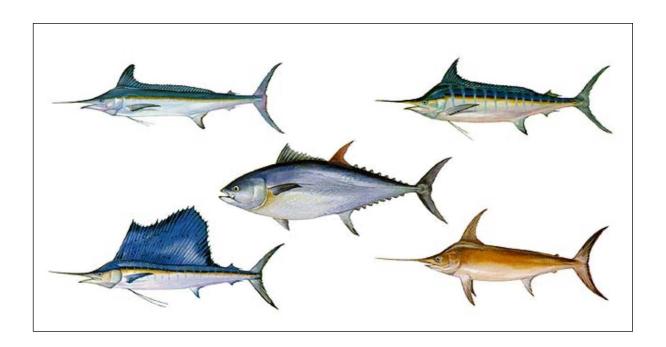
NORTH CAROLINA HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES PROGRAM

DATA COLLECTION FOR RECREATIONAL FISHERIES



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Marine Fisheries
Morehead City, NC

March 2014

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) would like to thank all anglers, private boat and charter captains, marinas, tackle shops, convenience stores, and all other individuals and businesses that assisted in the tagging and reporting process. Bob Eakes and Steve Coulter were helpful in the initial program design and program implementation. Carole Willis, Brian Melott, Dennis Trowell, William Hatfield, William Hartman, Kelly Hawk, Nick Harvey, Ann Pearce, Kim Worrell, Jack Poston, Mary Alice Young, John Glover, Travis Williams, Scott Smith, Dallis Tucker, David Daniel, Andrew Gross, Kerry Anderson, Kyle Wald, Pamela Rusher, John Zuaboni, Chris Wilson, and the DMF Marine Patrol communication operators are appreciated for contributing the technical skills and support needed to complete project objectives. Special thanks go to Don Hesselman for administrative support.

Project leader: Douglas G. Mumford, Biologist Supervisor

Administrative contact: Don Hesselman, Chief, License and Statistics Section

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) implemented a carcass-tagging program for Atlantic bluefin tuna in 1998 to accurately assess recreational landings within the state. In 2003, billfishes (blue marlin, white marlin, and swordfish) were included in reporting requirements to meet international agreements. The Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Reporting Program has since recorded 3,160 bluefin tuna and 168 billfish landings. Recreational landings reached a record low in 2004, with only 28 HMS reported. The decrease can be attributed to a shift in effort to the commercial fishery. HMS landings have been on the rise since 2004 with 190 reports in 2007. The 2013 data landings indicated a slight increase in landings (214) with an increase in bluefin tuna (201). Continued monitoring and evaluation of HMS is recommended to establish necessary time series and information for management purposes.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	ÌÌ
TABLE OF CONTENTS	i\
LIST OF TABLES, FIGURES, AND APPENDICES	
INTRODUCTION	
DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	

LIST OF TABLES, FIGURES, AND APPENDICES

Table 1. Data elements included on North Carolina HMS catch cards	. 11
Table 2. Number of HMS recreational landings from North Carolina by species and year, 1999-2013.	. 11
Table 3 Number and descriptive statistics of HMS landings from North Carolina by species, 1999-2013	
Table 4. Number of recreational ABT landings from North Carolina by region and year, 1999-2013.	
Figure 1. Compart North Carolina UNIC reporting stations	1.1
Figure 1. Current North Carolina HMS reporting stations	. 14
Figure 2. North Carolina Highly Migratory Species catch card, 2013	. 15
Figure 3. Recreational ABT landings (percent of annual total) from North Carolina by region and year, 1999-2013	. 16
Figure 4. Recreational ABT landings (percent of annual total) from North Carolina by month and year, 2008-2013.	. 16
Figure 5. Size distribution (curved fork length, 5-inch size classes) of recreational ABT landed in North Carolina, 2008-2013. Values are shown as a percent frequency of total	
annual observations	. 17
Appendix 1. 2013 North Carolina Governor's Cup participating tournaments	. 18
Appendix 2. NCDMF staff participating as mobile reporting stations	. 18

INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has been involved in sampling recreational fisheries through participation in the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS) since 1987. The MRFSS has been conducted annually by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in each coastal state since 1979. The primary purpose is to produce reliable estimates of catch, effort, and participation for finfish species at the regional level (Gulf, South Atlantic, etc.). Due to the survey's inability to provide reliable catch statistics for fisheries management at the state level, DMF increased the annual number of people interviewed by approximately ten times beginning in 1987. However, even with increased sample sizes, highly migratory species occur so infrequently in angler catches that creel surveys such as MRFSS are unable to provide precise estimates of catch for these rare event species.

