. Fourteen dollars of the added expense was apportioned to the Nongame Wildlife Conservation fund, which in 1997 received approximately \$7.6 million from the sale of these license plates. Many other states have adopted this strategy, designating marine species important to the local area on special license plates for an added fee (i.e. Florida manatee & black panther; Massachusetts right whale; Maine lobster).

### **Saltwater Recreational Fishing in Rhode Island**

MRFSS data indicates an increase in marine angler participation from just under 200,000 in 1989, to over 300,000 in 1999 (Figure 2). Additionally 62% of the anglers were from out-of-state (Figure 3), one of the highest percentages of out-of-state anglers on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts (RI Sea Grant). Recreational anglers in Rhode Island harvested approximately 3.8 million pounds of fish or 23% of the

total fish caught in New England in 2000 and spend over \$100 million annually on fishing related activities (tackle, bait, gas, boats, maintenance and dockage). Of the 3.8 million pounds of fish harvested in Rhode Island in 1999, 86% was comprised by six species: striped bass, bluefish, summer flounder, scup, tautog and winter flounder. In comparison to commercial landings for the years 1989 through 1999 recreational anglers landed approximately 28% of the total landings of those six species (Table 2a-b). For three of those species, bluefish, striped bass and tautog, recreational fishermen took the majority of the landings (Figure 4).

**Figure 2. Saltwater Recreational Anglers in Rhode Island**



**Figure 3. Percentage of Resident and Non-resident Saltwater Recreational Anglers in Rhode Island (average number for 1989-1999)**

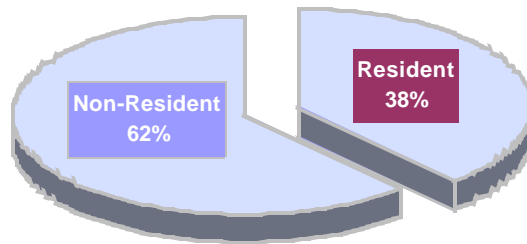


Table 3a.

**Saltwater Recreational Fishing in Rhode Island**

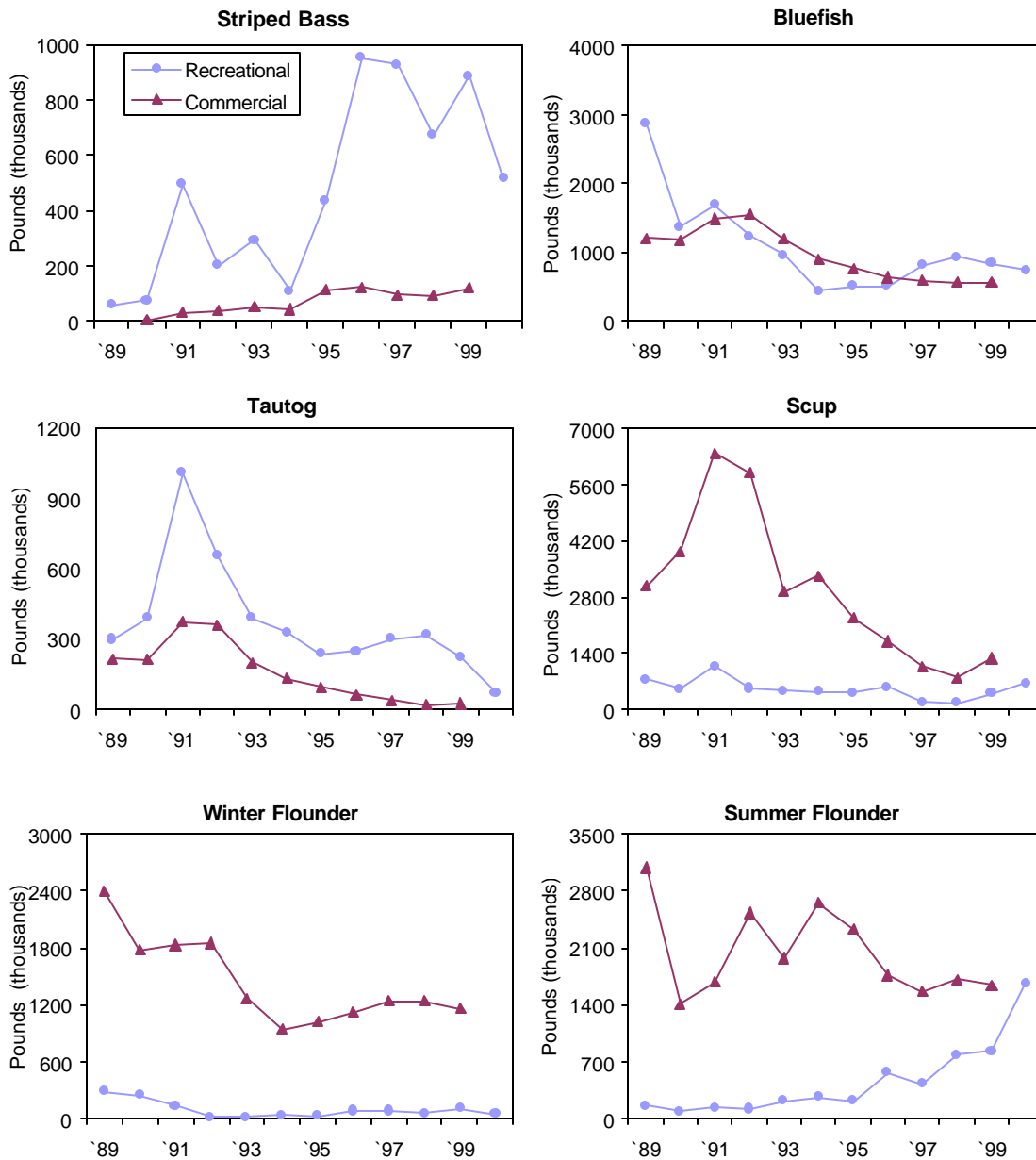
	Summer Flounder	Striped Bass	Scup	Winter Flounder	Tautog	Bluefish	Total
Year	Pounds Harvested (Thousands)						
1989	166.5	59.4	750.9	284.3	296.9	2,865.6	4,423.5
1990	91.2	73.4	517.6	244.9	389.6	1,380.0	2,696.7
1991	132.3	496.7	1,072.2	142.0	1,007.5	1,689.0	4,539.8
1992	120.6	203.1	529.3	10.2	656.7	1,234.7	2,754.6
1993	219.8	292.4	467.6	14.9	389.7	954.2	2,338.6
1994	262.7	109.8	439.0	40.1	328.7	442.1	1,622.4
1995	216.8	436.1	421.8	26.9	237.1	508.7	1,847.4
1996	562.4	951.0	563.8	81.4	248.8	505.9	2,913.4
1997	419.4	927.9	183.6	80.8	301.1	817.7	2,730.5
1998	785.8	671.9	167.4	57.6	316.3	931.1	2,930.1
1999	830.0	886.7	392.0	107.3	223.7	837.8	3,277.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,807.5</b>	<b>5,048.9</b>	<b>5,505.2</b>	<b>1,090.5</b>	<b>4,396.3</b>	<b>12,166.9</b>	<b>32,074.6</b>

