

NOAA
FISHERIES

Recreational
Fisheries
Initiative

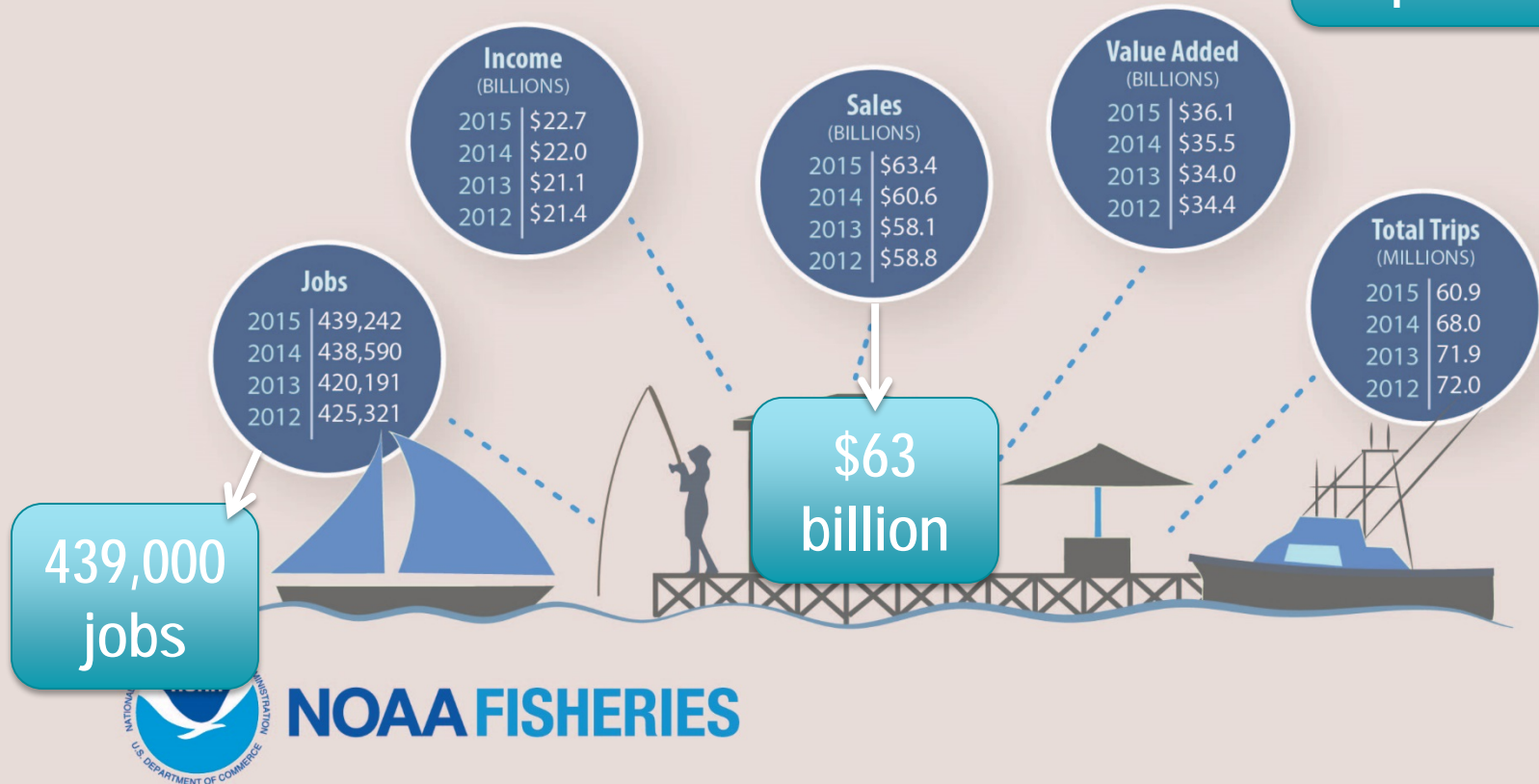
Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Update

Council Coordinating Committee
Gloucester, MA
May 17, 2017

Saltwater Recreational Fishing is BIG Business

U.S. Recreational Fisheries Economic Impact Trends, 2015

**\$28.7 billion
expenditures**



Regional Roundtable Discussions

Alaska:	Anchorage, AK	Dec. 7, 2016
West Coast:	Long Beach, CA	March 1
	Newport, OR	March 3
Southeast:	Jacksonville, FL	March 27
	Houston, TX	March 29
Greater Atl. Region:	Howell, NJ	April 3
	Rye, NH	April 5
Pacific Islands:	Honolulu, HI	May 4-5
Atl. Highly Migratory Species:	Silver Spring, MD	May 10

Regional Roundtable Discussions 2016-2017

Purpose

- **Improve communications and strengthen partnerships**
- **Refresh NMFS' understanding of rec. fish community priorities**
- **Identify emerging & long-term issues**

Key Issues Raised

Alaska

- Halibut allocation
- Representation in the management process
- Communication challenges

Long-term concern: habitat destruction/degradation

West Coast

- Sanctuaries and monuments
- Access and availability
- Communication challenges

Long-term concern: Access; fishery demographics

Key Issues Raised

Southeast

- Frustration, process exhaustion
- Data
- Access and species availability

Long-term concern: Loss of access/opportunity

Greater Atlantic

- Data
- Regulatory stability
- Access/opportunity

Long-term concern: Regulation & loss of access

Key Issues Raised

Pacific Islands

- Communications
- Cooperation and partnership
- Challenges of geographic scale

Long-term concern: Lack of young participants

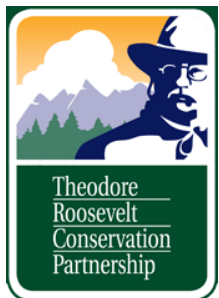
Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

- Charter issues: commercial / non-commercial
- Post-release mortality
- Reporting compliance

Long-term concern: Accuracy of stock assessments

Concerns-in-a-Word





Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership & the American Sportfishing Association Approaches for Improved Federal Saltwater Fisheries Management



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Approaches for Improved Federal Saltwater Fisheries Management

Recommendations:

- Harvest Rate Management
- Depth/Distance Based Management
- Harvest Tags
- Improved Angler Harvest Data
- Release Mortality Reduction
- Conservation Equivalency
- Reevaluating Optimum Yield