DMF, along with NOAA, attempted to monitor the Atlantic ABT (*Thunnus thynnus*, ABT) fishery in North Carolina using creel survey methodology in 1996. The 1996 and 1997 survey design incorporated the use of stratified random dockside sampling from a permit and license frame to obtain catch data and telephone contacts for effort information. The estimates of harvest produced using this methodology lacked industry support and generated a great deal of controversy among fishermen. DMF initiated a carcass-tagging program in 1998 to provide a census of the recreational ABT harvest aimed at improving the quality of data and promoting fisherman participation.

Recently, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) recommended a rebuilding program for blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) and white marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*). The United States agreed to continue the prohibition on retention of billfish onboard commercial fishing vessels and to limit annual recreational landings to 250 blue and white marlin. This measure was implemented in January 2007 as the United States codified the ICCAT recommendation. In 2011 roundscale spearfish (*Tetrapturus georgii*) were added to list of species that must be reported. Managers were faced with monitoring the United States recreational billfish catch in an accurate and precise manner.

Billfish and swordfish are considered rare event species in nearly all state and federal surveys designed to broadly monitor harvest of recreational catch. Estimates of recreational harvest for these species from these surveys are highly variable and lack acceptable levels of precision. Given this reality, an alternate method of monitoring recreational harvest of these species needed to be examined. At the April 2002 Billfish Advisory Panel meeting the majority of the members agreed that a landing tag program would be the preferred method for monitoring recreational fisheries for billfish. Catch Card/Tagging programs are currently being used in Maryland. During 2011 pilot catch card programs were conducted in Massachusetts and Puerto Rico. In 2012 Louisiana implemented a catch card program for yellowfin tuna. In addition, several states on the West Coast utilize Catch Card/Tagging programs to monitor catches of several highly regulated species.

The ABT landing tag program (originally designed by anglers, charterboat captains and DMF staff) has been supported and favorably received by all user groups. In 2003, DMF along with NOAA, expanded the existing ABT landing tag program in North Carolina to include mandatory reporting of billfish and swordfish species. The all-inclusive program is referred to as the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) program. A mid-season evaluation was conducted during 2006 to determine public perception of the tagging project. Reporting station agents and selected charterboat and private boat captains were contacted to identify any problems associated with the reporting process and to solicit suggestions for improvement. Comments received were positive and reflected a desire for continued participation. Monthly summary reports were distributed to anglers, reporting stations, NOAA, and other interested parties.

METHODS

CENSUS

The basic design required mandatory reporting of all HMS landed recreationally in North Carolina during the year. Highly Migratory Species include Atlantic bluefin tuna, blue marlin, white marlin, roundscale spearfish (Tetrapturus georgii), sailfish (Istiophorus platypterus), and swordfish (Xiphias gladius). To ensure collection of census data, the following measures were used:

- Captains or operators of NOAA HMS permitted vessels were required to complete a catch card to be submitted at an HMS reporting station in exchange for a landing tag. Catch cards were widely available from marinas, DMF staff, fishing tournaments, tackle shops, and convenience stores.
- 2) All HMS harvested recreationally in North Carolina were required to have a landing tag attached prior to removal from the vessel. Trailered vessels with HMS on board could not be removed from the water until the fish were tagged.
- 3) Any off-loaded HMS observed without an attached landing tag indicated a violation.

NOAA established appropriate rules or processes to implement the procedures noted above and further described below. The DMF and NOAA implemented cooperative outreach activities to ensure that affected fisherman and businesses were aware of this project and its potential benefits. HMS catch cards were collected, scanned, summarized, and reported weekly to NOAA.

