

2021 Annual Summary Report
Marine Recreational Information Program
For-Hire Telephone Survey and Large Pelagics
Telephone Survey Add-on
January – December, 2021

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MRIP For-Hire Telephone Survey Data Collection

2021 Annual Summary Report

2021 Survey Conduct

From January through December of 2021, Maine¹, New Hampshire¹, Massachusetts², Rhode Island², Connecticut², New York², New Jersey², Delaware², Maryland², Virginia², North Carolina³, South Carolina⁴, and Georgia⁴ worked with the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) to conduct the telephone survey portion of the Marine Recreational Information Program's (MRIP) 2021 For-Hire Survey (FHS) with the Large Pelagics Telephone Survey (LPTS) Add-on. The following sections of this report provide a summary of the ACCSP's management activities during the aforementioned time period, an overview of interviewing results, and summaries of issues identified during the year.

INTERVIEW MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Staffing

Each of the Atlantic states and the ACCSP designated staff to conduct the FHTS throughout 2021. All employees working on the For-hire Telephone Survey (FHTS) and LPTS Add-on are required to successfully complete either regional training performed by the ACCSP or an in-house training provided by state lead biologist staff who had attended one of the three annual regional ACCSP trainings. The ACCSP hosted regional trainings for VA-GA on January 21, NY-MD on January 27, and ME-CT on February 10, 2021. The ACCSP assigns unique interviewer identification codes according to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) specifications in addition to coordinating the submission of nondisclosure agreements to NOAA. Table 1 summarizes each state's FHTS (and LPTS Add-on where applicable) interviewers who had actively interviewed during 2021:

Table 1: 2021 Atlantic states FHTS staffing

State	Number of Active Interviewers	State	Number of Active Interviewers
Maine	2	Delaware	3
New Hampshire	4	Maryland	6
Massachusetts	4	Virginia	5
Rhode Island	3	North Carolina	5
Connecticut	4	South Carolina	2
New York	5	Georgia	2
New Jersey	4	TOTAL	49

¹ Maine and New Hampshire FHTS (and LPTS Add-on) conduct occurred from May – October as in typical years

² Massachusetts to Virginia conducted the FHTS (and LPTS Add-on) from March – December as in typical years

³ North Carolina conducted the FHTS from January – December as in typical years

⁴ South Carolina and Georgia conducted the FHTS from March – December as in typical years

Evaluation of Interviewers

During 2021, state coordinators and regional leaders performed internal quality control (QC) checks of FHTS interviewers via in-person monitoring of completed surveys. Throughout the year, validated surveys are monitored for each interviewer in order to verify that the required 10% of completed surveys are validated each Wave. Continuing full or partial work-from-home orders related to the spread of SARS-COVID-19 prevented a return to in-person silent monitoring of interviews for most states in 2021. Survey validations were performed by Maine (4), New Hampshire (2), Rhode Island (91), Connecticut (8), New Jersey (5), Delaware (10), Maryland (83), and Georgia (67) in 2021. During survey validations, supervisors are also required to record if errors were observed during conduct of the interview. Observed errors may include failures to follow proper survey procedures or simple data entry errors. The percentage of validated surveys where errors were found was 0.0% for Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland and 3.0% for Georgia for all of 2021. Rhode Island, Maryland, and Georgia met the validation target of 10% of completed surveys for each Wave during 2021. Table 2 presents state by state summaries of survey validations and observed errors. ACCSP and states address opportunities for more silent monitoring during wave meetings.

Table 2: Survey validation
Total completed surveys, validated surveys, and validated surveys with errors observed

State	Total Completed Surveys	Survey Validated				Errors Observed	
		Yes	%	No	%	Yes	%
ME	277	4	1.4%	273	98.6%	0	0.0%
NH	178	2	1.1%	176	98.9%	0	0.0%
MA	1554	0	0.0%	1554	100.0%	-	-
RI	252	91	36.1%	161	63.9%	0	0.0%
CT	247	8	3.2%	239	96.8%	0	0.0%
NY	759	0	0.0%	759	100.0%	-	-
NJ	821	5	0.6%	816	99.4%	0	0.0%
DE	114	10	8.8%	104	91.2%	0	0.0%
MD	402	83	20.6%	319	79.4%	0	0.0%
VA	336	0	0.0%	336	100.0%	-	-
NC	1652	0	0.0%	1652	100.0%	-	-
SC	1419	0	0.0%	1419	100.0%	-	-
GA	644	67	10.4%	577	89.6%	2	3.0%

FHS Vessel Directory

An online directory of for-hire vessels, managed and maintained by NOAA fisheries, provides the sample frame for collecting for-hire effort data. Vessel records must contain sufficient data to be approved for FHS sampling purposes. Incomplete vessel records include those with missing vessel names and/or numbers (e.g., state registration or U.S. Coast Guard documentation number), those with no primary contact, those with no primary phone number, those with no valid access site, or those with no active periods during the year. Vessels that are inactive for the entire Wave are not sampled and are thus not considered a part of the sample frame for that Wave. Vessels with approved status that are active in at least one month of the Wave are included in the sample frame or Good List for that Wave. A total of 22,209 vessels were included in the Good Lists for all Waves in 2021. Table 3 displays the number of vessels included in the Good Lists across all Waves for each state.