Table 3b

**Saltwater Commercial Fishing in Rhode Island**

	Summer Flounder	Striped Bass	Scup	Winter Flounder	Tautog	Bluefish	Total
Year	Pounds Harvested (Thousands)						
1989	3,082.9		3,090.8	2,401.2	214.8	1,211.7	10,001.4
1990	1,408.4	4.0	3,938.3	1,774.5	211.1	1,184.8	8,521.0
1991	1,672.6	31.3	6,397.3	1,832.0	371.6	1,490.7	11,795.4
1992	2,531.5	36.8	5,900.2	1,852.7	359.7	1,550.1	12,231.0
1993	1,975.9	52.4	2,937.3	1,267.8	201.6	1,195.2	7,630.3
1994	2,649.1	44.6	3,330.7	941.1	130.7	901.9	7,998.1
1995	2,325.4	113.6	2,294.9	1,016.0	95.0	772.4	6,617.3
1996	1,766.5	122.9	1,700.0	1,116.5	64.9	642.0	5,412.6
1997	1,565.9	96.5	1,089.0	1,236.6	39.6	596.5	4,624.1
1998	1,716.5	94.7	794.8	1,236.9	20.3	570.7	4,433.9
1999	1,636.5	120.2	1,280.5	1,157.4	26.1	570.3	4,791.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,331.0</b>	<b>716.9</b>	<b>32,753.8</b>	<b>15,833.6</b>	<b>1,735.5</b>	<b>10,686.3</b>	<b>84,056.2</b>

**Figure 4. Comparison of commercial and recreational landings in Rhode Island for six recreationally important species 1989- 2000**



**Management Authority**

During 2001, the Rhode Island legislature mandated that the licensing system for the harvest of marine species be revised. This not only included the commercial licensing system, but also a mandated to pursue development of a comprehensive marine recreational fishing license. Currently RI issues only non-resident recreational shell fishing and non-commercial lobster licenses that generate little revenue for

the Department.

The language from the bill, H 6544 enacted in 2001 by the General Assembly, pertaining to marine recreational licensing is as follows:

20-3.1-7. Studies and analyses. -- The department, with the advice and involvement of the council, the University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute and commercial and recreational fishing interests, shall undertake the following studies and analyses that shall evaluate the full reasonable range of options for improving fisheries management in Rhode Island. The process for undertaking these studies and analyses and developing legislative options for consideration by the general assembly shall be open, inclusive, and participatory, and shall fairly and Appropriately involve the range of fishing interests and give fair and Balanced consideration to the interests of year round, seasonal, and Recreational fishers, full and part-time fishers, aquaculturists, and Persons who may wish to participate in fishing in the future.

(1) Principles for fisheries management. The department shall, by October 1, 2001, recommend goals and principles to guide the development and Implementation of a restructured marine fisheries management system.

(3) Recreational fisheries. The department is authorized to propose a Licensing system for recreational fisheries for the purposes of: (i) Obtaining reliable data about the level and effects of recreational fishing In the state; (ii) improving the quality and extent of recreational fishing Opportunities in Rhode Island; and (iii) providing revenue to be used Solely and exclusively for the purposes of managing recreational fisheries And enhancing recreational fishing opportunities. Said licensing system Shall not be effective either before April 1, 2003, or without general Assembly approval and shall be put into effect by rule after a finding by The director, following such general assembly approval, that the system is Fair, enforceable and accomplishes the purposes of this chapter.

## **Existing Issues**

### ?? Finfish Biological Issues

- ?? Recreational harvest and effort estimates are based on a statistical survey which anglers have little confidence in.
- ?? Length composition of released catch (b2) is unknown
- ?? Catch-and-release mortality rates are not well known.
- ?? Age composition of recreationally harvested fish is unknown
- ?? Bag and length limits analyses are based on limited data, which can result in overly restrictive regulations, e.g. summer flounder in 2001.

### ?? Agency Finfish Funding Issues

- ?? Insufficient funds to expand and maintain the recreational program.
- ?? USFWS Federal aid apportionment is currently at maximum.
- ?? Specific law changes are required to direct usage of restricted receipt accounts (RIGL 20-2-6 freshwater fishing license receipts, 20-2-28.2 marine licenses receipts, 20-9-3 assent to federal law).

#### ?? Finfish User Group Issues

- ?? The number of marine recreational anglers increased from 190,000 in 1990 to 321,000 in 1999 (Valliere and Murphy, 2001).
- ?? Loss of existing access points.
- ?? Poor public perception of program.

#### ?? Biological Shellfish Issues

- ?? No recent estimate of overall recreational effort exists. Some area specific estimates exist.
- ?? Shellfish surveys conducted routinely in heavily used recreational areas indicate low stock density.
- ?? Recreational shellfishermen contribute to overfishing in traditional intertidal shellfishing grounds.
- ?? Portions of Narragansett Bay suffer pollution closures for shellfishing in response to rainfall events and resultant bacterial contamination.
- ?? Vessels moored at marinas induce seasonal pollution closures during peak summer months.

#### ?? Agency Shellfish Funding Issues

- ?? No significant financial contribution by recreational users.
- ?? Non-resident recreational license receipts go directly into the RI General Fund with no guarantee that the money will be spent on marine programs (RIGL 20-6-25).
- ?? Insufficient funds to expand recreational opportunities
- ?? Specific law changes are required to initiate restricted receipt accounts.

#### ?? Shellfish User Group Issues

- ?? Past efforts to eliminate recreational shellfishing by non-residents as a means to reduce overfishing in has been politically unpopular, despite declining stocks.
- ?? Coastal salt ponds have had severe user conflicts involving local property owners and "outsiders".
- ?? Commercial Scuba diving versus resident shore-digging conflicts.
- ?? Easy public access to certain shellfishing areas focuses fishing pressure.

?? Lobster Biological Issues.

?? No data on recreational harvest/effort prior to 1999

?? Lobster resource assessed as over-fished; requires fishing mortality reductions.

?? Agency Lobster Funding Issues.

?? No significant financial contribution by recreational users

?? Recreational license receipts go directly into the RI General Fund with no guarantee that the money will be spent on marine programs.

?? Insufficient funds to expand recreational opportunities

?? Specific law changes required to initiate restricted receipt accounts.

?? Lobster User Group Issues.

?? Number of recreational lobster fishers dropped significantly in 1993, but has been relatively stable since.

?? Many complaints about gear being stolen.

?? Concerns about SCUBA divers taking lobsters from pots.

### **Listing of Projects Funded by the Marine Sport Fish Program.**

-See new handout for summary of USFWS Federal Aid Programs

-NOAA Grants and other commercial license receipt expenditures that benefit marine Recreational fishing

#### **Administrative Support to Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Management Process.**

2001 Funding: 100% Federal \$116,000 (NOAA Grant)

Staff assigned to represent Rhode Island in ASMFC management programs.

#### **Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP)**

2001 Funding: 100% Federal \$253,000 (NOAA Grant)

RIDFW Staff and participation in Process.

#### **Marine Abstracts**

2001 Funding \$5,000 State Commercial License Receipts.

## **Elements of a RI Recreational Fishing Program**

### ?? Fishing Access and Launch Facilities.

- ?? Trash removal and maintenance of high use facilities
- ?? Increase parking at existing ramps/accesses.
- ?? Jamestown Bridge fishing pier.
- ?? Construction of new boat ramps and associated tie-up docks.
- ?? Improve conditions/function at existing ramps including addition of tie-up docks.
- ?? Construction of handicapped accessible fishing piers.
- ?? More focused staff involvement in DOT projects where potential for enhancement of recreational opportunities exists.
- ?? Toilet/portable toilet facility expansion

### ?? Education, Information, and Outreach Program.

- ?? Seminars on recreational fishing.
- ?? Sportfishing tournaments (tag and release).
- ?? Gamefish awards programs.
- ?? Online and phone recording fishing reports with timely updates.
- ?? Licenses made available at vendors and online.
- ?? Staff attendance of fishing club meetings.
- ?? Abstracts and regulatory updates available on time and online.
- ?? Clear, accurate, signs at boat ramps and fishing areas (multi-language).
- ?? Publications for recreational community detailing results from long-term surveys (trawl, juvenile, coastal pond, MRFSS trends etc.).

### ?? Enforcement.

- ?? Better enforcement of issues important to the recreational community.
- ?? More frequent patrols in high-use recreational areas...

### ?? Volunteer Programs

- ?? Cooperative surveys and logbook programs.
- ?? Stewardship programs for accesses.
- ?? On line catch reporting

### ?? Research, Monitoring and Management

- ?? Estimates of recreational catch and effort through combined survey and logbook methods
- ?? Biological sampling of recreational harvest

- ?? Research on release mortality rate and tagging studies
- ?? RIDFW trawl survey in Narragansett Bay and RI coastal waters
- ?? RIDFW beach seine surveys in Narragansett Bay and coastal salt ponds
- ?? RIDFW gillnet survey in Narragansett Bay
- ?? RIDFW ichthyoplankton monitoring in Narragansett Bay
- ?? Inventory and monitoring of essential fish habitat; development of artificial reefs.
- ?? RIDFW Participation in management process (RIDEM, RIMFC, ASMFC, Regional Councils).

## **References**

Higgins, M. 2001. Saltwater recreational fishing licenses in Rhode Island: An examination of what North Carolina has done and what Rhode Island should do. Report prepared in partial fulfillment of URI Marine Affairs Program, Fisheries Law and Management curriculum. 56 pp.

O'Brien, J. 2001. Personal communication with RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife, Deputy Chief of Freshwater and Anadromous Fisheries. Discussion relating to funding of projects and Federal Aid.

April K. Valliere, A. K. and B. R. Murphy. 2001. Report on the status of marine fisheries stocks and fisheries management issues in Rhode Island. RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Fisheries Section. 64 pp.

## Appendix A.

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### U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration (Dingell-Johnson and the Wallop-Breaux Amendment)

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- ?? [Federal Aid- Restoring America's Sport Fish](#)
- ?? [Programs](#)
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### FEDERAL AID IN SPORT FISH RESTORATION

#### Where Does the Money Come From?

The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, commonly referred to as the Dingell-Johnson act, passed on August 9, 1950, was modeled after the Pittman-Robertson Act to create a parallel program for management, conservation, and restoration of fishery resources.

The Sport Fish Restoration program is funded by revenues collected from the manufacturers of fishing rods, reels, creels, lures, flies and artificial baits, who pay an excise tax on these items to the U.S. Treasury. An amendment in 1984 (Wallop-Breaux Amendment) added new provisions to the Act by extending the excise tax to previously untaxed items of sport fishing equipment.

Appropriate State agencies are the only entities eligible to receive grant funds. Each State's share is based 60 percent on its licensed anglers (fishermen) and 40 percent on its land and water area. No State may receive more than 5 percent or less than 1 percent of each year's total apportionment. Puerto Rico receives 1 percent, and the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, and the District of Columbia each receive one-third of 1 percent.

The program is a cost-reimbursement program, where the state covers the full amount of an approved project then applies for reimbursement through Federal Aid for up to 75 percent of the project expenses. The state must provide at least 25 percent of the project costs from a non-federal source.

#### Amendments to the Sport Fish Restoration Act

Four amendments to the Sport Fish Restoration Act significantly altered the Program:

- ?? Enactment of the Wallop-Breaux Amendment (W-B) in 1984
- ?? Inclusion of wetlands conservation provisions in 1990
- ?? Creation of a boat-related waste pumpout facilities program through amendments in 1992
- ?? Enactment of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) in 1998

The major element of the W-B Amendment established a new Trust Fund, named the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. Funds are also received from import duties on sport fishing equipment, pleasure boats and yachts. Another source of revenue is a tax from motorboat fuel sales. These motorboat fuel taxes are collected by the U.S. Treasury and then transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Service for distribution among the States and territories.

The passage of TEA-21 authorized a National Outreach and Communications Program to increase participation in angling and boating while reminding boaters and anglers about the importance of clean aquatic habitats. It also increased the minimum level of spending for boating access to 15% and raised the maximum allowable expenditure of Sport Fish Restoration apportionments for aquatic education and outreach to 15%. TEA-21 created a Boating Infrastructure Program for the construction, maintenance, or renovation of facilities for non-trailerable recreational boats (boats greater than 26 feet in length.) TEA-21 raises the amount of Federal gas tax credited to the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund and establishes a

“permanent” appropriation for the Boating Safety Account.

## FEDERAL AID - RESTORATING AMERICA'S SPORT FISHERIES

### Topics related to Sport Fish Restoration

- ?? The Era of Abuses and Mistakes
- ?? Restoration - The Early Years
- ?? The Anglers' Role
- ?? How the Tax Works
- ?? The States' Role
- ?? "Wallop-Breaux" - Meeting the Challenges of the Future
- ?? Future Fishing - An Extended American Tradition

## PROGRAMS

- ?? [Aquatic Resource Education](#)
- ?? [Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act](#)
- ?? [Clean Vessel Act Pumpout Grant Program](#)
- ?? [Wallop-Breaux Reauthorization](#)
- ?? [Boat Access](#)

## CONTACT CONSULTANTS

For any further information about Sport Fisheries resources and the Act

Contact: Tim Hess

[Tim\\_Hess@fws.gov](mailto:Tim_Hess@fws.gov)

For any further information about Aquatic Education resources and the Act

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## Appendix B.

### **Protected and Unprotected License Receipt Accounts in States with Marine Recreational Licenses (Including Statutes of Protected Accounts)**

Note: States in boldface have protected license receipt accounts.

South Carolina DNR Marine Resources Division - Contact: Wayne Walsh (843)762-5000.  
(unprotected accounts)

Marine Recreational License since 1992.

- 1) Marine recreational license is required for harvest of finfish/shellfish.
- 2) Receipts go to the *general fund*. A law was passed when the licenses were initiated, requiring that all recreational license receipts be returned to the agency for marine programs.
- 3) 25% of the fund may be used for administration and law enforcement, 75% is used specifically for marine recreational programs.
- 4) Annual spending is overseen by citizens advisory committee.
- 5) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 8) Supported by recreational community.

Georgia DNR Coastal Resources Section - Contact: Susan Shipman (912)264-7237.  
(unprotected accounts)

Marine Recreational License since 1993.

- 1) Marine recreational license is required for harvest of all marine organisms.
- 2) Receipts go to the *general fund*. A restricted receipt account would require a constitutional change.
- 3) License receipts are in excess of that allocated to marine programs.
- 4) Freshwater/Marine/Hunting receipts all combined.
- 5) Capitol projects require separate appropriation by legislature.
- 6) Saltwater advisory committee recommends projects and respective budgets which go before legislature.
- 7) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 8) Supported by recreational community.

Florida Fish & Wildlife Con. Com. Marine Fisheries - Contact: Robert Palmer (850)487-0554.  
(some unprotected accounts)

Marine Recreational License since 1989.

- 1) Saltwater license required for any marine fish for noncommercial purposes. Special stamp required for taking of snook and spiny lobster.
- 2) Funding for marine recreational programs is generated from multiple sources and is placed in the "Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund". Fund includes license receipts, revenues transferred from "Coastal Protection Trust Fund", "Ecosystem Management & Restoration Trust Fund", fixed capitol outlays, grant monies (public and private), as well as the "Save the Manatee Trust Fund".
- 3) Fund is not 100% restricted. A board oversees the dispersement of funds to safeguard against non-related legislative use.
- 4) Up to 30% of fund used for enforcement, no less than 30% for enhancement, no less than 30% to for research and up to 10% for administrative costs.
- 5) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 6) Supported by recreational community.

**Alabama DC&NR Marine Fisheries Division - Contact: Jerry Waller (334)861-2882.**  
*(protected account by statute)*

Marine Recreational License since 1992.

- 1) Marine recreational license is required for harvest of all marine organisms.
- 2) Receipts go to a special fund managed by DCNR. License receipts deposited directly into Marine Fisheries Division account.
- 3) Surplus funds carried over to subsequent year.
- 4) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 5) Supported by recreational community.

**Alabama:** <http://www.legislature.state.al.us/CodeofAlabama/1975/6457.htm>

**Section 9-11-53 Annual resident freshwater fishing license generally; fee of issuing authority; exemptions from license requirements; reciprocal agreement with Florida; disposition of fees; penalty.**

(a) Any person who has been a bona fide resident of this state for a period of not less than 90 days next preceding and who is between the ages of 16 and 65 shall not take, catch, kill or attempt to take, catch, or kill any fish in any of the waters of this state above that line defined in Rule 220-2-.42 (1) of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as published in the Alabama Administrative Code, as well as below that line in any of the ponds or lakes containing freshwater fish, subject to the exceptions contained herein, by angling with rod and reel or by use of any artificial bait, fly, or lure without first procuring an annual freshwater fishing license and paying therefor the sum of \$8.50. Any resident angling with hook and line in the waters of this state outside his or her county of residence shall procure the annual freshwater fishing license. Any resident who procures a rod and reel license, however, shall be entitled to fish with a hook and line without the necessity of procuring an additional license. These licenses shall be issued in the manner and under the conditions, limitations, and exemptions as expressly provided for in this section.

(b) A fishing license shall not be transferable, and it shall be unlawful to borrow, lend, or alter any fishing license or for any license-issuing officer to backdate any license at the time of issuing the license.

(c) Any citizen of this state who is entitled to purchase a fishing license as provided for in this section may procure a license by applying to any judge of probate, license commissioner, or other persons authorized and designated to issue fishing licenses, stating his or her name, age, place of residence, and post office address, and paying to the issuing officer the amount required in this section for the license. Judges of probate, license commissioners, or other persons authorized and designated to issue fishing licenses shall be entitled to a fee of \$1 for each license so issued, which fee shall be in addition to the amount designated in this section as the cost of the license. All fees collected by any judge of probate or license commissioner who is paid a salary for the performance of his or her duties shall be paid into the county treasury to the credit of the appropriate fund.

(d) All persons under the age of 16 years shall be exempted from the requirement of procuring a license. Any resident of this state over 65 years of age shall be exempted from the requirement of procuring a fishing license as provided for in this section, provided that the resident has on his or her person while fishing, a driver's license, or, in the case of nondrivers, proof of permanent Alabama residence and age.

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is directed to enter into a reciprocal agreement with the State of Florida to exempt residents of Alabama over 65 years of age from the requirement of procuring a license in Florida by exempting residents of Florida over 65 years of age from the requirement of procuring a license in Alabama.

(e) The licenses required by this section shall not apply to any person who fishes in a private pond. The license required by this section shall not apply to any person fishing with an ordinary hook and line in his or her county of residence. A person who fishes with ordinary hook and line in his or her own county of residence shall be required to have on his or her person, while so fishing, a reasonable proof of residency in the county. In addition, the licenses required by this section shall not apply to persons exempt from fishing license requirements while fishing at commercial fee fishing ponds pursuant to the provisions of Article 17 of Chapter 11 of Title 9.

