

SC Charter Trip Reports



Bluefin Data

Amy Whitaker Dukes
OFM Fisheries Statistics Section



SC Charter Vessel Reporting

- 1993: Mandatory reporting
 - Code of Laws Title 50, Section 5
- Charterboat Logbook Program implemented
 - Trip-level catch and effort data
 - Compliance Tracking Monthly
 - Outreach efforts
 - Constant
 - Multiple methods
 - Ever-evolving

SOUTH CAROLINA CHARTERBOAT LOGBOOK										Revised 4-2012	
Vessel (Please Print): _____					Date: _____			Permit No.: _____			
Number of Anglers: _____					Trip Start Time: _____			Actual Hours Fished: _____			
					Location: _____			Example: 32-78-C1 (see map)			
Trip Start Location: _____					Artificial Reef Name: _____			Target Species: _____			
					(Please specify)						
Locale: <input type="checkbox"/> Estuarine		Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Troll		<input type="checkbox"/> Cast / Fly	Water Depth: _____ feet			Shallowest: _____ feet			
<input type="checkbox"/> 0 - 3 miles		<input type="checkbox"/> Bottom		<input type="checkbox"/> Dive	<input type="checkbox"/> Gig			Deepest: _____ feet			
<input type="checkbox"/> Offshore											

MAIL OR FAX REPORT BY THE 10TH OF THE MONTH TO:
SCDNR Fisheries Statistics Section, P.O.
Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422-2559
FAX: (843) 953-9362 Phone: (843) 953-9313

AGENCY USE ONLY

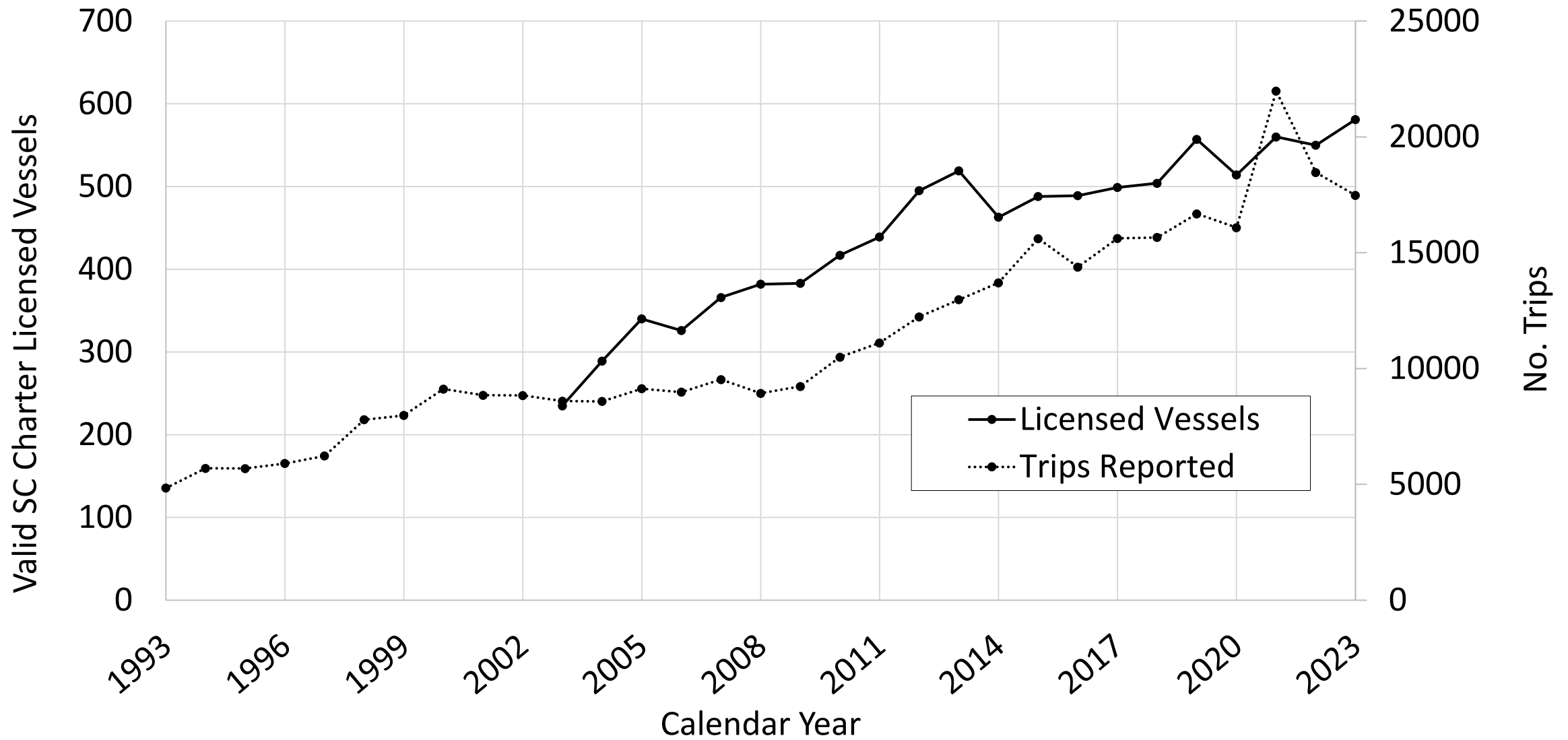
Yr	Mo	Day	Permit #	Location	Locale	Ang#	Meth
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Target Sp.		Hrs.	Reef	Trip Start	Shallowest	Deepest	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></div>

