

Marine Resource Education Program Overview to Council Coordinating Committee



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“Fishermen are trained to catch fish. Biologists, managers, and environmentalists are trained to save fish. We all need some type of education on how to work for the same goals in fishery management.”

-Rodney Avila, former Council member, MREP 2001 curriculum committee

“Too many fishermen do not understand scientific procedure and many people in management do not understand the fine scale aspects of fishing.”

-David Goethel, former Council member, MREP
Science 100 moderator



Common Questions

- “Why the hell do you fish there?”
 - “You aren’t fishing where the fish are!”
- “Why do you use that old net?”
- “How can you base an assessment on so

NEWS ITEM: DATA FLAWED IN SET



MREP Northeast Curricula

Fishery Science 100 –

Science concepts and process essential to fishery management (3 days)

Fishery Management 100 –

The process and how to be an effective participant (3 days)



Fishery Science 200 –

Data collection and stock assessments (2 days)

MREP “Mini” –

Condensed science and management modules for targeted “underserved” communities (2-4 days)



MREP in New England



“We are trying to show a path that can lead to effective participation and making a difference.”

– Mary Beth Tooley, Council member,
MREP Principal

“All fishermen who give a damn ought to take this seminar.”

– MREP participant



MREP in the Mid-Atlantic



“Long term sustainable fisheries must be a partnership between the scientists, fishermen, industry and the Mid-Atlantic Council. Programs like MREP are the path.”



“Could MREP be offered at MAFMC meetings... to as many fishermen as possible?”

MREP Northeast Region FAQs

- 600 participants from Northeast Region fisheries since inception.
- Workshop locations from Maryland to Maine.
- Twelve sitting Council members and six past members are alumni.
- 61 Council Advisory Panel members are alumni.



[MREP] “provides a foundation that continually supports the ongoing interactions between NOAA and the industry...”

– DOC Inspector General report to Senate

MREP applicants begin to come from other council regions, and other sectors, including: NGOs, chefs, seafood processors, media, council members...



Building Local Capacity in the Southeast



MREP Southeast is a unique program, designed by thought leaders from commercial, charter, and recreational fishing industries in close collaboration with SERO, GMFMC, SAFMC, CFMC, SEFSC, FFWRI.

MREP in the Southeast

Ideas....Challenges....

The recreational sector is very large, there are so many individuals

Online tools, shorter sessions, bigger class sizes?

The region is very diverse and large from Texas to Charleston to Puerto Rico

Travel and hold workshops in other areas?

Partner and or create regional clusters?

Focus on specific audiences, or keep the diversity?

Language and cultural barriers exist (Spanish, Vietnamese)





“Education is the key, there are so many rumors in the fishing world.”

– Capt. Karen Hughart, FL



“Interactions between scientists and the fishing community are really lacking, so this opportunity was invaluable for increasing communication.”

- Mandy Karnauskas, SEFSC



“No better learning than participating, the mock council scenario was the best use of time” – Larry Huntley, AL

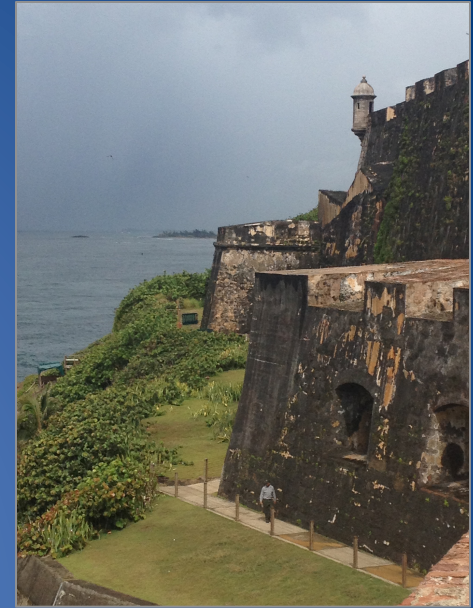


“Fishermen need this as a basis for action and knowledge”

– Shane Cantrell, TX

MREP in the Caribbean

- 3-day program (Science, Mgmt, OLE)
- Offered in Spanish in Puerto Rico in Jan 2015
- Planning for the USVI in 2016