**(f) The revenue derived from the sale of the license provided for in this section shall be remitted to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources on the first day of each month by the issuing officer and shall be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the game and fish fund and shall be used in the construction, maintenance, development, and supervision of public fishing lakes, for the purchase of lands to be used for public landings on public streams and for the development, protection, propagation, and distribution of fish and wildlife of this state.**

(g) Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$250 for each offense.

#### **Section 9-11-53.1 Annual resident saltwater fishing license; exemptions; fee; disposition of fees; penalty.**

Any person who has been a bona fide resident of this state for a period of not less than 90 days next preceding and who is age 16 through 64, shall not take, catch, kill, or attempt to take, catch, or kill any fish in any of the waters of this state (except those waters for which a license is required by Section 9-11-53) below that line defined in Rule 220-2-.42(1) of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as published in the Alabama Administrative Code, by angling with rod and reel or by use of any artificial bait, fly, or lure, without first procuring an annual saltwater fishing license. The saltwater fishing license shall not be required of persons fishing with ordinary hook and line, nor shall it be required of any person who has been issued and is the holder of any valid lifetime fishing license that is provided for in Section 9-11-65, provided that such license was issued on or before March 31, 1992. The cost of the annual saltwater fishing license shall be \$15, plus a \$1 issuance fee which shall be in addition to the cost of the license. This saltwater fishing license shall not be required of permanent Alabama residents under age 16 or age 65 or over, provided, however, that said residents 65 or older shall be required to have in their actual possession, while fishing, a driver's license, or in the case of nondrivers, proof of permanent Alabama residence and age. **The revenue derived from the sale of the license provided for in this section shall be remitted to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources on the first day of each month by the issuing officer and shall be covered into the State Treasury to the credit of the marine resources fund and shall be used in the research, management, and development of saltwater fisheries.** Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a

misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$250 for each offense.

**Section 9-11-53.2 Resident annual combination saltwater-freshwater licenses; fee; disposition of fee; additional issuance fees.**

**The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources may provide for the issuance of a resident annual combination saltwater-freshwater fishing license for a combination license fee of \$23.50, with \$15 going to the Marine Resources Fund and \$8.50 going to the Game and Fish Fund.** In addition, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, there shall be a \$1 issuance fee imposed for the cost of issuing the resident annual combination saltwater-freshwater license.

**Section 9-11-53.5 Resident seven-day trip saltwater fishing license.**

A person who has been a bona fide resident of this state for a period of not less than 90 days next preceding and who is age 16 through 64, who is otherwise required to obtain a resident annual saltwater fishing license pursuant to Section 9-11-53.1, may, in lieu thereof, purchase a resident seven-day trip saltwater fishing license which shall entitle the person to engage in the same activities authorized under a license provided in Section 9-11-53.1, but only for a one-time period of seven consecutive days or less. The cost of the license shall be \$5, plus a \$1 issuance fee. **The license fees shall be deposited into the Marine Resources Fund.** A person who violates this section is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor punishable as provided by law except that the minimum fine shall not be less than \$50.

**Section 9-11-55.2 Nonresident saltwater fishing license; cost; disposition of fees; penalty for violation.**

(a) A nonresident of this state who is age 16 or older, shall not take, catch, kill, or attempt to take, catch, or kill any fish in any of the waters of this state except those waters for which a license is required by Section 9-11-53, below that line defined in Rule 220-2-.42(1) of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as published in the Alabama Administrative Code, by angling with rod and reel or by use of any artificial bait, fly, or lure, without first procuring a nonresident saltwater fishing license. A saltwater fishing license shall not be required of a person fishing with ordinary hook and line. The cost of nonresident saltwater fishing licenses shall be as follows:

(1) A nonresident annual saltwater fishing license shall cost \$30, plus a \$1 issuance fee which shall be in addition to the cost of the license. A nonresident annual saltwater fishing license shall expire on July 31.

(2) A nonresident seven-day trip saltwater fishing license shall cost \$10 plus a \$1 issuance fee which shall be in addition to the cost of the license. A nonresident seven-day trip fishing license shall authorize a nonresident to fish for a one-time period of seven consecutive days.

(b) The license fee for nonresidents who are residents of the states of Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Tennessee, or Mississippi shall be the same as the license fee charged Alabama residents for a similar license in one of those states in the event the state charges Alabama residents more than the State of Alabama charges residents from that state.

**(c) The revenue derived from the sale of the licenses provided for in this section shall be remitted to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources on the first day of each month by the issuing officer and shall be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the Marine Resources Fund and shall be used in the research, management, and development of saltwater fisheries.**

(d) Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor punishable as provided by law except that the minimum fine shall not be less than \$50.

**Section 9-11-55.3 Combination nonresident saltwater-freshwater license; fee.**

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources may provide for the issuance of a combination nonresident

saltwater-freshwater fishing license for a combination license fee of \$60, **with \$30 going to the Marine Resources Fund, and \$30 going to the Game and Fish Fund.** In addition, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, there shall be a \$1 issuance fee imposed for the cost of issuing the combination nonresident saltwater-freshwater license.

**Mississippi Department of Marine Resources - Contact: Joseph Jewell (228)374-5022.**  
***(receipts protected by statute)***

Marine Recreational License since 1994.

- 1) Marine recreational license is required for harvest of all marine organisms.
- 2) Receipts go to the *general fund*. A law was passed when the licenses were initiated, requiring that all recreational license receipts be returned to the agency for marine programs.
- 3) Currently pursuing legislation to establish "special fund" (license receipts deposited directly into DMR account..
- 4) Receive additional funding from submerged land leases from gambling industry.
- 5) Two sub-accounts: Management (research/management) and Public Access (piers/ramps etc.)
- 6) Surplus funds carried over to subsequent year.
- 7) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 8) Supported by recreational community.

**Mississippi:** <http://198.187.128.12/mississippi/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=fs-main.htm&2.0> Title 49

**§ 49-15-17. "Seafood Fund".**

**(1) (a) All monies received or obtained by the commission under the provisions of this chapter shall be paid over by the commission to the State Treasurer and shall be deposited into the fund known as the "Seafood Fund." All revenues collected through the department, to include, but not limited to, commercial saltwater licenses and taxes, permits, fines and penalties, and confiscated catches, shall be deposited into the department operating account (Seafood Fund) and expended for the operation of the department, as authorized by the Legislature.**

(b) There is established a special account to be known as the "Artificial Reef Program Account" within the seafood fund. Any funds received from any public or private source for the purpose of promoting, constructing, monitoring or maintaining artificial reefs in the marine waters of the state or in federal waters adjacent to the marine waters of the state shall be credited to the account. Any unexpended funds remaining in the account at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse into the seafood fund, but shall remain in the account. The department may expend any funds in the account, subject to appropriation by the Legislature, to accomplish the purpose of the account.