#	Species	# Kept	Lbs Kept	# Released Alive	# Released Dead	#	Species	# Kept	Lbs Kept	# Released Alive	# Released Dead
1050	Dolphin					1423	Gag				
4710	Wahoo					1424	Scamp				
4655	Yellowfin Tuna					1414	Snowy Grouper				
4658	Blackfin Tuna					1416	Red Grouper				
3026	Sailfish					1410	Other Grouper				
2177	White Marlin						(Specify)				
2179	Blue Marlin					3302	Red Porgy (Pinks)				
1940	King Mackerel					3295	Other Porgies				
3840	Spanish Mackerel						(Specify)				
4653	Little Tunny					3764	Red Snapper				
0330	Bonita					3765	Vermillion Snapper				
4654	Skip Jack					3360	Black Sea Bass				
0180	Barracuda					3314	Spottail Pinfish				
3810	Spadefish					1441	White Grunt				
0030	Amberjack					1440	Other Grunts				
0870	Crevaille Jack						(Specify)				
0230	Bluefish					4560	Triggerfish				
0570	Cobia					1082	Red Drum				
4350	Tarpon					1081	Black Drum				
	Other Fish					3447	Spotted Seatrout				
	(Specify)					3446	Weakfish				
						1209	Flounder				
						3560	Sheepshead				
						4410	Ladyfish				
						1970	Whiting				
Captain's Notes: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 40px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>						2670	Inshore Pinfish				
						3518	Sharpnose Shark				
						3495	Blacktip Shark				
						3483	Bonnhead Shark				
						3521	Spiny Dogfish				
						3511	Smooth Dogfish				
						3508	Other Sharks				
							(Specify)				
						2860	Stingrays				

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Licensed Charter Vessels and Trips Reported



