Marine Industries Association

MIA of NWF QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

MIA NEWS

The 4th Quarter of 2017 is underway. As the weather is cooling down, the offshore fishing is heating up. Several different fishing tournaments are in full swing through our region. Hurricane season is officially over November 30, for what has been an active season in the tropics. Hurricane Irma in September, and Hur-

ricane Nate in October, both brought different challenges, and rough weather to the Gulf Coast. The State as well as the Federal Government has programs in place to assist small businesses if you were effected by these storms. The first Lionfish challenge sponsored by the state has concluded. It started May 20th and ended September 4th. The challenge had 2 divisions, recreational, and commercial. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission announced the winners of the 2017 Lionfish Challenge, during which 26,321 of the invasive species were removed from Florida waters.

MARINE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA

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Alabama	
Rosa Walton	Georg
- Inland Area / Panhandle	Wakulla
Gulf of Mexico	

MIA OF NWF REGION

The Northwest Florida Chapter runs along the Gulf Coast. From Wakulla County, all the way through Escambia County

Ken Ayers Jr. (below left), of Panama City, took home the recreational Lionfish King award with a total of 1,250 lionfish harvested. Joshua Livingston (below right), of Destin, became Florida's first Commercial Champion for his efforts in removing 4,560 pounds of lionfish (poundage equates to about 5,027 fish), according to the FWC.A total of 8,901 lionfish were removed by recreational participants and another 15,800 pounds were removed commercially (poundage equates to about 17,420 lionfish).



MIA OF NWF'S MISSON STATEMENT:

The Northwest Florida Marine Industries Association, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation created in 1986 to advance the growth, education and cooperation of the recreational boating industry and to promote the protection and improvement of the inland and coastal waterways of northwest Florida and surrounding areas.

MIA of NWF NEWS Volume 5, Issue 4 10/1/2017 **Upcoming Meetings:** PENSACOLA 10/18/2017 PANAMA CITY 11/15/2017 VOTING FOR 2018 NO DECEMBER 12/2017 MEETING NICEVILLE / 1/17/2018 DESTIN PENSACOLA 2/21/2018 PANAMA CITY 3/21/2018 NICEVILLE/ 4/18/2018 DESTIN

