

Better **Data,** Better **Fishing**

You and your clients
make it possible

Sharing information about your fishing activity promotes sound science and management.

For-hire captains, crew, and anglers play a key role in keeping our fish stocks healthy and productive. We need **your help** to collect information about your fishing trips.

The data you and your clients provide support NOAA Fisheries' **Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP)**: the state-regional-federal partnership that estimates the number of trips anglers take and the number of fish they catch.

When you and your clients participate in our data collection programs, you improve the precision of our catch estimates and support informed management decisions.

High-quality catch estimates are fundamental to the health of our ocean resources, the future of recreational fishing, and the millions of lives and livelihoods connected to the sport.



For-Hire Fishing in the Greater Atlantic Supports:

\$230+
million
sales

\$88+
million
income

2,200+
jobs

Source: NOAA Fisheries, 2017 data.

countmyfish.noaa.gov

Collecting For-Hire Fishing Information

Different data collection programs allow NOAA Fisheries to gather information about the number of fish for-hire clients catch and the number of trips for-hire vessels take, or effort. Many states also administer their own for-hire surveys to support state management of certain fisheries.

For-Hire Survey (MRIP)

Who's interviewed?

State and federally permitted for-hire vessel representatives.

Why?

To estimate for-hire effort from Maine to Mississippi.

Vessel Trip Reports (GARFO*)

Who must report?

Federally permitted for-hire vessel representatives.

Why?

To account for catch and effort by federally permitted vessels from Maine to North Carolina.

*Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office

Large Pelagics Survey (MRIP)

Who's interviewed?

Recreational anglers and charter captains targeting large pelagics, such as tunas, billfish, and sharks.

Why?

To estimate catch and effort of large pelagic species from Maine to Virginia.

Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (MRIP)

Who's interviewed?

Recreational anglers, including for-hire clients.

Why?

To estimate shore, private boat, and for-hire catch from Maine to Mississippi.

How are these data used?

Scientists and managers combine this information with other data such as commercial catch and stock age and growth rates to determine the health of our fisheries and manage them sustainably.

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