Electronic Reporting Bluefin Data VESL Software



V E S L

New Trip

Trip Details

Trip Start * ⓘ Trip End * ⓘ

Vessel * ⓘ # of Anglers * ⓘ # of Crew * ⓘ

Location

Departing Marina * ⓘ Location ⓘ Locale ⓘ

Reef ⓘ

Fishing Activity

Min Depth * ⓘ FT Max Depth * ⓘ FT Hours Fished * ⓘ HRS Target Species ⓘ

Fishing Methods * ⓘ

Electronic Reporting Bluefin Data VESL Software



2014: federally licensed headboats (7+) required to report electronically

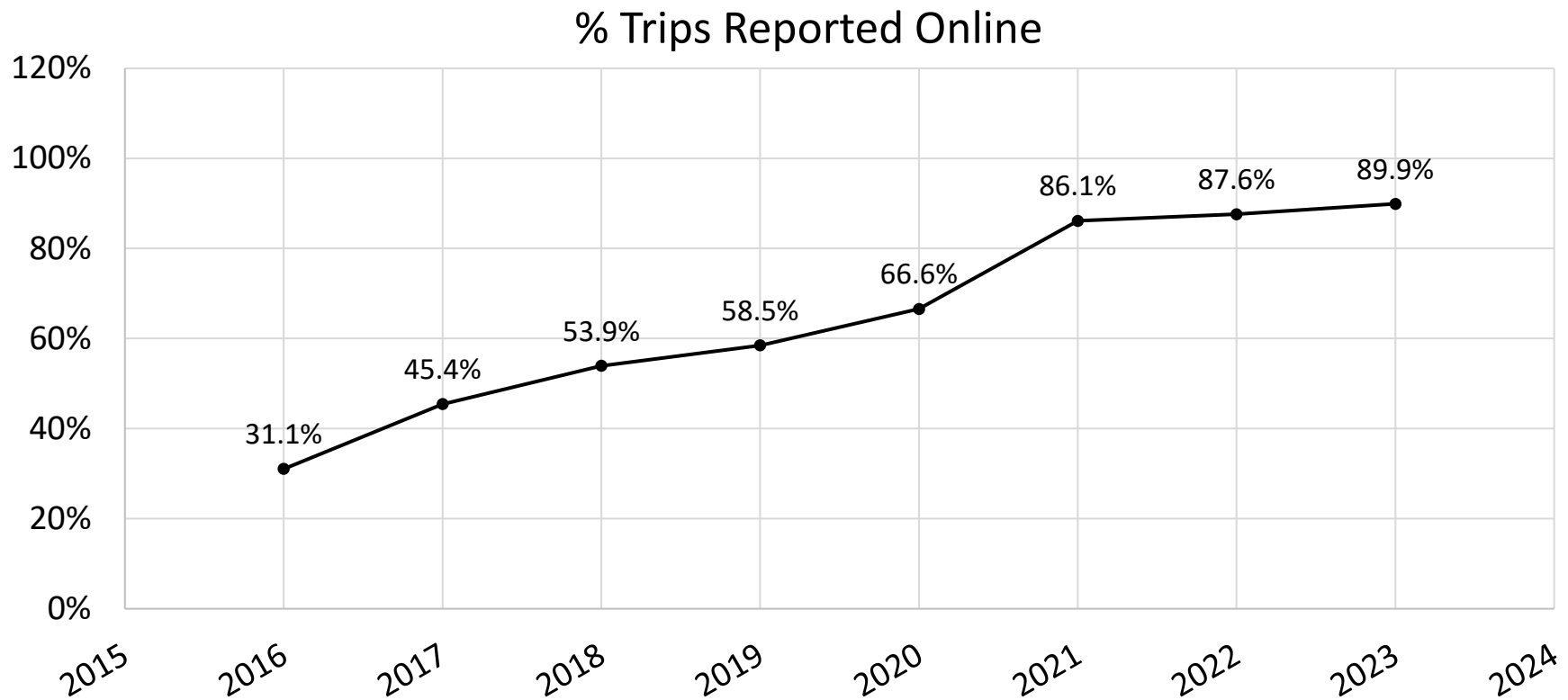
2015 (Sept): electronic reporting made available all for-hire vessels

2020 (Nov): NMFS approved SC VESL for use in SEFHIER

- Cooperative effort: single report meeting state and federal requirements

2021: federally licensed charters (1-6) required to report electronically

- Council Amendments – 9, 27, & 39



Calendar Year	Total SC Charter Trips Reported	SC Charter Trips Reported Online	Federal Charter Trips Reported Online
2016	14,381	4,469	*
2017	15,620	7,096	*
2018	15,661	8,449	*
2019	16,682	9,754	*
2020	16,085	10,709	*
2021	21,976	18,972	8,233
2022	18,464	16,174	6,930
2023	17,499	15,735	6,769

Electronic Reporting Bluefin Data VESL Software



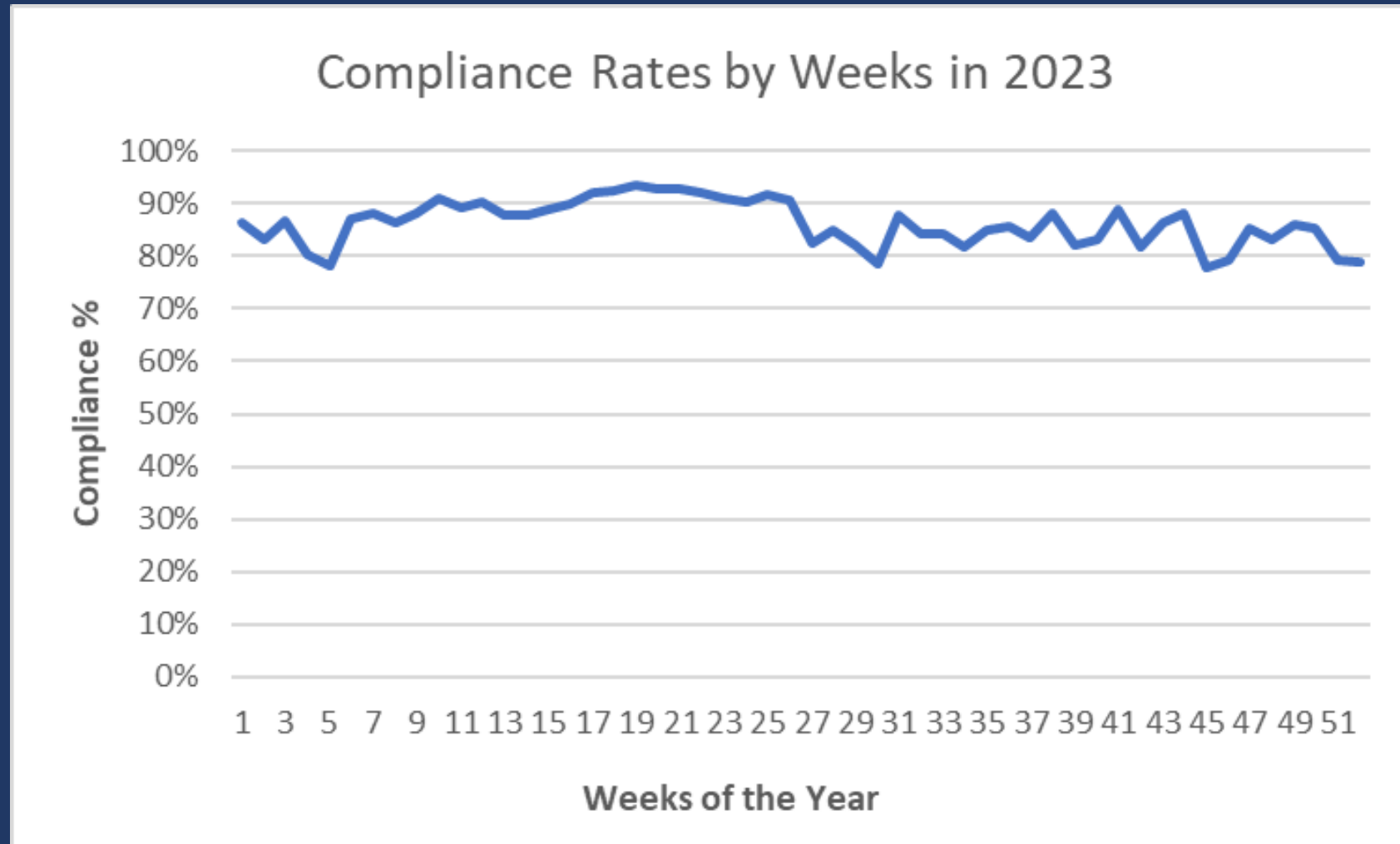
V E S L

Year	Vessels Required to Report to SERO and are SC Licenses	# of Weekly Reports Due	# of Weekly Reports Received	Mean Weekly % Complaint
2021	193	5,820	3,221	55.34%
2022	193	6,226	5,055	81.19%
2023	196	6,766	5,714	84.45%

Electronic Reporting Bluefin Data VESL Software



V E S L



Compliance = Outreach

What does SCDNR do to keep compliance high?
Information sharing:

- Licensing
- OFM
- VESL

Electronic reporting for-hire six-pack charter vessels



VESL Data (<https://vesldata.com>) is an electronic tool available for you to report your trip-level logbooks online. If you're a new license holder, an invitation from Bluefin Data, LLC (support@vesldata.com) will be automatically sent to the email address listed on your application. If you're renewing your license and have already registered, no action is needed to continue reporting with your new license number.

Trouble logging in? Your email address is your username. Try the "forgot password" button on the login screen.

No charter activity? Click on either the Reporting Status or Create No Business tabs and click the blue "File no business" button on the right (associated with each month of the fiscal year).

For any additional questions, please email CharterReporting@dnr.sc.gov or call one of the individuals below:

Elizabeth Gooding
Recreational Data Coordinator
(843) 953-0119

Amy Dukes
Fisheries Statistics Section Leader
(843) 953-9365

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Marine Resources Division

Summary of Charter Fishing Laws

2023-2024

This document should be kept on board all charter vessels as a legal reference, not to supersede knowledge of the pertinent laws. Complete laws can be found at www.scstatehouse.gov.

License Requirements: [Section 50-9-540 (D)]

License Type:	SC Resident Fee:	Nonresident Fee:
6 or Fewer Passengers	\$275.00	\$550.00
7-49 Passengers	\$450.00	\$900.00
More than 50 Passengers	\$650.00	\$1,300.00

*** USCG Credentials must be presented to obtain license ***

Definitions:

"Charter Fishing Vessel" means a vessel used to transport recreational saltwater fishermen for hire and includes charter, party and head boats. [Section 50-5-15 (10)]

Recreational saltwater fishing licenses; fees.

For the privilege of operating a charter fishing vessel in the salt waters of this State, the owner or operator must purchase an annual fiscal year charter vessel license for **each** vessel for the following fee to:

- (1) Carry six or fewer passengers, \$275 (SC Resident), \$550 (Nonresident)
- (2) Carry seven to 49 passengers, \$450 (SC Resident), \$900 (Nonresident)
- (3) Carry 50 or more passengers, \$650 (SC Resident), \$1,300 (Nonresident)

[Section 50-9-560 (C)]

Charter fishing vessel and public pier logs; penalties.

Charter fishing vessels shall maintain a log of the number of persons carried each trip, number of hours engaged in fishing, number of fish by species caught each day, and other information considered necessary by the Department. The logs must be submitted to the Department monthly by the tenth day of the following month.

Compliance = Outreach

What does SCDNR do to keep compliance high?

Information sharing:

- Licensing
- OFM
- VESL



Hi New -

You've been invited to meet your reporting requirements using VESL. Take the next step by clicking below to set your password - this will only take a moment.

GET STARTED

We're excited to have you aboard!

Sincerely,
The Bluefin Team

Federal Permitting Requirements for Charter/Headboat Operators

Disclaimer: This document is for general informational purposes only. For specific permitting information, or to apply for a permit, contact the respective federal agency listed below.

State licensed charter vessels who fish for federally managed species in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ; 3-200 nautical miles offshore) must obtain the appropriate permit(s) for the fishery or fisheries in which they are engaged. There are separate federal reporting requirements. If using the electronic reporting system (i.e., VESL) mentioned above, each report submitted will fulfill both state and federal reporting requirements under the Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting Program (SEFHIER). (Note: SEFHIER requires **weekly** reporting.) For more information on reporting, please visit the websites above.

Offices of the National Marine Fisheries Service:

SERO=National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) **Southeast Regional Office**, Authority for species from NC through east coast Florida.

NMFS Southeast Regional (SERO) Permit Office
1 (877) 376-4877

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/resources-fishing/southeast-fisheries-permits>

HMS=NMFS **Highly Migratory Species** Division, Authority for Sharks, tunas, swordfish and all billfish
Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Permit Office

1 (888) 872-8862

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov>

Compliance = Outreach

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Information sharing:

- Licensing
- OFM
- VESL

South Carolina DNR Support

Phone: 843-953-0119

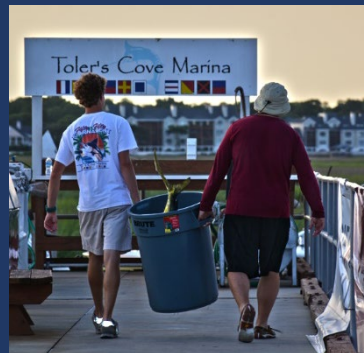
Email: charterreporting@dnr.sc.gov

FAQs: [Help Center](#)

VESL SUPPORT AND FEEDBACK

What does it take to get captains to report?

- Call, Email, License Renewal, Fishing Docks, Tournaments, Public and Stakeholder Events



Compliance = Outreach

What does SCDNR do to keep compliance high?

Information sharing:

- Licensing
- OFM
- VESL

What does it take to get captains to report?

- Call, Email, License Renewal, Fishing Docks, Tournaments, Public Events, Stakeholder Meetings

How does SCDNR handle non-compliance?

- LE - Affidavit List and Action List
- SC Magistrates

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CHARLESTON

AFFIDAVIT
December, 2023

This affidavit certifies that the following persons and/or firms have failed to remit harvest reports to the Marine Resources Division. The reports are required under authorization of Section 50-5-380 (wholesale dealers) and 50-5-1915 (charter vessel and pier permits) South Carolina Code of Laws. Harvest reports are due at the division regularly, regardless of fishing or business activity.

Date 1/29/24

Ronald Ben Dyar
Ronald Ben Dyar
OFM Fisheries Statistics Section
South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

County: Beaufort

[Redacted] License Number: RF12-2024-000[Redacted]
[Redacted] Type: Annual Charter Vessel License 1-6 Passengers
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926
Phone: [Redacted] Vessel ID: SC [Redacted]
Vessel Name: [Redacted]
Delinquent Months: December (2023)
On Affidavit (including this month) 1 time

[Redacted] Fishing Charters LLC License Number: RF12-2024-000[Redacted]
[Redacted] Type: Annual Charter Vessel License 1-6 Passengers
Bluffton, SC 29910
Phone: [Redacted] Vessel ID: SC [Redacted]
Vessel Name: [Redacted]
Delinquent Months: December (2023)
On Affidavit (including this month) 1 time

SCDNR Statistics Office Contacts:
Vanessa Geddis: (843) 953-9313
Eric Hiltz: (843) 953-9012
Amy Dukes: (843) 953-9365
Created On 1/29/2024 1:01:30 PM

Sworn to and subscribed before me
This 29 day of Jan, 2024
[Signature]
Notary Public of South Carolina
My Commission Expires 3-11-25

