

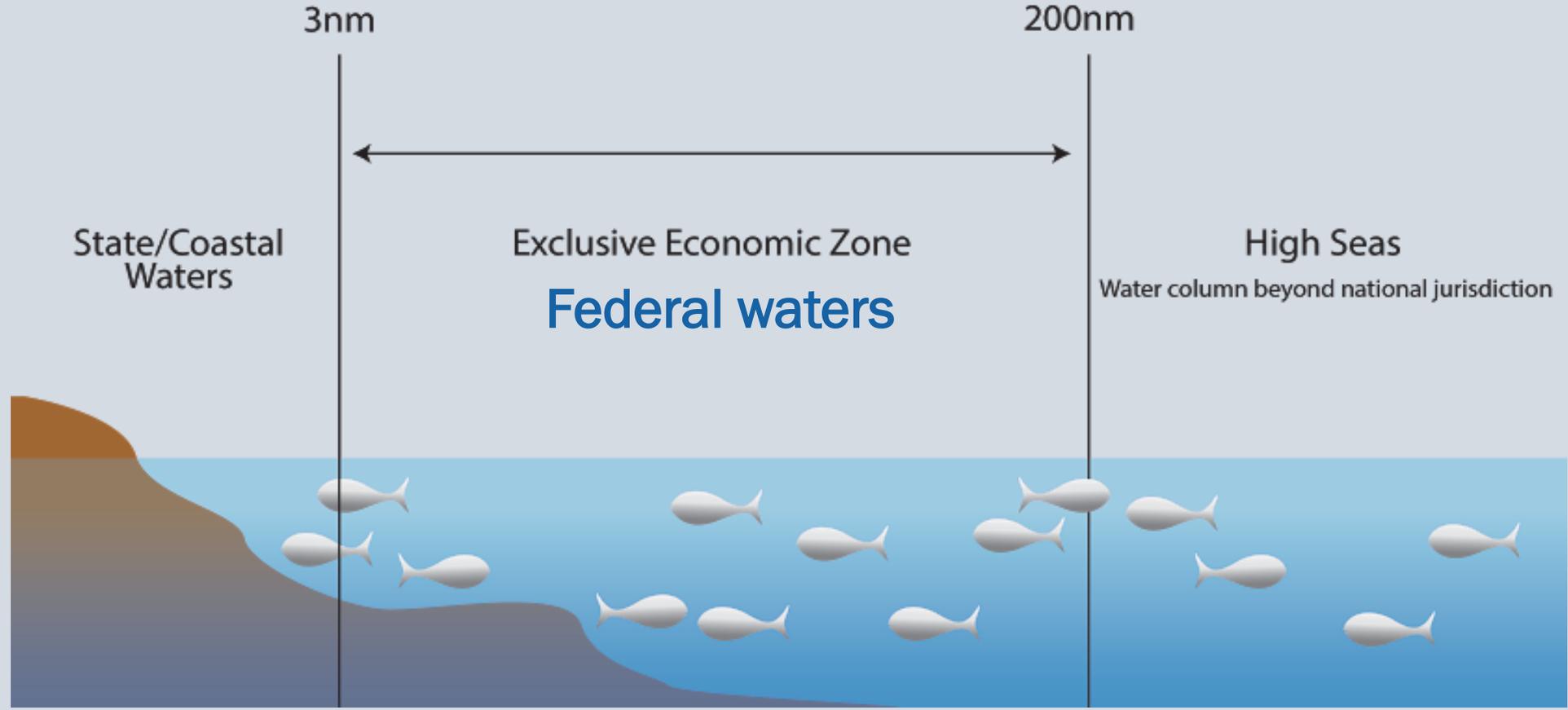
State vs. Federal Management Processes and Our Record of Success



