

From: Gary Poyssick [<mailto:garypoyssick@theonlinefisherman.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 01, 2011 10:04 AM
To: FN-OMB-OIRA-CB-REPORT
Subject: Fishery Management and its impact on the Gulf Economy

Good morning.

Persuant to the requirements of the CB report, I am hereby stating my position on the financial impact of government regulations on a specific industry: Sport Fishing in Florida.

As the publisher of an online magazine, and state Communications Director for the Florida Chapter of the Recreational Fishing Alliance, I will say that regulations of our fishery under the auspices of the Magnuson/Stevens Fishery Management Act have cost -- and continue to cost -- thousands and thousands of fishing-related jobs in Florida and the other Gulf States.

The regulations -- in the form of random fishing closures, access changes, and an overwhelmingly apparent desire on the part of the gulf council to reduce our fleet -- are stopping charter guides, tackle shops, boat builders, tackle manufacturers, and dozens of other related and ancillary businesses revenues. These are businesses that have been active for (in some cases) five and six generations, and are being killed based on completely flawed data.

The flawed data is provided to the quasi-government Councils and are apparent in a law suit currently filed by the state of Massachusetts against NOAA, whose director left her job at EDF to take her regulatory position at NOAA.

I can provide thousands of pages of proof of what we're saying. If the feds want to protect jobs, let's start with jobs that already exist and are the target of the environmental left.

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Publisher,
<http://www.TheOnlineFisherman.com>
Entertainment, Education, and Information for Sport Fisherpeople

Florida Communications Director
The Recreational Fishing Alliance
<http://www.JoinRFA.org>