Program Steering Committee includes:
SERO, DNR, CFMC, SeaGrant, TNC

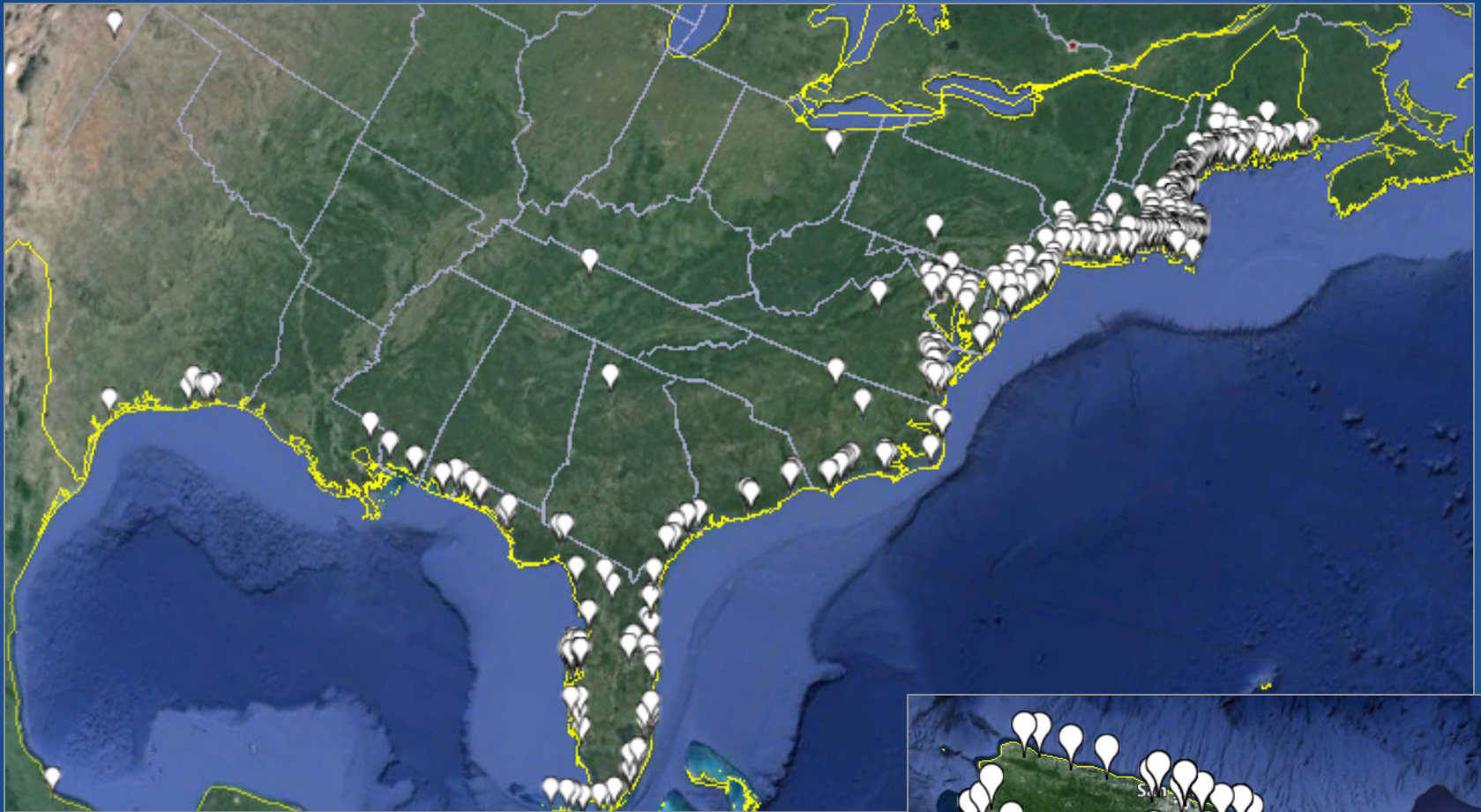
MREP Southeast Region FAQs

- 166 participants from Southeast Region fisheries since 2013.
- Workshop locations from Florida to Puerto Rico
- Program has generated 6 new Advisory Panel members, 2 council nominations and one ICCAT Commission applicant
- Inspired three cooperative research proposals



“I plan on having some impromptu meetings with materials in hand to share what I've learned with others” – Deb Wilhite

Over 750 alumni in 5 council regions



"I feel more empowered to be involved and believe that my input can make a difference" - Capt. Kirby