**(c) There is established a special account to be known as the "Coastal Preserve Account" within the seafood fund. Any funds received from any public or private source for the purpose of management, improvement and acquisition of coastal preserves in the state and money required to be deposited pursuant to Section 27-19-56.27, shall be credited to the account. Any unexpended funds remaining in the account at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse into the seafood fund, but shall remain in the account. The department may expend any funds in the account, subject to appropriation by the Legislature, for the management, improvement and acquisition of coastal preserves.**

**(2) The fund shall be treated as a special trust fund and interest earned on the principal shall be credited to the**

**fund.**

(3) The secretary of the commission shall keep accurate reports of monies handled as a part of the permanent records of the commission, and the State Treasurer shall furnish the secretary of the commission such forms as may be needed, and the secretary shall account for such forms in his reports to the treasurer.

**§ 49-15-305.** Executive director; nomination; powers and duties.

(1) The commission shall submit three (3) nominees for the position of executive director to the Governor. The Governor shall appoint the executive director from the list of nominees with the advice and consent of the Senate. The commission may remove the executive director from office for good cause.

The executive director shall be knowledgeable and experienced in marine resources management.

(2) The executive director of the department shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To supervise and direct all administrative, inspection and technical activities and personnel of the department;

(b) To employ qualified professional personnel in the subject matter or fields, and any other technical and clerical staff as may be required for the operation of the department;

(c) To coordinate all studies in the State of Mississippi concerned with the supply, development, use and conservation of marine resources;

(d) To prepare and deliver to the Legislature and the Governor on or before January 1 of each year, and at any other times as may be required by the Legislature or Governor, a full report of the work of the department, including a detailed statement of expenditures of the department and any recommendations the department may have;

(e) To enter into cooperative agreements with any federal or state agency or subdivision thereof, or any public or private institution located inside or outside the State of Mississippi, or any person, corporation or association in connection with studies and investigations pertaining to marine resources, provided the agreements do not have a financial cost in excess of the amounts appropriated for the purposes by the Legislature; and

(f) To carry out all regulations and rules adopted by the commission and enforce all licenses and permits issued by the department.

**§ 49-15-307.** Powers and duties of department.

The department shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To implement the policy of the commission regarding marine resources within the jurisdiction of the department;

(b) To apply for, receive and expend any federal or state funds or contributions, gifts, devises, bequests or funds from any other source;

(c) To commission or conduct studies designed to determine alternative methods of managing and conserving the marine resources of this state in a manner to insure efficiency and sustained productivity;

(d) To issue permits and licenses authorized by law or regulation;

(e) To equip and supply check stations, remote duty stations and personnel for extended duty;

(f) To develop programs to enhance the marketing of the state's recreational and commercial marine resources;

(g) To provide gear, insignias, and otherwise equip personnel subject to the amount appropriated for those purposes; and

(h) To discharge any other duties, responsibilities and powers as are necessary to implement this chapter.

**§ 49-15-313. Saltwater sports fishing license; separate annual license for charter boat fishing, party boat fishing, head boat and guide boat fishing; exemptions from licensing requirements; disposition of fees; free fishing day.**

(1) Any resident between the ages of sixteen (16) and sixty-five (65) years, as defined in Section 49-7-3, fishing in the marine waters of the state, shall obtain a saltwater sports fishing license for a fee of Four Dollars (\$4.00). This license shall be valid in any waters south of Interstate 10. Any resident citizen who is blind, paraplegic or a multiple amputee, or who has been adjudged by the Veterans Administration as having a total service-connected disability, or has been adjudged totally disabled by the Social Security Administration shall not be required to purchase or have in his possession a saltwater sports fishing license while engaged in such activities. Any resident exempt under this section shall have on his person while fishing proof of residency and age or disability.

(2) The commission shall prescribe the forms, types and fees for nonresident saltwater sports fishing licenses except that the fee for a nonresident saltwater sports fishing license shall not be less than Twenty Dollars (\$20.00). The commission shall require a nonresident to purchase a nonresident freshwater fishing license and a nonresident saltwater sports fishing license if the nonresident's state requires both licenses for a nonresident to fish in its marine waters.

(3) All resident vessels engaged in charter boat fishing, party boat fishing, head boat and guide boat fishing shall be issued a separate annual license by the commission at a fee of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00). All nonresident vessels engaged in charter boat fishing, party boat fishing, headboat and guide boat fishing shall be issued a separate annual license by the commission. The commission shall set the fees for nonresident vessel licenses as provided in Section 49-15-30. Crew members and customers of the licensed vessels shall not be required to purchase an individual resident or nonresident saltwater fishing license while sponsored by the licensed vessels. An operator of a licensed vessel shall be required to report the number of customers to the department as required by the commission and the information shall be kept confidential and shall not be released, except to other fisheries management agencies or as statistical data. All nonresident vessels engaged in saltwater sport fishing tournaments, not to exceed an aggregate of twenty (20) days per calendar year, shall not be required to purchase an annual license as provided under this subsection.

(4) The saltwater sports fishing license is required for all recreational methods of finfish harvest.

(5) Any resident who purchases a lifetime sportsman's license, in accordance with Section 49-7-153, shall be entitled to fish in the marine salt waters of the state and shall be exempt from the purchase of a sport saltwater fishing license.

(6) Any person authorized to issue a license may collect and retain, for each saltwater fishing license issued, the additional fee authorized under Section 49-7-17.

**(7) The fees collected from the sale of resident and nonresident saltwater sports fishing licenses shall be deposited into the Seafood Fund and shall be used solely for the management of marine resources.**

(8) Participants in the Very Special Fishing Olympics are exempt from this section.

July 4 of each year is designated as "Free Saltwater Sports Fishing Day." Any person may saltwater sport fish without a license on the "Free Saltwater Sports Fishing Day."

**Louisiana DW&F - Marine Fisheries Division - Contact: Janice Landry (225)765-2881.**  
*(protected account by statute)*

Marine/Freshwater license required since 1980. Marine Recreational License separated in 1987.