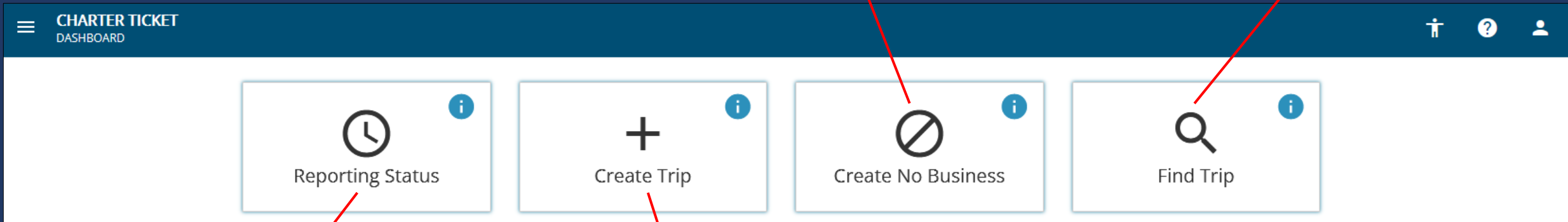


VESL

- Simple interface

File no business reports

Find specific trips and
download your data

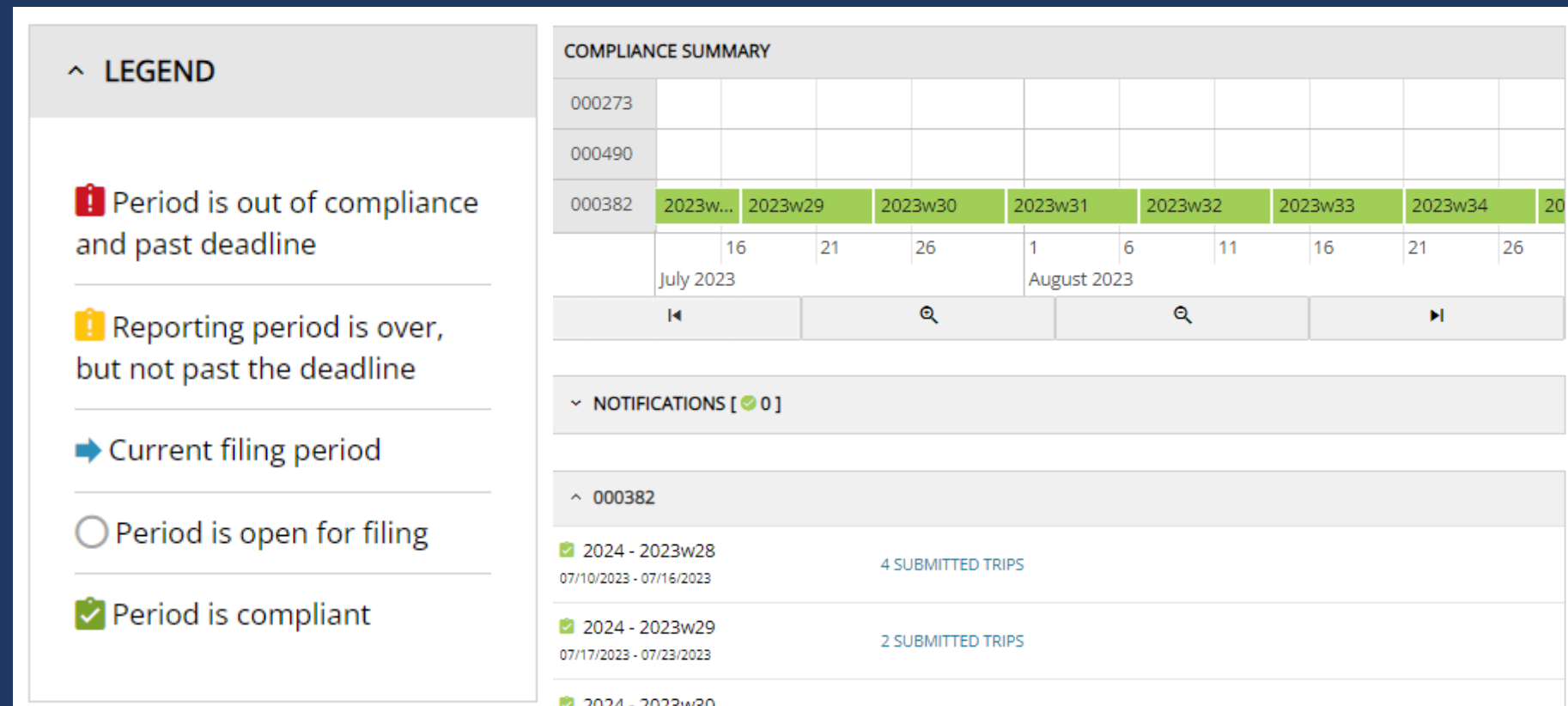
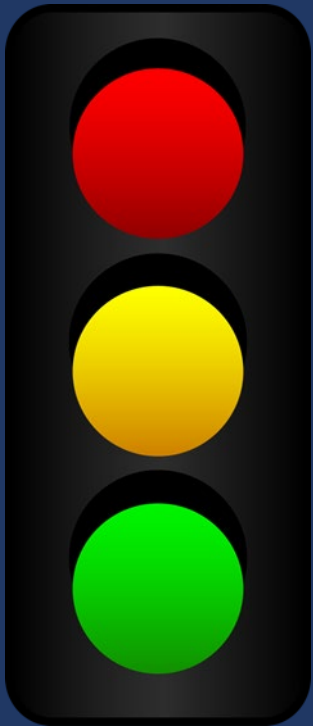