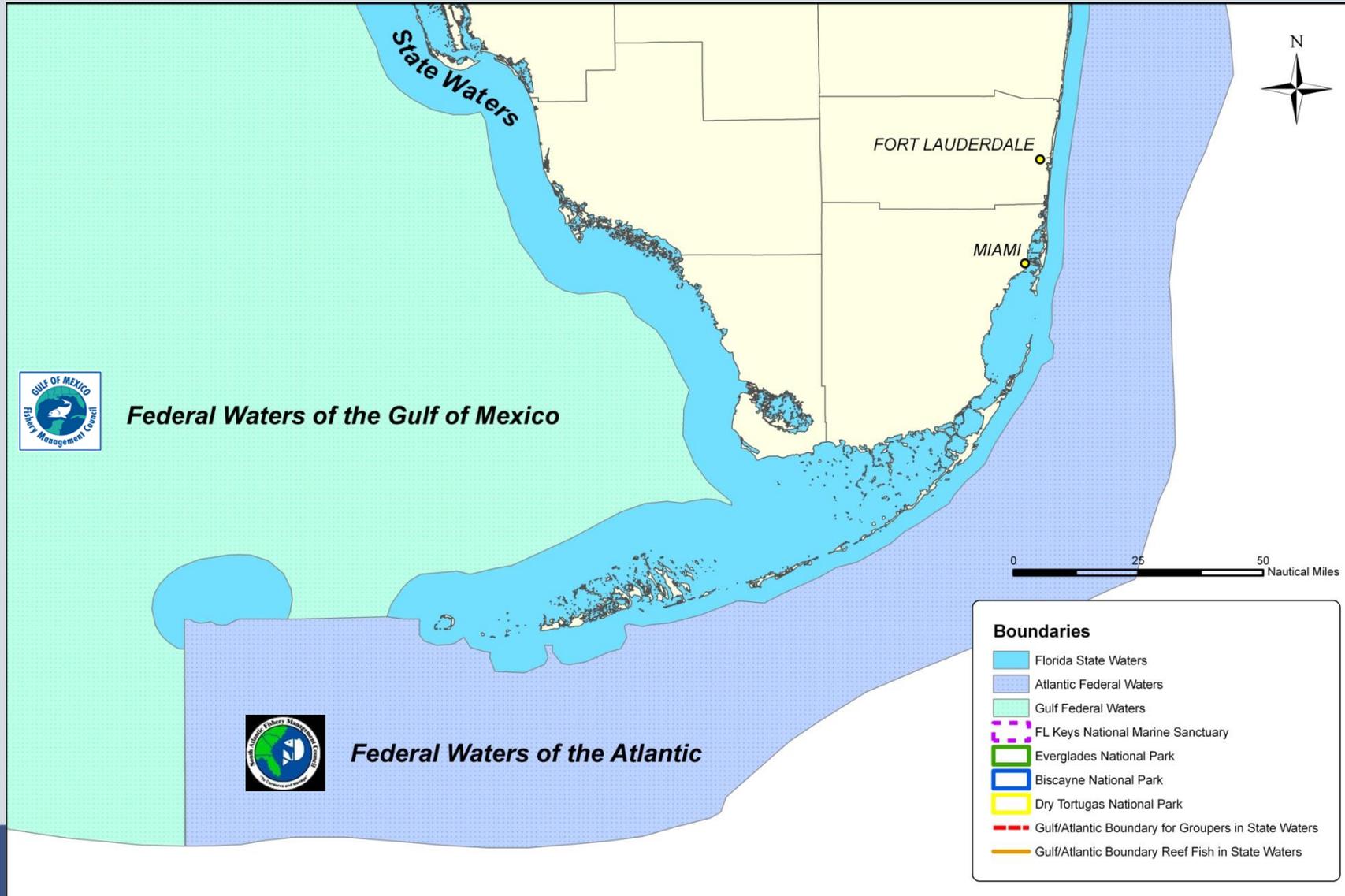
Marine Fisheries 101 Workshop
April 24, 2018



