The Future of Floatline Fishing in Kansas: Integrating Human Dimensions Information into Regulation Changes

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Current Floatline Fishing (FF) Regulation

- 8 impoundments across the state
- 8 floatlines per angler
- “Closed cell” devices
- Daylight hours
- July 15 - Sept 15
- $2.50 permit
- fishing license
Evaluate Pilot Program

1. Permit sales from 2009-2011
2. Feedback from 2009 permit holders
3. Feedback from agency staff
Methods

• Data mined to look at permit sales
• Mail Questionnaire
• Staggered mailings
  – Questionnaire #1
  – Questionnaire #2
  – Postage paid reply envelope
## Permit Sales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Permits</th>
<th>Percent Increase (+) or Decrease (-) from Previous Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>- 15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>+ 13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years</td>
<td>Number of Anglers</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
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<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,035</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mail Survey Results

• 68% response

• 56% participated in the 2009 season
Mail Survey Results continued

- Mean participation of 4 out of 63 days
- Fished with 2 people on average
- 39% rated FF as their “3rd Most Important Recreational Fishing Activity”
Regulation Changes Sought

- No permit (eliminate $2.50 fee)
- Expand FF to more impoundments
- Allow nighttime FF
New Regulation Concerns

• Floatlines as a vector to spread aquatic nuisance species (ANS)
  – Floatlines hold water
  – live baitfish

• Overharvest of other sportfish
New Regulation Concerns continued

- Conflict with other recreationists
- Regulation enforcement
Where do we go from here?

- Internal dialogue
- Commission Meetings
- Input from public
- Pass regulation
- Follow up evaluation
Conclusion

- Few state agencies have HD specialists or knowledge
- Example of how HD information can be applied in fisheries management
- Balance between resource and user needs
Questions?