Compliance

Trip ticket

VESL

- Simple interface
- Intuitive trip tickets



VESL

- Simple interface
- Intuitive trip tickets

Trip Details

Trip Start (EST) * ⓘ

12/23/23 07:00 AM

Trip End (EST) * ⓘ

12/23/23 01:00 PM

<

DECEMBER 2023

>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	01	02	03	04	05	06

TODAY

CLEAR

CLOSE

of Anglers * ⓘ

6

of Paying ⓘ

6

Returning/Landing Marina ⓘ

Shem Creek Docks, Mt. ...

×

▼

Fishing Location ⓘ

32.429

-79.661

Fishing Activity

Min Depth * ⓘ

60

FT

Max Depth * ⓘ

78

FT

Primary Depth ⓘ

65

FT

Hours Fished * ⓘ

4

HRS

Target Species ⓘ

Sea Bass, Black

×

▼

Fishing Methods * ⓘ

ROD AND REEL (BOTTOM)

×

VESL

- Simple interface
- Intuitive trip tickets
- Clarifying information



The number of crew members (capt., mates) you had on this trip (not paid anglers). Just a captain, enter 1.

Area in which most of the fishing occurred. Reference the map using the gray button next to this field.

What was the primary targeted species for this trip? Select "any" if no specific species is targeted.

New Trip

Trip Details

Trip Start * ⓘ Trip End * ⓘ

Vessel * ⓘ # of Anglers * ⓘ # of Crew * ⓘ

Location

Departing Marina * ⓘ Location ⓘ Locale ⓘ

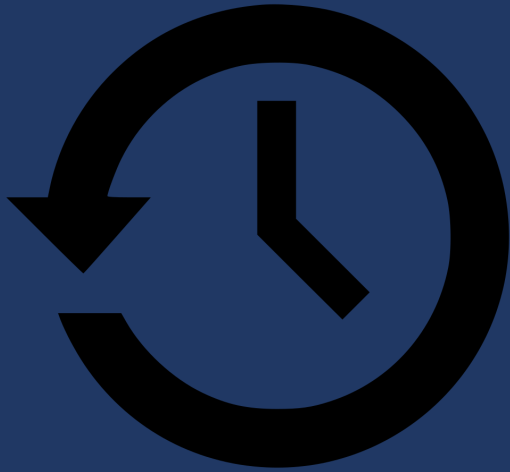
Reef ⓘ

Fishing Activity

Min Depth * ⓘ FT Max Depth * ⓘ FT Hours Fished * ⓘ HRS Target Species ⓘ

VESL

- Simple interface
- Intuitive trip tickets
- Clarifying information
- Recalls past entries



Target Species ⓘ

SNAPPER, VERMILION
168909

TRIGGERFISH, GRAY
173138

ALBACORES
172398

ALEWIFE
161706

ALFONSINO
166156

ALLIGATOR

Departing Marina * ⓘ

174 total options
Type to filter

Buck Hall Landing
190069

Charles C. High Jr., Pinckney Island/Mackey Creek
130147

Charleston Harbor Marina Patriots Pt.
190213

Crazy Sister's Marina, Murrell's Inlet
430049

VESL

- Simple interface
- Intuitive trip tickets
- Clarifying information
- Recalls past entries
- Data validations

- ❗ 1 error must be resolved before submitting.

 - The trip start to trip end time overlap an existing trip for this vessel.

Pending

Not Submitted

Last Modified: 8 hours ago

- ❗ 1 error must be resolved before submitting

 - Min depth must be less than Max Depth.

