



Guidance for Adjustments to Recreational Management Measures Due to COVID-19 Impacts

ISFMP Policy Board

July 2020



- COVID-19 pandemic has had impacts on recreational fisheries
- Boards requested guidance for states if they consider changes to 2020 recreational measures



- Lack of complete MRIP data makes evaluating proposals difficult
- Variability of fishery closures from state-to-state makes a single set of measures challenging to define
- Recommending states be allowed to submit proposals to adjust 2020 recreational measures.



Recommended Guidelines

- There was civil emergency action, or other state or federal action due to the COVID-19 pandemic that closed recreational fishing, this can include mode specific closures.
- Verification that the state made a good effort to enforce the closure.
- Proposals may only adjust season length, no other measures may be adjusted.
- The species is not overfished and/or overfishing is not occurring.