- 1) Marine recreational license is required for harvest of all marine organisms.
- 2) Receipts go to the "Conservation Fund". The fund is managed by the Division of Wildlife and Fisheries (restricted receipt account).
- 3) Divisions (including Marine Fisheries) submit an annual budget that must be approved by the legislature.
- 4) Surplus funds are carried over to subsequent year.
- 5) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 6) Supported by recreational community.

**Louisiana:** <http://www.legis.state.la.us/tsrs/toc.asp?level=2&lawbody=RS&level1=56>

**RS 56:10**

B.(1) Subject to the exception contained in Article VII, Section 9(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana, all funds collected by the commission from every source shall be paid into the state treasury and shall be credited to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund. Out of the funds remaining in the Bond Security and Redemption Fund after a sufficient amount is allocated from that fund to pay all obligations secured by the full faith and credit of the state which become due and payable within any fiscal year, the treasurer shall, prior to placing such remaining funds in the state general fund, conform to the following:

(c) Pay into a special fund created in the state treasury and designated as the *Conservation Fund* an amount equal to the total amount of funds paid into the treasury by the commission except those funds for which provision is made in Subparagraphs (a), (b), and (d) of this Paragraph.

*(2) The monies in the Conservation Fund shall be used solely for the programs and purposes and in the amounts appropriated each year to the commission by the legislature.*

*C. The commission shall keep a set of books showing from whom every dollar is received and for what purpose and to whom every dollar is paid and for what purpose. It also shall keep in its file vouchers or receipts for all moneys paid out.*

*D. All unexpended and unencumbered monies in the Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Fund, the Louisiana Duck License, Stamp, and Print Fund, the Louisiana Wild Turkey Stamp Fund, and the Conservation Fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the respective funds. The monies in the funds shall be invested by the treasurer in the same manner as monies in the state general fund. All interest earned on monies invested by the treasurer shall be deposited in the respective funds. The state treasurer shall prepare and submit to the department on a quarterly basis a printed report showing the amount of money contained in the funds from all sources.*

**RS 56:14**

§14. Saltwater Fishery Enforcement Fund; creation; use of monies in the fund

A. The "Saltwater Fishery Enforcement Fund" is hereby created as a special fund in the state treasury. The monies in this fund shall be used solely as provided in Subsection D of this Section and only in the amounts appropriated by the legislature. The monies in this fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in the same manner as monies in the state general fund. Monies deposited into the fund and interest earned on the investment of monies in the fund shall be credited to the fund, following compliance with the requirement of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund.

B. The monies in the "Saltwater Fishery Enforcement Fund" shall be obtained and allocated pursuant to Subsection C of this Section. Monies deposited into the fund, and the revenues derived from investment of monies in the fund, shall not be considered as part of the Conservation Fund, and shall be used to enforce all saltwater fishery and fishery related laws, rules, and regulations in the coastal parishes of the state.

C. Effective July 1, 1999, the outstanding balance of monies in the Commercial Fisherman's Economic Assistance Fund is hereby transferred to the "Saltwater Fishery Enforcement Fund". The monies in the Saltwater Fishery Enforcement Fund shall be used solely as provided for in this Section. The state treasurer shall prepare and submit to the department, on a quarterly basis, a printed report showing the amount of money contained in the fund from all sources.

D. It is the purpose of this Section to provide financial assistance in any manner to the enforcement division of the department for the purpose of enforcing regulations governing, protecting, managing, and conserving saltwater fishery species and providing public safety while in the performance of those duties. It is specifically provided herein that any violation of gear limits or gear regulations in conjunction with shoreline trawling shall be strictly enforced.

E. It is specifically provided that the intent of the legislature in the enactment of the Louisiana Marine Resources Conservation Act of 1995 (Act No. 1316 of the 1995 Regular Session) is to promote the enhancement of Louisiana's marine resources by the removal of indiscriminate entanglement nets from coastal waters.

#### **RS 56:302.1**

##### §302.1. Annual license; temporary license; fees; saltwater fee; exemptions

A. The cost of the annual basic recreational fishing license is nine dollars and fifty cents for residents and sixty dollars for nonresidents, except that residents using a rod or fishing pole, hook and line, without a reel and without using artificial bait shall pay two dollars and fifty cents per year; however, any person required by this Part to possess a basic two dollars and fifty cents license shall be subject to a maximum fine of five dollars for not possessing the license as herein required, and there shall be no court costs associated with the fine.

B.(1)(a) In lieu of the basic recreational fishing license, nonresidents may purchase a temporary basic recreational freshwater fishing license valid for the number of days specified by the purchaser for a fee of five dollars per day.

(b) In lieu of the basic recreational fishing license and the temporary basic recreational freshwater fishing license, nonresidents may purchase a four-day basic license for a fee of fifteen dollars. This license shall be valid for four consecutive days.

(2) The revenues generated from the license fee imposed under this Subsection shall be deposited in the Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Fund and shall be dedicated exclusively to the operation of the enforcement division.

***C.(1) In addition to the basic recreational fishing license and the temporary basic recreational fishing license, any person fishing in the saltwater areas of the state defined in R.S. 56:322 must purchase a saltwater license.***

***(2)(a)(i) The fee for the saltwater license is five dollars and fifty cents for residents and thirty dollars for nonresidents. A nonresident may purchase a temporary saltwater license valid for the number of days specified by the purchaser at a fee of fifteen dollars per day. As a condition of the application for and the granting of the saltwater license, all saltwater finfish caught or transported by the license holder while the license is in effect are presumed to have been taken in the waters of Louisiana.***

(ii) In lieu of the saltwater license and the temporary saltwater license, nonresidents may purchase a four-day saltwater license for a fee of forty-five dollars. This license shall be valid for four consecutive days.

(b) Repealed by Acts 1997, No. 1236, § 2.

***(c) A person fishing with a licensed charter guide on board the vessel may purchase a charter passenger fishing trip license at a fee of five dollars. Such license shall be valid for three consecutive days.***

(d) A resident who is totally and permanently disabled, and receiving a disability benefit from the federal social security system, may purchase a basic recreational fishing license for a fee of two dollars and fifty cents and a saltwater license for a fee of two dollars and fifty cents.

(3) The saltwater license is not required for residents possessing a two dollars and fifty cents basic recreational fishing license and using only a rod or fishing pole, hook and line, without a reel and without using artificial bait.

(4) The saltwater license must be purchased and the fee paid irrespective of any agreement or provision of law not specifically waiving the license or fee. The required saltwater angling license shall not preclude a person from fishing for freshwater species of fish south of the designated saltwater line described in R.S. 56:322(A) or in saltwater lakes and bodies of water designated in R.S. 56:322(B). A person may take or possess in such designated saltwater areas, without a saltwater angling license, any freshwater species of fish in any number not otherwise prohibited by law, provided the person possesses a valid fishing license as otherwise required by law. For the purpose of enforcement, the department shall determine by rule which species of fish shall be classified as a freshwater species and which shall be classified as a saltwater species. Any person, without a valid saltwater angling license, that takes a saltwater species of fish as classified by the department from a designated saltwater area shall return such fish immediately to the waters from which taken without avoidable injury. An enforcement agent or officer of the department may inspect a fisherman's catch to insure compliance with this Paragraph.

#### **RS 56:301.7**

##### ***§301.7. Dedication of proceeds of licenses***

A. Proceeds from all recreational licenses issued under Subpart B of this Part are dedicated to the ***Conservation Fund*** and shall be expended by the department for the purpose of maintaining fish hatcheries, sanctuaries, and in the general work of the enforcement of its laws by the department except that ***proceeds received from the sale of licenses issued for the taking of saltwater finfish shall be expended for the purpose of supporting research, management, and administration of saltwater finfish by the saltwater finfish section of the seafood division*** and except that proceeds from the sale of freshwater trout licenses shall be expended for the purpose of supporting the stocking, management, and administration of the freshwater trout program by the fisheries section of the freshwater fish division.

B. Proceeds from commercial licenses issued under Subparts C, D, E, and G of this Part are dedicated to the ***Conservation Fund*** and shall be expended by the department for the purpose of propagating and developing the fish industry, for fish cultural purposes, and in the general work of the department except that proceeds received from the sale of licenses issued for the taking or selling of saltwater finfish shall be expended for the purpose of supporting research, protection, management, and administration of saltwater finfish by the marine fisheries division and the enforcement division.

C. Proceeds from commercial licenses issued under Subpart F of this Part are dedicated to the ***Conservation Fund*** and shall be expended by the department for the purpose of development and administration of the dealer receipt forms program.

#### **RS 56:302.9**

§302.9. Charter boat fishing guide license; nonresident fee

A.(1) No person shall act as nor shall he represent himself to be a saltwater charter boat fishing guide unless that person has in his name a valid state charter boat fishing guide license, a valid captain's license issued by the United States Coast Guard, and a valid state recreational fishing license. In addition, any person acting as a saltwater charter boat fishing guide who is in charge of the operation of a vessel shall have his required licenses on his person while on the water. It shall not be a violation of this Section for a person to represent himself as a charter boat fishing guide if that person held a valid license during the previous thirty days but has not renewed the license.

(2) The nonresident charter boat fishing guide license shall be available only from the Baton Rouge office of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Such licenses shall be issued on a consignment basis, and no agent fees shall apply. A nonresident charter boat fishing guide license shall only be made available to those persons who possess a valid captain's license issued by the United States Coast Guard.

B. A nonresident fishing from a vessel operated by a licensed charter boat fishing guide shall possess a valid license to fish in the saltwater areas of the state. Each nonresident shall possess a valid out-of-state motor vehicle operator's license or such other proof of residency as the department may require.

C.(1) The annual fee for a resident charter boat fishing guide license is two hundred fifty dollars for operating a vessel that carries not more than six passengers and five hundred dollars for operating a vessel that carries more than six passengers.

(2) The annual fee for a nonresident charter boat fishing guide license is one thousand dollars for operating a vessel that carries not more than six passengers and two thousand dollars for operating a vessel that carries more than six passengers.

D. A charter boat fishing guide license is valid for one year, beginning on January first of each calendar year and expiring on December thirty-first of the same calendar year.

E. A charter boat fishing guide license may be purchased at any time of the year for the current license year and from November fifteenth for the immediately following license year.

F. A charter boat fishing guide license shall be issued by the department during normal working hours and may be purchased in person at any department district office, at the Baton Rouge and New Orleans offices, or at any other location designated by the department.

*G. The fees derived pursuant to this Section shall be placed in the Conservation Fund. Fifty percent of the fees shall be used solely for the enforcement of the laws and regulations governing finfish. Ten percent of the fees shall be used solely for the Louisiana Recreational Fishing Development Board, R.S. 56:580.1 et seq. Forty percent of the fees shall be used for administration.*

**Texas Parks & Wildlife - Coastal Fisheries Section - Contact: Michael Ray (512) 389-4648.**  
*(protected account by statute)*

Current licensing format implemented by legislature in early 1990s.

- 1) Marine recreational license is required for harvest of all marine organisms.
- 2) Texas Parks and Wildlife generates and manages all of it's funding in 2 separate categories.
  - a) Recreational fishing (fresh/salt), hunting, and commercial fishing license receipts.
  - b) Camping/user fee revenues.

- 3) Funds in these accounts used only for TP&W programs (allocated as needed).
- 4) Additional funding supplied by corporate sponsors.
- 5) Receives no money from legislature. Now under greater legislative scrutiny because of combined value of license receipts and corporate donations.
- 6) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 7) Supported by recreational community.

**California Dept. Fish and Game - Contact: Cindy Jackson (916) 227-2245.**  
*(protected account by statute)*

Marine license required since 1979.

- 1) Marine recreational license is required for harvest of all marine organisms.
- 2) DFG manages all of it's funding generated by various licenses and permits.
- 3) Funds in these accounts used only for DFG programs (allocated as needed).
- 4) Resident sportfishing license is valid for marine and freshwater.
- 5) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 6) Supported by recreational community.

**Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife - Contact: Chris Carter (503)872-5270 x-5460.**  
*(protected account by statute)*

Marine license required since 1986.

- 1) Marine recreational license is required for harvest of freshwater and saltwater fish.
- 2) DFW manages all of it's funding generated by various licenses and permits in "Wildlife Operating Fund".
- 3) Funds in these accounts used only for DFW programs (allocated by legislature through budget submittals).
- 4) Resident sportfishing license is valid for marine and freshwater.
- 5) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
- 6) Supported by recreational community.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Contact: Mike Keeling (360)902-2435.  
 (some unprotected accounts)

Marine license required for certain species since 1960's.

- 1) License is required for harvest of freshwater/saltwater finfish, and

- shellfish/seaweed. Special tags for certain species
- 2) DFW manages some of its funding generated by licenses and permits in “Hunting and Gamefish Fund”. Bulk of agency license revenues goes into *general fund* managed by legislature.
  - 3) Funds in “Hunting and Gamefish Fund” used only for DFW programs.
  - 4) Resident angling license is valid for marine and freshwater.
  - 5) Variety of programs/projects conducted.
  - 6) Supported by recreational community.