

Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team Member Update
The Nature Conservancy
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In 2015 NOAA and TNC entered into an exciting new project aimed at advancing our ability to estimate augmented fisheries productivity values from salt marsh and sea grass habitats in the U.S.. Beyond just advancing the science, a primary goal of this multi-year project is to ensure that the science is put into the hands of decision-makers in user-friendly, spatially relevant ways. In April of this year, NOAA and TNC hosted a workshop in Savannah GA that was attended primarily by NOAA Fisheries staff, Regional Fishery Management Council and Interstate Fisheries Commission staff from around the country, and some state resource management agency staff. The workshop was meant to review the science and provide input into how the models and scientific approach can be utilized in resource management decisions and how the approach can be improved to enhance usability. The workshop was extremely valuable at identify additional science needs and opportunities for implementation that we have already started to pursue.

The project team would be happy to provide a more in-depth presentation/webinar in the near future to review the project goals and objectives; provide back-ground in the methodology and preliminary results of augmented fisheries productivity values; and review potential written and on-line products that the project anticipates in developing to make the science available for habitat conservation, restoration and management decisions.

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