

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

You and your clients  
make it possible



**RIDMF staff conduct the FHS and the LPTS for charter/headboat category HMS permit vessels.**

**Rhode Island for-hire captains, crew, and clients** play a key role in keeping our fish stocks healthy and productive.

When you and your clients participate in a recreational fishing data collection program, you improve our understanding of recreational catch and support informed management decisions.

The Rhode Island Division of Marine Fisheries partners with NOAA Fisheries to collect data for the **Marine Recreational Information Program**: the state-regional-federal partnership that estimates the number of trips anglers take and the number of fish they catch.

**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.



Photo: Frances Fleet

**For-hire fishing in Rhode Island supports:**

**\$7**  
million  
sales

**\$2.5**  
million  
income

NOAA Fisheries 2017 estimates

[dem.ri.gov](http://dem.ri.gov)

[#fishRI](https://twitter.com/fishRI)

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# Collecting For-Hire Fishing Information

Rhode Island for-hire captains and clients participate in different data collection programs. Each is an important part of the process of estimating total recreational catch.

## For-Hire Survey and Large Pelagics Telephone Survey

Administered by MRIP, conducted by RIDMF

### Who's interviewed?

All for-hire and charter/  
headboat category  
HMS-permitted vessels.

### Why?

To estimate fishing effort  
of for-hire and  
HMS-permitted vessels.

## Large Pelagics Intercept Survey

Administered by MRIP, conducted by contractors

### Who's interviewed?

For-hire and private vessels  
targeting tunas, sharks, and  
other offshore species.

### Why?

To estimate catch per trip  
of large pelagic species.

## Access Point Angler Intercept Survey

Administered by MRIP, conducted by RIDMF

### Who's interviewed?

Recreational anglers,  
including for-hire clients.

### Why?

To estimate shore, private  
boat, and for-hire catch.

## Vessel Trip Reports

Administered by the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office

### Who must report?

Federally permitted for-hire  
vessels.

### Why?

To collect catch and effort  
data used for a number  
of purposes.

## How can you help?

- When RIDMF calls about the past week's trips for the FHS or LPTS, please answer the phone or call us back.
- Participate in the LPIS when you're asked.
- Encourage your clients to participate in the APAIS.
- Fill out your VTRs.

[countmyfish.noaa.gov](https://countmyfish.noaa.gov)



**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**