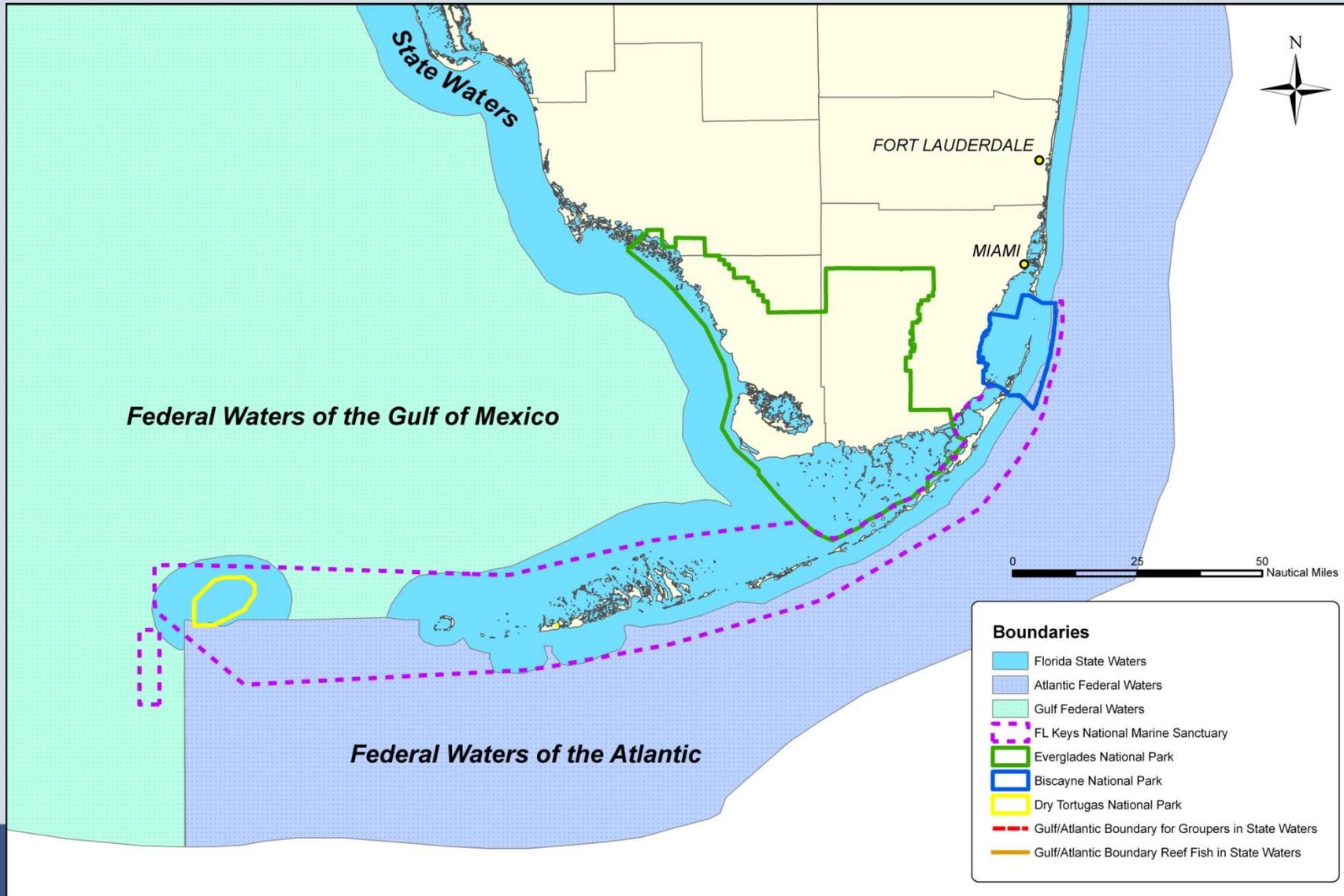
State and Federal Waters



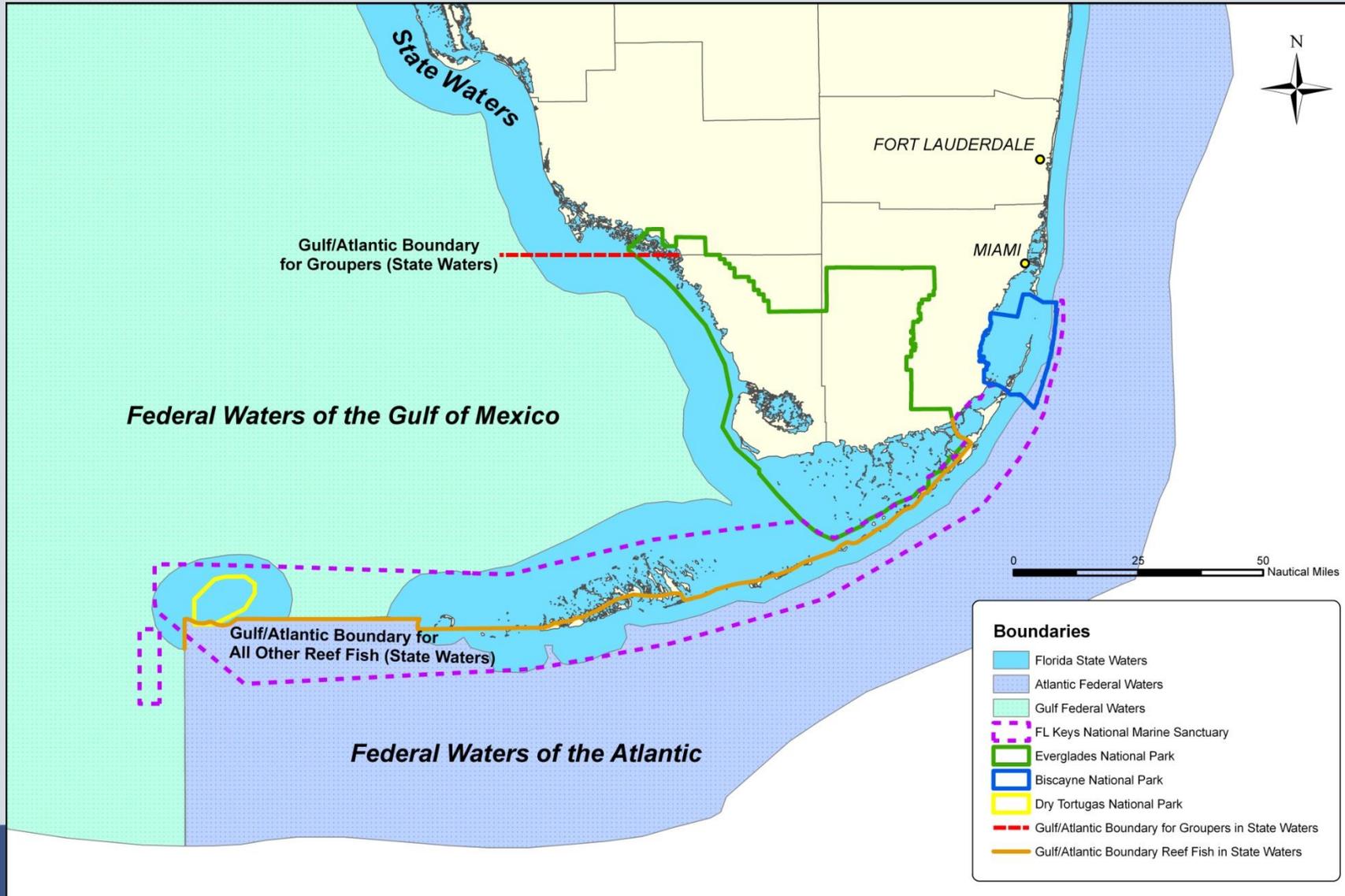
Overlapping Jurisdictions



Overlapping Jurisdictions



Overlapping Jurisdictions



Management Approaches and Goals

Manage for sustainability of the species

State waters

- Manage for SPR
- Manage for abundance, large fish, or fishing experience
- Consider access and socio-economic factors

Federal waters

- Manage by quotas for MSY and OY goals
- Consider benefits to nation



Management Systems

State waters – size limits, bag limits, fishing seasons, spawning season closures

- Data collection can be tailored to management needs
- FWC management system is more flexible
 - Easier to be nimble and responsive

Federal waters – Above list plus: quota management system (ACLs), IFQs, spawning area closures, deepwater closed areas

- Management system works well for commercial data
- Quota system doesn't work well for recreational fisheries
- Constrained by Magnuson Act
 - Prevents flexibility and slow to respond
- Nexus with multiple federal laws including ESA and MMPA



Florida Success Stories

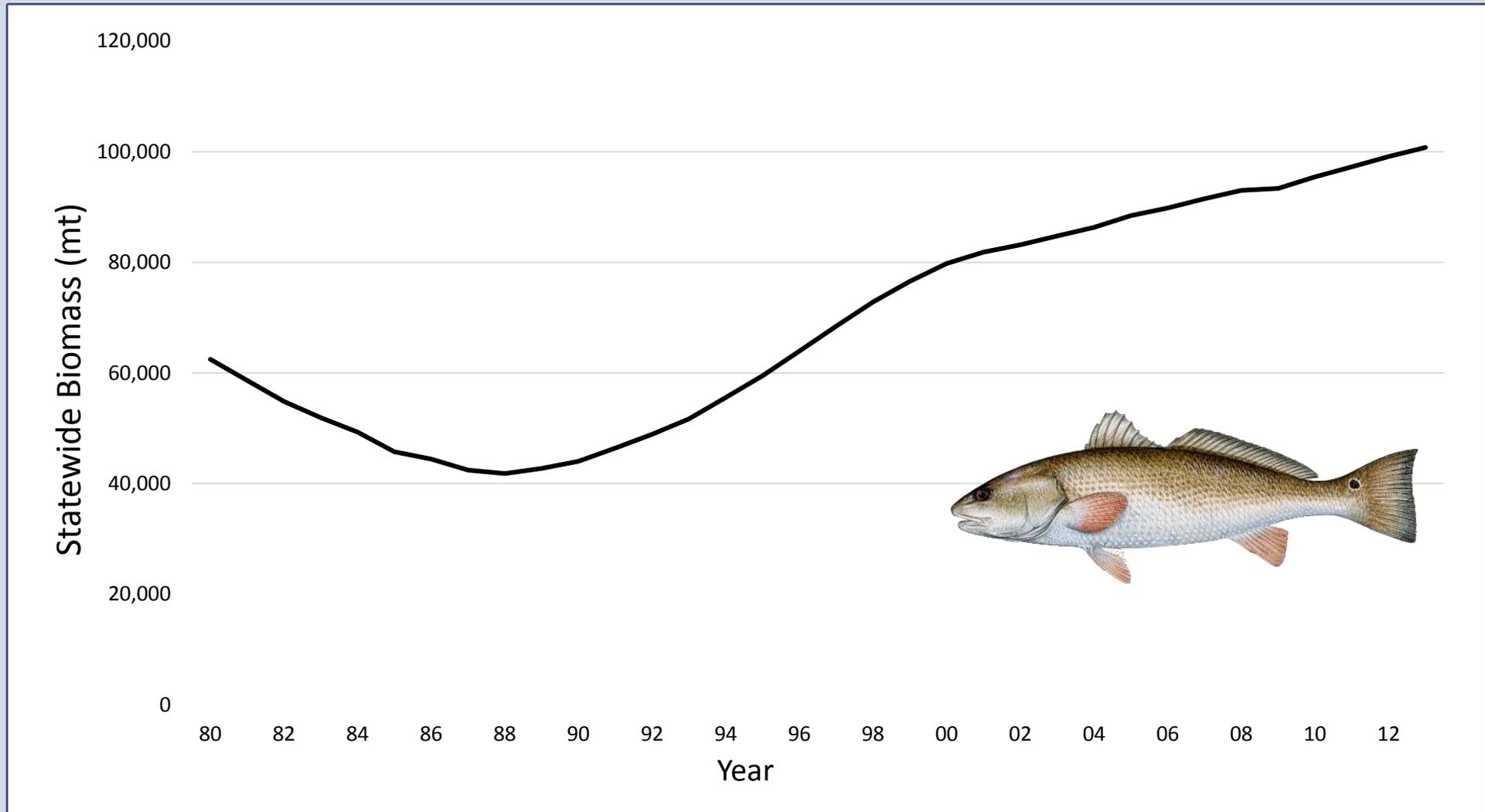


State Success: Red Drum

- Among Florida's most popular recreational fisheries
- Populations severely depleted by the 1980s
 - Emergency closures required
- Fishery recovered through increasingly strict regulations
 - Size limits
 - Bag limits
 - Closed season
 - Recreational only since 1991
- Now fully rebuilt with the recreational fishery open year-round
 - Currently managed for abundance to provide anglers their desired fishing experience
- **2015 stock assessment:** Achieving the management goal in all four zones



State Success: Red Drum



Federal Success: Mutton Snapper



- Single stock managed by FWC and federal councils

Stock assessments

- Conducted by FWRI and evaluated through federal review process
- Used to set federal quotas and guide state and federal management

Recent rulemaking

- State and federal rules changed to keep harvest below federal quotas and provide additional protections for spawning fish
- FWC and councils coordinated rulemaking process with goal to have consistent regulations throughout all jurisdictions
 - Included public workshops jointly held by FWC and South Atlantic Council
- **Result:** compatible regulations in Gulf and Atlantic state and federal waters



Main Reasons for Overall Success

- Significant investment in research and monitoring capabilities
- FWC has been proactive and progressive in balancing access and stewardship
- Application of innovative management approaches
- Nimble and responsive to real-time concerns
 - Closure of snook post 2010 cold-kill event
- Listen to stakeholders
- Engaging at the Congressional level on federal issues that affect the state



