

**ABSTRACT**  
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**Introducing Individual Transferable Quotas**  
**to Marine Recreational Fishing**  
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Marine recreational fishing has been growing in importance, from both a policy perspective and from an economic perspective, for the past twenty years. In 1995, Executive Order 12962 charged federal agencies to work together to “conserve, restore, and enhance aquatic systems to provide for increased recreational fishing opportunities nationwide.”(U.S. President 1995, 12962). More recently, in an attempt to “revitalize” recreational fisheries, NOAA released “A Vision for Marine Recreational Fisheries: NOAA Recreational Fisheries Strategic Plan”, an overarching attempt to link tailored regional marine recreational fishery efforts with national coordination. Marine recreational fisheries have been growing in economic importance as well, in 2004, 13 million marine anglers generated \$30.5 billion in revenue, and supported almost 350,000 jobs. This research, using theoretical economic analysis and an accompanying fisheries simulation model, will attempt to model the complex decision making framework of the marine recreational fisherman, and the effects of an introduction of an Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) system, and a tax on days fished compared with more traditional recreational fisheries regulations.