



NOAA FISHERIES

The **Marine Recreational Information Program**, or **MRIP**, is the state-regional-federal partnership responsible for developing, improving, and implementing surveys that measure how many trips saltwater anglers take, and how many fish they catch. This vital information—combined with other data, such as commercial catch and biological research—enables scientists and managers to assess and maintain sustainable U.S. fish stocks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Implementing Electronic Reporting The MRIP Action Plan

NOAA Fisheries ER Snapshot

Advancing electronic technologies has been a long-standing, consistent focus of NOAA Fisheries and our recreational fishing stakeholders.

2012	MRIP-MAFMC workshop on volunteer angler surveys and ER.			
Since 2013	Support for 13 ER research studies, including angler app evaluations.			
2016	Electronic Reporting Procedural Directive. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commitment to work with partners to develop sound ER tools.• Establishes priorities for MRIP investment.			

ACTION 1: Develop ER Options for FES

As recommended by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, in 2018 we will build on previous research to design and implement one or more studies evaluating options to use ER as a way to respond to the Fishing Effort Survey.

ACTION 2: Examine New Private Angler ER Options

Beginning in 2018, we will enlist survey design consultants to develop a comprehensive technical assessment of the current status and future potential for ER in survey research. The primary focus will be on identifying ways ER might be used to improve MRIP surveys. The assessment will include a thorough review of recent studies testing ER applications in recreational fisheries and beyond. This report will identify successes as well as significant challenges and costs.

ACTION 3: Continue to Focus on For-Hire

Based on the priorities set by our partners, stakeholders, and fisheries scientists and managers, the certification and implementation of for-hire ER trip reporting with dockside validation remains a top priority. Numerous projects are underway, as outlined in our For-Hire Electronic Reporting Road Map, released in 2016.

ACTION 4: Strengthen Stakeholder Engagement

We will continue to build on our communications and education strategy to keep stakeholders informed and engaged as we identify appropriate applications—and limitations—of ER in marine recreational fisheries.