**Table 3: 2021 annual Good List vessel totals
for all Waves during each state's FHTS sampling period**

State	Good List Vessels
Maine	532
New Hampshire	322
Massachusetts	4070
Rhode Island	683
Connecticut	469
New York	2281
New Jersey	2461
Delaware	418
Maryland	2926
Virginia	625
North Carolina	3851
South Carolina	2644
Georgia	927
Total	22209

Revising the Online Vessel Directory

States conducting the FHTS provide vessel directory updates directly into the online vessel directory each Wave in order to produce up-to-date vessel information. More specifically, these changes include important information such as vessel specifics, access sites, contact specifics, and registrations.

Vessel directory updates recorded during FHTS interviews are logged as pending updates within the FHTS Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system. These pending updates must then be manually made in NOAA's online vessel directory before they can be marked as 'Complete' in the

CATI system. Maine (110), New Hampshire (59), Massachusetts (878), Rhode Island (126), Connecticut (69), New York (377), New Jersey (460), Delaware (23), Maryland (484), Virginia (134), North Carolina (489), South Carolina (157), and Georgia (60) completed vessel directory updates continuously throughout 2021.

Distributing the Sample Frame and Tracking Dialing Results

The FHTS sample frame is created for each state at the beginning of each Wave using the updated list of vessels with approved status that are listed as active in at least one month of the Wave. The ACCSP performs the FHTS draw with SAS programs provided by NOAA Fisheries, which generates the sample frame and weekly samples of vessels to be called each week within the Wave. Sample sizes of vessels to be called each week represent 10% of each boat type (charter and headboat) included in the sample frame with a minimum of three vessels per week. A total of 20,575 vessels were drawn to be contacted during 2021. Table 4 summarizes each state's drawn vessels for the year and presents each state's proportion of the coast wide total number of vessels to be contacted:

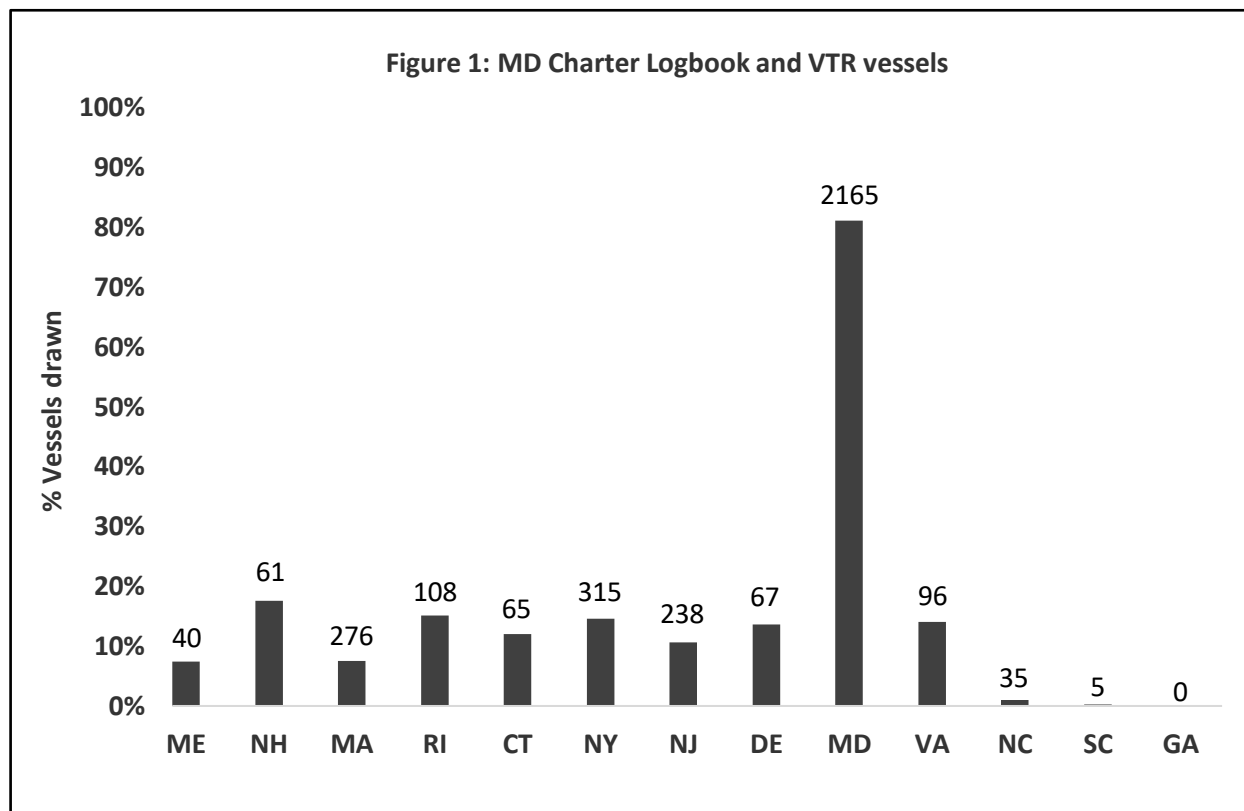
Table 4: 2021 annual vessels drawn for FHTS sampling and percentages of total vessels drawn