This process improved compliance and provided federal law enforcement officers with a tangible means of determining if the reporting requirements were met.

Reporting Stations

Twenty-five HMS reporting stations have been established throughout coastal North Carolina in close proximity to the HMS fleet landing areas. Additional stations were needed to provide optimal access for angler reporting of all HMS. Stations included marinas, tackle shops, and other fishing centers (Figure 1). Billfish Tournaments (including Governor's Cup Conservation

Series) also participated (Appendix 1). The DMF port agents functioned as mobile reporting stations (Appendix 2) and supplied reporting stations with catch cards and landing tags. The reporting stations were responsible for collecting catch cards and distributing tags for compliance purposes. All of the key marinas were contacted to participate in the HMS tagging program.

Catch Cards and Landing Tags

Catch cards (Figure 2) were used by vessel operators to report their landings. The catch card design was user-friendly and required minimal time for completion. Only those data relative to reporting compliance with the program were included (Table 1). Additional elements could have adversely affected compliance. Catch cards were made available to vessel operators in advance or obtained from the reporting stations and other authorized agents. Catch cards were submitted for each individual HMS landed. The operator of the HMS permitted vessel was responsible for the proper completion of the catch card. In the winter of 2007, a new catch card was developed that provided a perforated "tear off" that was kept by the captain or angler to further indicate reporting compliance.

The DMF began using a Microsoft (MS) Access database designed by NOAA in 2007 to manage the HMS landings records. All previous records were converted to MS Access from Excel. The HMS catch cards were collected, summarized and submitted monthly to NOAA. Data was keyentered into an MS Access database by DMF. The DMF mailed completed catch cards to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Gloucester, MA office on a monthly basis. Starting in 2012, DMF starting emailing scanned copies of the cards. Spreadsheets summarizing recreational HMS activity and catch were forwarded to all interested parties. HMS landing tags were non-reusable and similar to those used previously to identify Atlantic bluefin tuna landed recreationally in North Carolina. The DMF supplied and distributed the landing tags to reporting stations, accounted for each tag distributed, and completed an inventory of tags/cards used at the end of the season.

OUTREACH

Information delivery and education were critical components for the success of this project. The DMF worked with all project participants and used a variety of outreach mechanisms to inform HMS fishery participants of the reporting requirements contained in this proposal.

Under this project, DMF initiated the following steps:

- 1) Coordinate with NOAA on a program description for public distribution;
- 2) Used the DMF news release process;
- Developed and maintained a list of billfish reporting stations;
- 4) Used DMF port agents to inform fishing industry members about the program;
- 5) Developed and distributed informational posters with reporting requirements, reporting station locations, and the process for obtaining additional information.

RESULTS

Since the beginning of the HMS program in 1999 there have been 3,160 bluefin tuna (94.45%), 148 blue marlin (4.45%), six swordfish (0.18%), eight white marlin (0.24%), and six sailfish (0.18%) (Table 2) landings documented. No roundscale spearfish have been landed since the beginning of the HMS program in NC. Blue marlin averaged 111" fork length (FL), bluefin tuna averaged 64" curved fork length (CFL), sailfish averaged 66" FL, white marlin averaged 69" FL, and swordfish averaged 62" FL (Table 3). There were 214 HMS landings recorded in 2013 which included 201 bluefin tuna, 10 blue marlin and three sailfish. HMS landings reached a record low in 2004 with 28 landings, mostly due to the decline in bluefin tuna landings beginning in 2002. Bluefin tuna landings remained stable during 2005 and 2006, but increased to 175 landings in 2007. Landings decreased slightly to 158 landings in 2008 and 148 landings in 2009. The 2010 bluefin tuna landings (579) showed a significant increase compared to the previous year but the 2011 landings (328) data indicated a decrease in landings. The 2013 ABF season showed an increase from the previous year with 201 fish compared to 189 fish landed in 2012.

Landings of bluefin tuna shifted from the northern district to the central district in 2001, peaking in 2005 with 97%. The central district continued to land the majority of bluefin tuna until 2007 when bluefin tuna landings shifted back to the northern district with 93% of the landings. Landings in the southern district have remained at low levels. In 2011, 99% of the bluefin tuna landings were reported from the northern district, with the remaining bluefin tuna landing reported from the central district. The 2013 season continued the same landing trend with 99% of ABF landed in the northern district (Table 4, Figure 3). The majority of bluefin tuna landings were reported at Oregon Inlet Fishing Center (85, 42.3%), followed by Pirates Cove Marina (51, 25.4%), Hatteras Harbor Marina (33, 16.4%) Broad Creek Marina - Wanchese (14, 7.0%) and Teach's Lair Marina (13, 6.5%). A total of five bluefin tuna (2.5%) were also reported at various other stations. Mobile DMF agents reported six blue marlin (60.0%). There were 3 sailfish landed in 2013 (2 – Hatteras Harbor Marina and 1 – Teach's Lair). These reporting stations typically account for a large proportion of landing reports, especially mobile DMF agents and Oregon Inlet Fishing Center (Table 5). Table 6 provides a listing of all ports and their total number of HMS landings. No roundscale spearfish or white marlin was landed in 2013.

In the past, bluefin tuna landings peaked in December and January. The landings pattern has shifted from the historically high December to the current peak month of March. February landings are typically higher than April landings during the past 6 years (Figure 4). Curved fork lengths of these fish in 2013 ranged from 30" to 87" (Figure 5).

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A change in the Atlantic bluefin tuna recreational fishery has occurred over the past ten years. The proportion of annual landings from the northern district decreased from 2001 to 2006 while landings occurred more frequently in areas further south. Landings in the northern district increased from 42% in 2006 to 93% in 2007. Nearly all HMS landings in 2009 (99%),

2010 (99%), 2011 (99%), 2012 (99%) and 2013 (99%) were recorded in the northern district (Table 4).

Another obvious change in the Atlantic bluefin tuna recreational fishery was the drastic reduction in landings since 2000. Each year from 2001 to 2004, harvests were 20% to 31%, respectively, of those reported in 2000. Landings in 2006 were only 5% of those reported in 2000, and 2004 to 2006 account for less than 6% of the total landings over the nine-year history. In 2007, landings increased by more than five times that of the previous year due to a shift in harvest back to the northern district and an extended season. Landings increased by 328.8% from 2009 to 2010 due to the push of late season fish (March and April) in the northern district. The 2011 bluefin tuna landings decreased 43.2% from the 2010 landings. The 2012 bluefin landings experienced another substantial decrease by 42.6%. There was a modest increase in 2013 by 6.3% from 2012.

Some of the earlier decline may be attributed to the commercial quota established in 2000. Commercial landings since then have increased dramatically. It is suspected that charterboat captains who typically solicit recreational trips have switched their efforts to the more profitable commercial bluefin tuna fishery. Further, it is simple for part-time commercial fisherman to gain access to the commercial quota. Regulations only require a federal permit in the general or charter/headboat category and a DMF standard commercial fishing license (SCFL) to sell bluefin tuna. North Carolina also has a provision that allows reassignment of SCFLs, providing even more access to the commercial bluefin tuna fishery. Continued monitoring and evaluation of HMS is recommended to identify these changes and establish necessary time series and information for management purposes.

Atlantic bluefin tuna regulations are subject to change in regard to proper catch reporting requirements. Documentation specific to North Carolina reporting requirements should continue in all new and renewal permit application information. The DMF reporting requirements should also be included on the NMFS online reporting page (http://www.nmfspermits.com/PermitIDLandings.asp) with a link to the DMF website.

Lastly, a procedure to validate harvest would be beneficial to the program. Afterhours and private-access site compliance have not been evaluated. Based on anecdotal evidence compliance rates in North Carolina are high. The recreational Atlantic bluefin tuna fishery within the state is highly visible, with substantial dockside attention. This trait, along with 19 full and part-time DMF port agents assisting in the process, and the general enthusiasm of anglers to report harvests all contribute to increased compliance rates. Development of methods to substantiate these assumptions would be valuable to current ABT and HMS data collection programs.

Table 1. Data elements included on North Carolina HMS catch cards.

Data Element	Requirement
Date of landing	Mandatory
HMS permit number	Mandatory
Landing tag number	Mandatory
Length of ABT or billfish landed (curved fork and fork length in inches)	Mandatory
Reporting station identification	Mandatory
Species landed	Mandatory
Tournament participation	Mandatory
Vessel name and type (Charter/Private/Headboat)	Mandatory
Weight of ABT or billfish landed (total weight in pounds)	Optional

Table 2. Number of HMS recreational landings from North Carolina by species and year, 1999-2013.

Year	Blue Marlin	Bluefin Tuna	Sailfish	Swordfish	White Marlin	Total
1999	-	274	-	-	-	274
2000	-	590	-	-	-	590
2001	-	293	-	-	-	293
2002	-	82	-	-	-	82
2003	16	99	-	1	2	118
2004	8	20	-	-	-	28
2005	14	30	-	-	-	44
2006	12	31	-	-	-	43
2007	13	175	-	2	-	190
2008	24	133	-	-	1	158
2009	11	135	-	2	-	148
2010	14	579	1	-	2	596
2011	9	329	2	-	3	343
2012	17	189	-	1	-	207
2013	10	201	3	-	-	214
Total	148	3160	6	6	8	3328

^{*} No roundscale spearfish have been reported

Table 3. Number and descriptive statistics of HMS landings from North Carolina by species, 1999-2013.

Species	Variable	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
Dive menulin	fork length (in)	137	110.9	8.5	86.0	144.0
Blue marlin	weight (lbs)	139	507.9	133.5	244.0	1,228.5
ABT	curved fork length (in)	3146	64.6	9.6	29.0	112.0
ADI	weight (lbs)	528	159.8	72.6	23.0	805.8
Sailfish	fork length (in)	6	65.7	2.8	62.0	70.0
Jaiiiisii	weight (lbs)	-	-	-	-	-
Swordfish	fork length (in)	6	62.3	12.0	48.0	84.0
	Weight (lbs)	3	111.7	37.5	75.0	150.0
Malaita manulin	fork length (in)	8	69.4	2.5	66.0	73.0
White marlin	weight (lbs)	2	82.5	3.5	80.0	85.0

^{*} No roundscale spearfish have been reported.

Table 4. Number of recreational ABT landings from North Carolina by region and year, 1999-2013.

Year	Central	Percent	Northern	Percent	Southern	Percent	Unknown	Percent	Total
1999	77	28	157	57	37	13	3	1	274
2000	146	25	348	59	87	15	9	2	590
2001	211	72	59	20	20	7	3	1	293
2002	63	77	16	20	3	4	-	-	82
2003	86	87	7	7	6	6	-	-	99
2004	19	95	-	-	-	-	1	5	20
2005	29	97	1	3	-	-	-	-	30
2006	13	42	13	42	5	16	-	-	31
2007	9	5	163	93	3	2	-	-	175
2008	8	6	124	93	-	-	1	1	133
2009	-	-	134	99	-	-	1	1	135
2010	-	-	571	99	-	-	8	1	579
2011	-	-	328	99	-	-	1	1	329
2012	-	-	187	99	2	1	-	-	189
2013	-	-	198	99	-	-	3	1	201
Total	661	-	2,306	-	163	-	30	-	3,160

Table 5. Reported 2013 landings by station.

			Spe	cies		
Reporting Station	Blue Marlin		Bluefin Tuna		Sailfish	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Broad Creek Marina	-	-	14	7.0	-	-
Hatteras Harbor Marina	2	20.0	33	14.6	2	66.7
HMS Call-In	-	-	3	1.5	-	-
Oden's Dock	-	-	2	1.0	-	-
Oregon Inlet Fishing Center	-	-	85	42.3	-	-
Pirates Cove	2	20.0	51	25.4	-	-
Randy Gregory	6	60.0	-	-	-	-
Teach's Lair Marina	-	-	13	6.5	1	33.3
All	10	100.00	201	100.00	3	100.00

Table 6. List of reporting stations in North Carolina by number of landings, 1999-2013.

Reporting Station	Frequency of Landings	Reporting Station	Frequency of Landings
Anchorage Marina - Ocracoke	18	Nick Harvey	2
Anchorage Marina – Atlantic Beach	68	Ocean Isle Fishing Center	14
Bahama Bob's	9	Oden's Dock	176
Brian Melott	73	Olde Towne Yacht Club	28
Bridge Tender Marina	19	Oregon Inlet Fishing Center	623
Broad Creek Marina - Wanchese	109	Pirates Cove	417
Call-in	18	Portside	26
Captain Stacy's Fishing Center	48	Randy Gregory	100
Gulf Dock	347	Seagull Bait and Tackle	9
Harker's Island Fishing Center	3	Seawater Marina	39
Hatteras Harbor Marina	470	Southport Fishing Center	56
Hatteras Landing Marina	115	Stacey Constaineau	7
HMS Call-in	22	Station Not Identified	1
Holden Beach Marina	3	Suzie Hill	53
Hurricane Fishing Center	66	Teach's Lair Marina	305
Island Harbor Marina	1	Town Creek Marina	33
Nancy Lee Fishing Center	5	William Hatfield	45
Total Landings			3,328

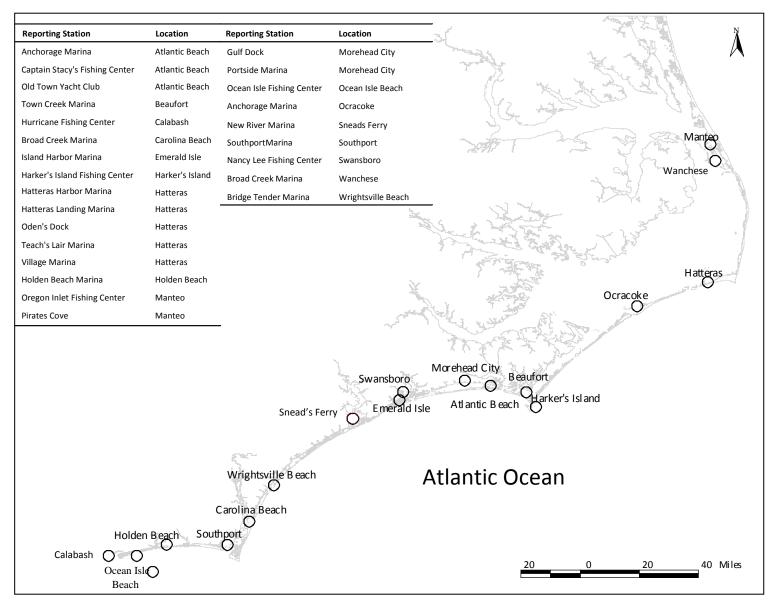


Figure 1. Current North Carolina Highly Migratory Species reporting stations.

	NC Hig	hly Migratory Spe NOT FOR COMM Reporting Statio	MERCIAL		NORP STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE
Date 2013	nth Day		- August	_	ork Length
Reporting Statio	n	Pectoral Fin	1	Pounds	E
Permit Number_			ork Length Measurement measured from the tip of upper jaw,	(optional)	EV.
Vessel Name _		side of the pectoral fin		over the top	
Trip Type (checkone)	Charter Private Headboat	LowerJaw	Tagging Location Tail Fork Length	Fork Length (any billfish k Pounds (optional) —	
Tournament	Yes	Billfishes should be r	neasured from the tip of the lower ja of the caudal (tail) fin.	w	
all LPS Reporting Stat This information collect NC Official Use	ions. To obtain a Landi tion is approved under o Highly Mi	\$100 miles	d vessel must complete and sub 013). Catch Card Ta	ag Rece	ipt ipt in
14914411100	r (monir disovo)	nan	a wille ili posse	331011 01 11	ie iisii
NC HMS Catch	Card Contact	Information	REPORTING SITE	LOCATION	TELEPHONE 252-726-1637
Name	Telephone Number	E-mail	Seawater Marina Captain Stacy's Fishing Center Anchorage Marina Town Creek Marina Olde Towne Vacht Club	Atlantic Beach Atlantic Beach Atlantic Beach Beaufort	252-726-1637 252-726-4675 252-726-4423 252-728-6111 252-726-3066
Dallis Tucker	252-946-6481	Dallis.Tucker@ncdenr.gov	Hurricane Fishing Center Harker's Island Fishing Center	Calabash Harker's Island	910-579-3660 252-728-3907
Chris Wilson	252-946-6481	Chris.Wilson@ncdenr.gov	Oden's Dock Hatteras Harbor Marina	Hatteras	252-988-2555
Doug Mumford	252-946-6481	Doug.Mumford@ncdenr.gov	Teach's Lair Marina Hatteras Landing Marina	Hatteras Hatteras Hatteras	252-986-2166 252-986-2460 252-986-2522
NOAA	in.		Holden Beach Marina Pirates Cove Oregon Inlet Fishing Center	Holden Beach Manteo Manteo	910-842-5447 252-473-3906 252-441-6301
Ron Salz	301-713-2328	Ron.Salz@noaa.gov	Shallowbag Bay Marina Portside Marina	Manteo Morehead City	252-305-8726 252-726-7678
HMS Permits	•	-	Ocean Isle Fishing Center Anchorage Marina New River Marina	Ocean Isle Ocracoke Speeds Form	910-575-3474 252-928-6661 910-327-2106
Renewals/New	888-872-8862	http://hmspermits.noaa.gov/	Southport Marina Broad Creek Marina	Sneads Ferry Southport Wanchese	910-457-9900 252-473-9991
After Hours Re	porting	20 ES (ES	Bridge Tender Marina Creekside Yacht Club	Wrights ville Beach Wrights ville Beach	910-256-6550 910-350-0023
800-682-2632	<u> </u>	no other option available	+		

Figure 2. North Carolina Highly Migratory Species catch card, 2013.

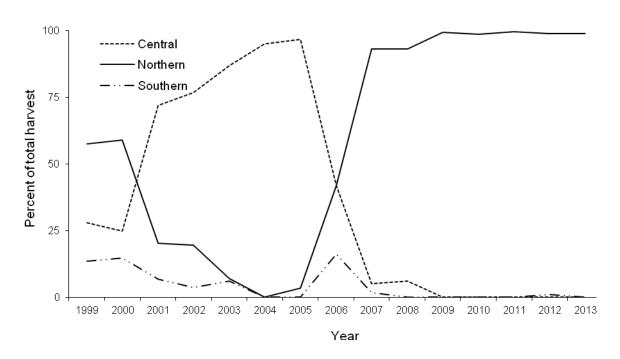


Figure 3. Recreational Atlantic bluefin tuna landings (percent of annual total) from North Carolina by region and year, 1999-2013.

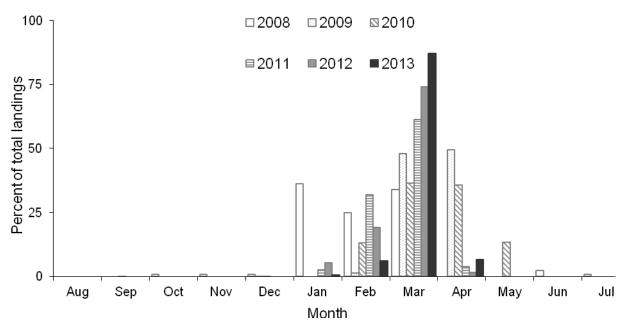


Figure 4. Recreational Atlantic bluefin tuna landings (percent of annual total) from North Carolina by month and year, 2008-2013.

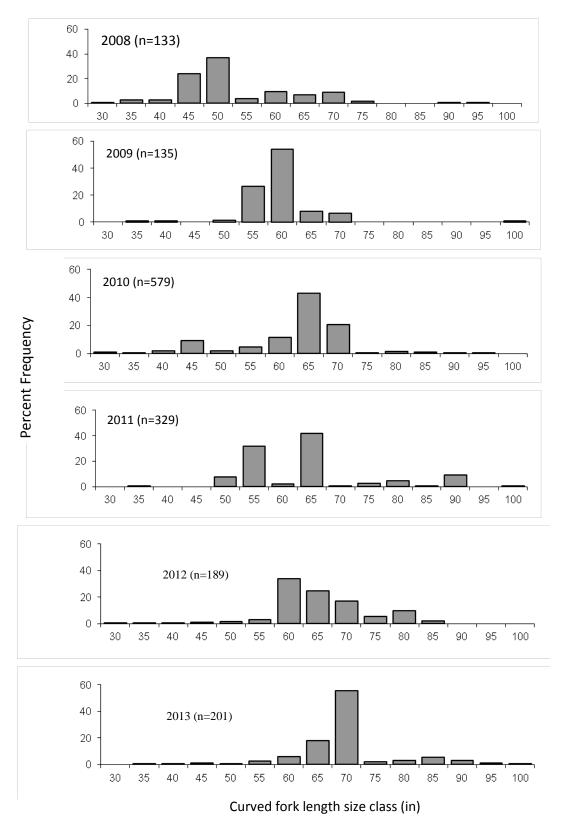


Figure 5. Size distribution (curved fork length, 5-inch size classes) of recreational Atlantic bluefin tuna landed in North Carolina, 2008-2013. Values are shown as a percent frequency of total annual observations.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. 2013 North Carolina Governor's Cup participating tournaments.



2013 GOVERNOR'S CUP PARTICIPATING TOURNAMENTS

HATTERAS VILLAGE OFFSHORE OPEN

May 14 – 18

Hatteras Phone: 757-287-4932

SWANSBORO ROTARY MEMORIAL DAY BLUE WATER FISHING TOURNAMENT

May 24 – 26 Swansboro Phone: 252-732-5402

CAPE FEAR BLUE MARLIN TOURNAMENT

May 30 – June 1

Wrightsville Beach Phone: 910-686-9778

BIG ROCK BLUE MARLIN TOURNAMENT

June 7 - 15

Morehead City Phone: 252-247-3575

HATTERAS GRAND SLAM TOURNAMENT

July 10 - 13

Hatteras Phone: 252-996-0618

BARTA BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB BILLFISH TOURNAMENT

July 18 - 20

Beaufort Phone: 252-808-2286

DUCKS UNLIMITED BILLFISH TOURNAMENT

July 25 – 27

Morehead City Phone: 252-814-4896

PIRATES COVE BILLFISH TOURNAMENT

August 12 - 16

Manteo Phone: 1-800-367-4728



FOR MORE INFORMATION: NC Governor's Cup Billfishing Conservation Series Randy Gregory, PO Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557 E-Mail: Randy.Gregory@ncdenr.gov 252-726-7021 or 1-800-682-2632



Appendix 2. NCDMF staff participating as mobile reporting stations.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Dare, Hyde (Ocracoke), Currituck, and Tyrrell County

Brian Melott William Hartman
611 Kelly Court 143 The Oaks
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 Manteo, NC 27954
(252) 480-3584 (252) 473-6225

CENTRAL DISTRICT: Carteret, Craven, Pamlico, Onslow, Beaufort, and Hyde (mainland) County

Travis Williams Randy Gregory 6 Quinn Street P.O. Box 769

Havelock, NC 28532 Morehead City, NC 28557

(252) 665-4174 (252) 726-7021

Scott Smith Kim Worrell

104 Beachwood Drive 357 Wayland Court Pine Knoll Shores, NC 28512 Gloucester, NC 28928

(910) 232-6304 (252) 223-4925

SOUTHERN DISTRICT: Pender, New Hanover, and Brunswick County.

Dennis Trowell Pam Rusher

2711 Ashby Drive 6700 Low Bush Court Wilmington, NC 28409 Wilmington, NC 28405

(910) 392-6596 (910) 231-3705