FWC Bass Regulations Review





A Different Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

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Bass Regulation Review Process

- 2011 Black Bass Management Plan
- Need to review/change bass regulations
 - 25+ years
 - Angler attitude changes
- Review current bass regulations
 - Biology
 - Human Dimensions





Objectives of Stakeholder Engagement

- Inform
 - FWC's approach to bass regulation review
 - Potential for regulation amendment
- Learn
 - Stakeholder characteristics
 - Attitudes to bass management
 - Stakeholder interests
- Promote shared understanding and decision making
- Long-term engagement of stakeholders

Welcome to the FWC Bass Regulation Review Open House

Why hold an Open House?

- It provides the public an opportunity to comment on current bass fishing regulations
- It provides the FWC with an opportunity to record public opinions and recommendations about bass regulations
- It allows the FWC to develop an understanding of public preference regarding potential revisions to bass regulations

How does the Open House work?

- Please sign in and provide contact information if you would like to receive updates throughout the regulation review process
- Choose any bass regulations station/ flip chart as available
- Provide any suggestions or comments regarding bass regulations
- Ensure your thoughts are recorded accurately
- Visit table with handouts
- Complete FWC Bass Regulation Survey if you wish
- Complete meeting review information

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to any FWC staff member.

Thank you for your time,





Open House Events

- 10 Locations around the state
 - February 28 to April 9
 - Fishing license sales
 - Local staff knowledge
 - Retail Locations
 - Boat ramp parks
 - Outdoor Expo
- Casual experience
 - No presentation
 - One-on-one type interaction
 - Flexible times
- Receive information
- Avoid "mob" mentality





Primary Stakeholders

- Bass anglers (non-tournament)
 - Good bass population
 - Simple regulations
 - Responsible harvest allowed
 - 'Quality' and 'Trophy' bass
- Tournament Anglers
 - Many bass to catch
 - Large bass
 - Strict harvest regulations
- Other Anglers
 - Good populations of "other" fish species
 - Simple regulations
 - Harvest of bass is allowed

- Tackle shops/fish camps
 - Sales
 - Good fishing
 - Simple regulations
- Guides
 - Good fishing
 - Trophy bass
 - Many 'quality' bass
- Outdoor writers
 - Good fishing
 - Large bass









Event layout







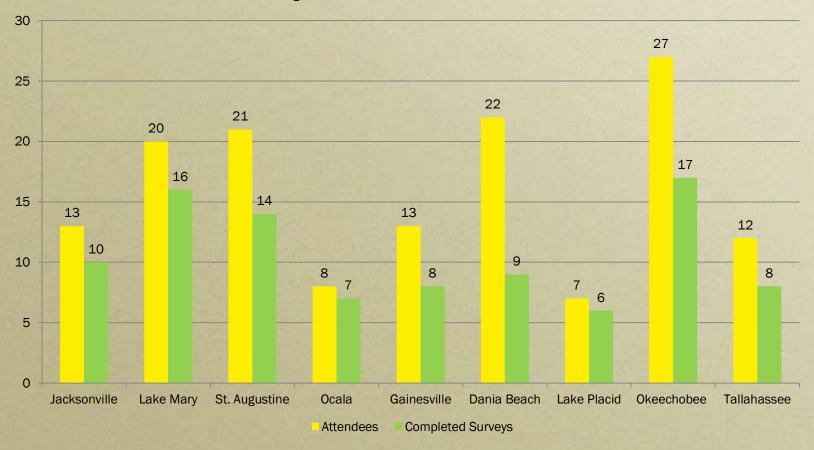




Event Function



Exit Survey



Total attendees: 143 Completed surveys: 95

Response rate: 66%



Exit Survey Data

Have you provided input to FWC before?

How would you rate the Open House format?

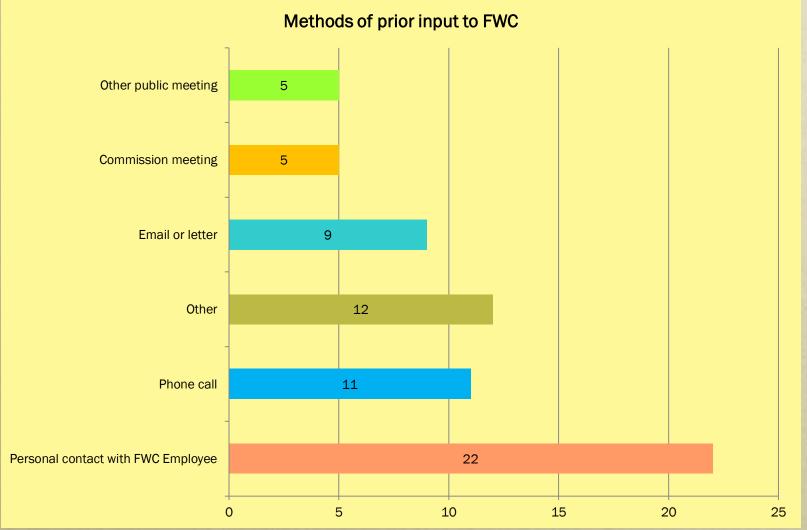
How likely are you to attend a future Open

House event?

• ZIP code



Exit Survey Data





Lessons Learned

Strengths

- Attendees liked the format
- Scalable for various venues, topics, and environments
- Allows for detailed data collection



Challenges

- Data analysis
- Determining appropriate staffing
- Scheduling across the state

Weaknesses

- Significant time commitment
- Resource intensive
- Feedback could be skewed









Reflections

Adaptive

- Each location was different
- Staff personalities varied
- Participant personalities were different at each location

Assistance

- Fresh Fish Management (16)
- Fisheries Research (9)
- Invasive Plant Management (1)
- Aquatic Habitat Restoration (2)
- NRLI Fellows (3)
- NRLI Project Team
- Retail Partners

NRLI Concepts/Skills

- Effective Listening
- Issue Framing
- Timeline
- Preparation
- Stakeholder Identification
- Adaptability
- Flip Charting
- Process Agenda





