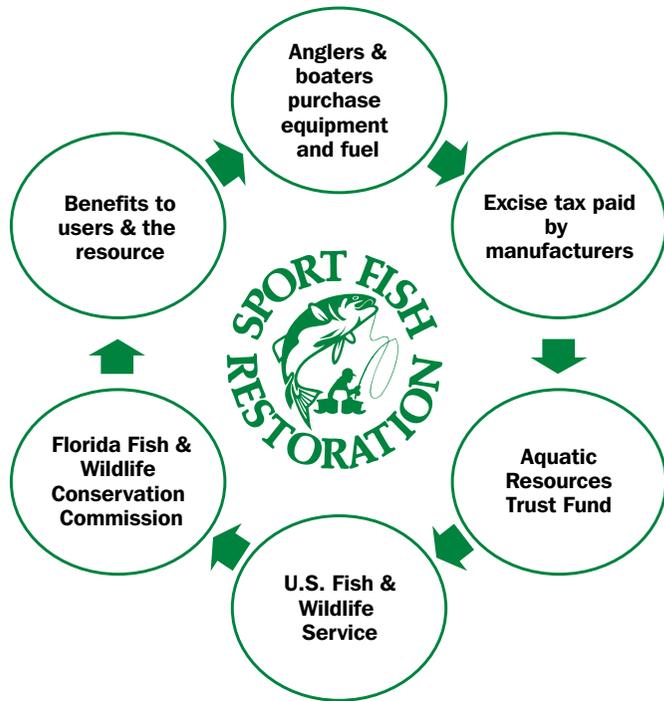


## Have You...

- ✓ Purchased a fishing license?
- ✓ Bought fishing gear?
- ✓ Fueled up your boat?

By participating in the fishing and boating hobbies you love, **you are helping to improve fishing opportunities** and support Sport Fish Restoration (SFR). Every time you see the SFR logo, remember that you are part of the process that makes this program successful.



The **“user pay, public benefit”** SFR cycle of success shows how purchasing fishing equipment, boat fuel and fishing licenses helps fund future fishing and boating opportunities for all.

## Sport Fish Restoration

Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) is one of the most successful conservation programs in our nation’s history. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this program funds recreational sport fishing enhancement projects throughout the nation. Funds are collected from purchases of fishing gear and motorboat fuel, as well as import duties on tackle and boats.

Funds are then distributed to states based 60% on the number of paid, licensed recreational anglers and 40% on the land and water area of the state. To receive funding, states are required to make a 25% matching contribution, usually derived from recreational license fees.

Thanks to recreational boaters and anglers like you, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) receives around \$12 million annually to support freshwater and saltwater fisheries resources and improve boating opportunities!



Photo: Carol Cox

### Information Resources:

- ✓ [MyFWC.com/SFR](http://MyFWC.com/SFR)
- ✓ [wsfrprograms.fws.gov](http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov)
- ✓ [Marine@MyFWC.com](mailto:Marine@MyFWC.com)



# Sport Fish Restoration

## Providing Fishing and Boating Opportunities in Florida



## Sport Fish Monitoring

Researchers monitor estuarine and marine fish populations and gather important data used to inform recreational fisheries management.

## Sport Fish Abundance, Ecology & Life History

Biological samples are collected for in-depth research on the biology, ecology and life history of Florida's sport fish species. This information is vital to developing management strategies at the state and federal levels.

## Stock Enhancement

FWC conducts applied research and develops technology to spawn and rear sport fish for release into marine waters. Researchers evaluate the use of hatchery-reared animals in restoring and managing Florida's coastal fisheries.

## Sport Fish Genetics

Scientists gather information to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of FWC's stock enhancement programs and to guard against potentially negative genetic impacts from cultured fish. Genetic information gathered from natural populations is also used to assist in making fisheries management decisions.



## Artificial Reefs

SFR funds are used to deploy and monitor artificial reefs, which provide fishing and diving opportunities.

Artificial reef locations can be found at [MyFWC.com/ArtificialReefs](http://MyFWC.com/ArtificialReefs).

## Fish Health Monitoring

FWC monitors marine fish health throughout Florida to identify emerging diseases and geographic areas of special concern.



## Outreach & Education

Anglers and boaters are informed of fishing and boating opportunities along with the role they play in SFR and conservation. Saltwater fishing programs for youth and adults are offered, as well as saltwater angler recognition programs such as [CatchaFloridaMemory.com](http://CatchaFloridaMemory.com).



Photo: Brice and Bear Williamson

## Boating Access Improvements

Funds from SFR are used to improve existing boat ramps and create new ones to enhance boaters' and anglers' experiences, which will allow them to get out on the water safely and efficiently. Boat ramp locations can be found at [MyFWC.com/BoatRamps](http://MyFWC.com/BoatRamps).

## Angling & Boating Guide Maps

Mapped versions of marine-related data are developed for various coastal areas. Maps are available free of charge by contacting [Marine@MyFWC.com](mailto:Marine@MyFWC.com) or visiting [MyFWC.com/BoatingGuides](http://MyFWC.com/BoatingGuides).