⚠ 1 warning must be reviewed before submitting

 - The trip time is currently set as Midnight

Trip Date & Time ⓘ

12/5/17 1:00 AM





Edit



VESL

- Simple interface
- Intuitive trip tickets
- Clarifying information
- Recalls past entries
- Data validations
- Multiple support options



South Carolina DNR Support

Phone: 843-953-0119

Email: charterreporting@dnr.sc.gov

FAQs: [Help Center](#)

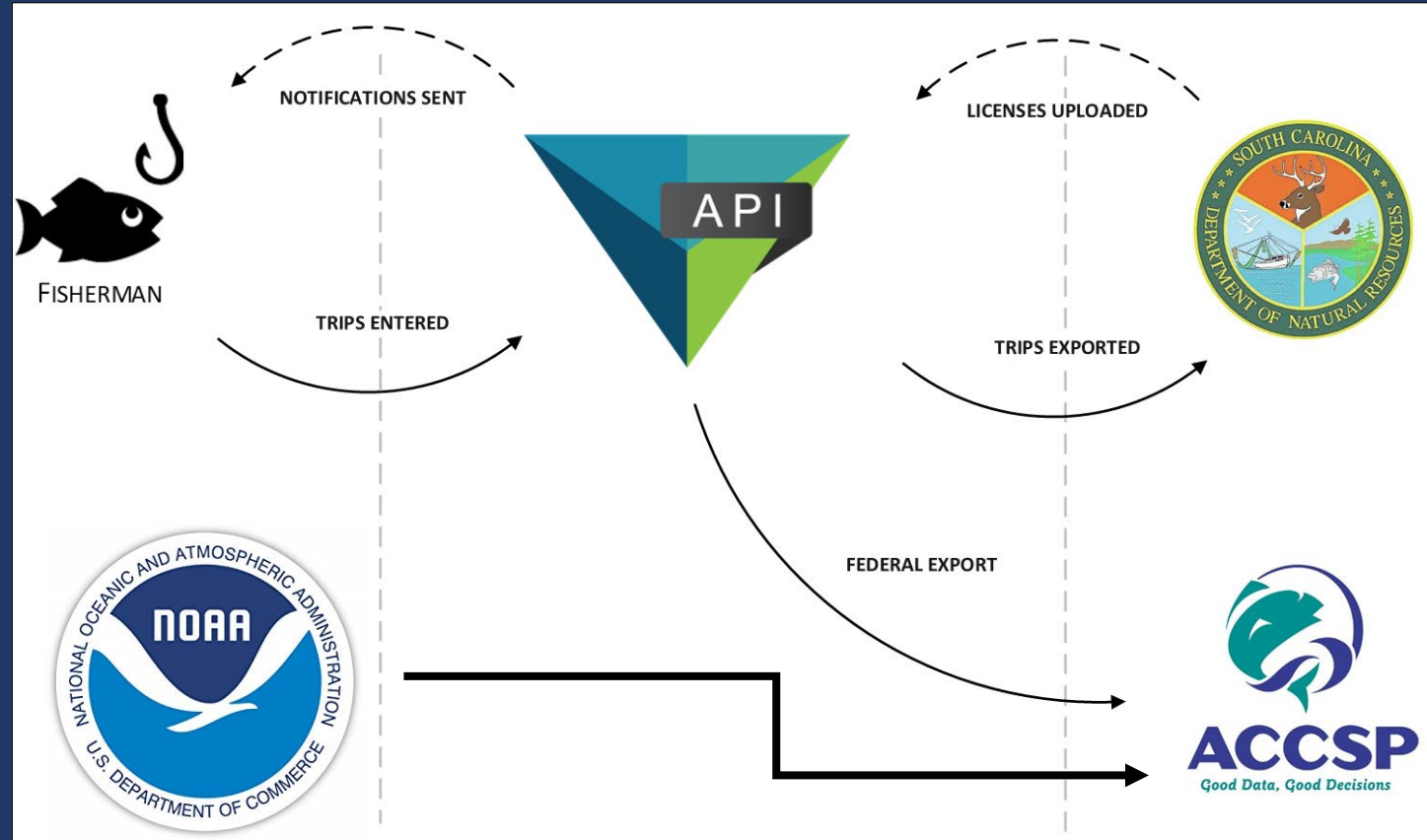
VESL SUPPORT AND FEEDBACK

[VIEW KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS](#)

TERMS OF USE	PRIVACY POLICY
------------------------------	--------------------------------

VESL

- Simple interface
- Intuitive trip tickets
- Clarifying information
- Recalls past entries
- Data validations
- Multiple support options
- Single reporting tool for multiple agencies



Goals for the Future

- Continue improving VESL
- Continue outreach effort
 - More engagement
 - Increase electronic reporting
 - Meet reporting compliance
- More frequent data reports
 - Share the success



Saltwater Experience

Questions?



Cameron Rhodes, The Buckskin Billfish

