Recreational fishing is the second most popular outdoor activity behind jogging. More U.S. citizens fish than play golf (23.8 million) and tennis (18.1 million) combined.

There is no country that recognizes and manages resources for the benefit of recreational users the way the United States does; there is no country that has more conservation-minded users than the sport-fishing industry; there is no country that raises more funding to support fisheries resources than we do.

We need to make it know to those in government who represent us, that recreational fishing is important to the economy!

The American Sportfishing Association periodically compiles and distributes reports on the economic contributions of sport fishing. It has recently released a new report that gives the economics broken down by congressional districts. Every time it puts out this information, it tries to do it in a fashion that will be of interest to readers and give the data some relationship to the average angler. The most-recent release has done a great job of doing just that.

The U.S. recreational fishing industry has 49 million participants. Those anglers generate almost $50 billion in retail sales, which translates into a $125 billion impact on the economy.

Value of Recreational Fishing to Rhode Island is Huge!

NOAA puts RI Saltwater Recreational Fishing Value at $412 Million
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service puts ALL RI Recreational Fishing Value at $518 million

Recreational fishing is worth $412 MILLION to the Rhode Island economy and over 4,000 jobs!