Challenges for the Future

- State population will increase and so will the number of recreational anglers
- Overall potential ecosystem impacts
- Habitat loss, water quality issues
- High visitation and stress on ecosystem can lead to fishing down the food web
- Integrate the needs of traditional fisheries with other high-value industries such as recreational diving and tourism
- Adapt and respond to potential impacts to coastal shorelines and systems and sea level rise
- Integrate aquaculture into management system



Where Do We Want to be in the Next 15 to 20 Years?

State waters

- Challenge will be to maintain the status quo given expected population growth and increased tourism
- Continue world-class science
- Maintain fishing opportunities and access
- Balance stakeholder desires

Federal waters

- More compatible data and management system
- Predictable fishing seasons
- Increased public confidence
- Regulatory flexibility



What Can We Do to Get There?

State waters

- Continue investing in high quality data and assessments
- Greater consideration of marine habitat
- Continue exploring ecosystem-based management
- Maintain stakeholder relationships
- Consider the role of aquaculture



Federal waters

- Provide input on Magnuson reauthorization and other federal items
- Continue to take bold steps and consider innovative ideas to manage within system
- Continue to work with other states on challenges as they arise
- Continue to act as an advocate for Florida fishermen



Innovative Ideas

- Cooperative management of invertebrate fisheries through industry-involved management
- Citizen science - Incorporate new forms of angler participation in recreational data collection
- Staggered seasons to maximize access
- Community-based management – tailor management to meet regional needs
- Coupling harvest management with habitat management
- Consider species interactions when making management decisions
- Invasive lionfish – continue innovative ways for removal
- Domestic aquaculture as part of system



Photo courtesy of Jason Arnold

Where Do We Go From Here?

- Continue to tackle short-term challenges, while also pursuing long-term issues
- Continue to pursue innovative ways to attack challenges
- Staff will bring items that need action and direction
- Field trips to learn more!

