

## **Marine Recreational Fishing License/Registry Study Group Meeting Minutes**

**November 10, 2008**

**Attendees:** Bob Ballou; Jeff Barker; Capt. Frank Blount; Fred Brown; Mike Bucko; Al Conti; Capt Bruce Getchell; Richard Hittinger; Capt. Ed Kearney; Richard LaFaille; Daniel Maia; Steve Medeiros; Capt. John Rainone; John Troiano and Roger Tellier (for Robert Ferioli).

**Absent:** Robert Ferioli; John Mazurak and David Peterson.

It was decided that all meetings would be held on the second Monday of every month starting at 6:30 PM. The next meeting would be December 15, 2008 at the Hazard Conference Room, URI Bay Campus.

**Guest Speaker:** Gordon Colvin; Team Leader, National Saltwater Angler Registry Program for NOAA Fisheries

**Key Issue:** Recreational fishing is important to various groups. Data Collection is important to good fisheries management. A National Saltwater Registry will help get a more accurate estimate of both catch and effort.

**Proposed Rule:** 50CFR 600,1400-1417

**Website:** [www.countmyfish.noaa.gov](http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov)

### **Brief Synopsis of Discussion:**

1. Federal Registration Program doesn't preclude State Registry Program.
2. Fee is based on cost of administering program. Money collected on the Federal registry goes into the General Treasury.
3. The more states that implement a state based registry means that the cost of the Federal Registry to the individual fisherman will be higher.
4. A State Registry Program means better data for fisheries management.
5. A benefit of an approved State Registry means that the money generated stays in the state.
6. The data will be better if the State is doing the collection.

**Public Comment:** There were 20 members of the fishing community in attendance. They were able to question Mr. Colvin.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM.