

IMPROVING OUR UNDERSTANDING OF ATLANTIC COAST FISHERIES ELECTRONIC REPORTING



The Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) would like to hear from you ... Atlantic coast commercial and recreational fishermen, harvesters and dealers!

As technologies improve and the electronic era moves forward, state and federal agencies that collect fisheries data could use electronic reporting as a means to capture what fishermen harvest. This survey has been developed to better understand the potential positives and negatives of electronic reporting through the eyes of dealers and the fishing community.

Please take a few minutes to educate us as we explore electronic reporting options. Your input on this survey will then be used to initiate a workshop during the fall of 2013. The intent of the workshop will be to produce a document to be shared with fishermen and fishery management agencies on how to improve new and existing electronic reporting systems. Your anonymous input is critical to the future of fisheries data collection for your industry.

This survey is also available electronically. Please visit http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ACCSP_ereporting if you would like to enter electronically. Please see reverse side for information on returning your paper survey.

ABOUT YOU:

Please answer the following questions so we may better get to know you.

1. Age:

- Under 25 25 - 34 35 - 44
 45 - 54 Over 54

2. Fishing sector:

- Commercial fisherman Dealer
 For-hire recreational Private recreational
 Other: _____

3. Primary home port, business, or residency:

- Maine New Hampshire
 Massachusetts Rhode Island
 Connecticut New York
 New Jersey Delaware
 Pennsylvania Maryland
 Virginia North Carolina
 South Carolina Georgia
 Florida

4. Primary area fished:

- Inland (bays, lagoons, and/or sounds)
 State waters (0 - 3 miles)
 Federal waters (> 3 miles)

5. Fishing related activities (e.g., commercial or recreational fisherman, harvester, dealer, etc.) are:

- Full-time job Part-time job
 Recreational
 Other: _____

6. To which jurisdiction(s) or agencies do you currently report information on your fishing related activities (e.g., commercial or recreational fisherman, harvester, dealer, etc.)? Please let us know all that apply.

- None Maine
 New Hampshire Massachusetts
 Rhode Island Connecticut
 New York New Jersey
 Delaware Pennsylvania
 Maryland Virginia
 North Carolina South Carolina
 Georgia Florida
 Sector manager
 NOAA: Northeast Regional Office
 NOAA: Southeast Regional Office
 NOAA: Highly Migratory Species (HMS)

7. How often are you required to report for your fishing related activities (e.g., commercial or recreational fisherman, harvester, dealer, etc.)?

- Before arriving at dock Daily
 Weekly Twice a month
 Monthly
 Other: _____

8. What is your experience with electronic reporting?

- No experience I am required to use it
 It is an option and I do not use it
 It is an option and I use it

9. What electronic tool(s) do you currently use?

Please let us know all that apply.

- Computer Work internet access
 Tablet At-sea internet access
 Smartphone Home internet access
 At-dock internet access
 Other: _____

... PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE

UNDERSTANDING YOUR OPINIONS ON ELECTRONIC REPORTING:

Please answer the following questions so we may better understand your preferences for electronic reporting.

10. From your perspective please let us know if you 'agree' or 'disagree' with the following statements. For instance, if you think paper reporting takes more time for you, then you select 'agree'.

If you do not 'agree' or 'disagree' please indicate that with the 'neutral' option.

a. Electronic reporting takes more time for me than paper reporting.

Agree Neutral Disagree

b. Electronic reporting imposes more costs for me than paper reporting.

Agree Neutral Disagree

c. Electronic reporting is more difficult for me than paper reporting.

Agree Neutral Disagree

d. Electronic reporting programs are less reliable for me than paper reporting.

Agree Neutral Disagree

e. I believe data from electronic reporting programs are available to managers and scientists faster than paper reporting.

Agree Neutral Disagree

f. I believe data from electronic reporting programs contain less errors than those from paper reporting.

Agree Neutral Disagree

g. I would use electronic reporting if it replaced all other reporting requirements and allowed filing a single catch report.

Agree Neutral Disagree

h. I would use electronic reporting if the program addressed my needs and was designed to my standards.

Agree Neutral Disagree

11. If you have experience with electronic reporting please share with us the key advantages.

12. If you have experience with electronic reporting please share with us the key disadvantages.

13. What would you require an electronic reporting system to include in order for you to use it?

14. What other impediments or concerns prevent you from favoring or using electronic reporting programs?

15. As we mentioned this information will be used to educate us as we explore electronic reporting options. If you would like information on the results of the electronic reporting workshop please provide an email or mailing address below.



The Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) is a cooperative state-federal program to design, implement, and conduct marine fisheries statistics data collection programs and to integrate those data into a single data management system that will meet the needs of fishery managers, scientists, and fishermen. It is composed of representatives from natural resource management agencies coastwide, including the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the three Atlantic fishery management councils, the 15 Atlantic states, the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, the D.C. Fisheries and Wildlife Division, NOAA Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. For more information please visit www.accsp.org.

RETURNING YOUR PAPER SURVEY

Please return your paper survey to your local fisheries management office or you can also return through the mail to Ann McElhatton, ACCSP Program Manager, 1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200A-N, Arlington, VA 22201.

For more information please do not hesitate to call 703.842.0780 or email info@accsp.org.

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