State	Vessels Drawn in Year	Annual Percentage of Total
Maine	538	2.6%
New Hampshire	348	1.7%
Massachusetts	3658	17.8%
Rhode Island	717	3.5%
Connecticut	541	2.6%
New York	2167	10.5%
New Jersey	2242	10.9%
Delaware	491	2.4%
Maryland	2671	13.0%
Virginia	684	3.3%
North Carolina	3351	16.3%
South Carolina	2331	11.3%
Georgia	836	4.1%
Total	20575	100.0%

Dialing results for each state were tracked on a weekly basis throughout the year. State coordinators are responsible for interviewers completing calls for all vessels in the call list each week. Weekly sampling is considered complete when contact has been made or the minimum number of 7 calls has been attempted for all vessel representatives included in the call list. For all dialing weeks in 2021, there was 1 vessel in Massachusetts, 16 vessels in Delaware, 1 vessel in Virginia, 2 vessels in North

Carolina, and 1 vessel in South Carolina that were not contacted for which the minimum number of 7 contact attempts was not reached during the weekly dialing period. The ACCSP continued sending the automated weekly email reminder to remind FHTS staff to complete all call attempts before the end of each dialing week (Sunday at 8:00 P.M.). These messages are delivered on Sundays at 1:00 P.M. to state coordinators and FHTS interviewers in states with vessels remaining in their call lists at the end of each week.

In place of reporting fishing activity via FHTS phone calls, federal for-hire vessel representatives of Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO)-permitted vessels are required to submit a vessel trip report (VTR) for each fishing trip. Similarly, Maryland for-hire vessel representatives registered with a Maryland Chesapeake Bay & Coastal Fishing Boat Decal report fishing activity outside of the FHTS. For-hire vessels that reported fishing activity via federal VTR or MD Charter Decal vessels that reported to the Maryland Charter Logbook program were automatically removed from the weekly call lists and are excluded from subsequent vessel draw totals presented in figures/tables summarizing vessel response rates and contact results. Of the 20,575 total vessels drawn, 3,473 were not sampled via FHTS phone calls. Figure 1 presents the total number and percentage of drawn MD Charter Decal/federal VTR logbook vessels removed from the FHTS vessel draw for each state for the year.



Vessel representatives that report fishing activity via the FHTS and were successfully contacted on the telephone are considered respondents. Of the remaining 17,104 vessels drawn to be contacted, 11,966 were successfully contacted and reported during 2021. Annual reporting rates ranged from 32% in Delaware to 84% in Maryland and Georgia with a combined reporting rate of 70% for all states. Respondents are further categorized by contact status depending on the vessel's current fishing activity and/or participation in for-hire fishing. Respondents that are currently participating in for-hire fishing are considered active and completed the FHTS questionnaire over the telephone with the interviewer.

Of the 11,966 vessels that were successfully contacted and reported during 2021, 8,653 (~72%) were actively participating in for-hire fishing and completed the FHTS questionnaire. Of the 8,653 active eligible vessels, 3,605 (~42%) reported one or more recreational saltwater fishing trips during their sampling week while 5,048 reported no trips. There were 11,328 total recreational saltwater fishing trips reported for all states during 2021 with 9,902 for-hire trips and 1,426 private trips. For-hire trip totals ranged from 16 trips in Delaware to 2,138 trips in South Carolina.

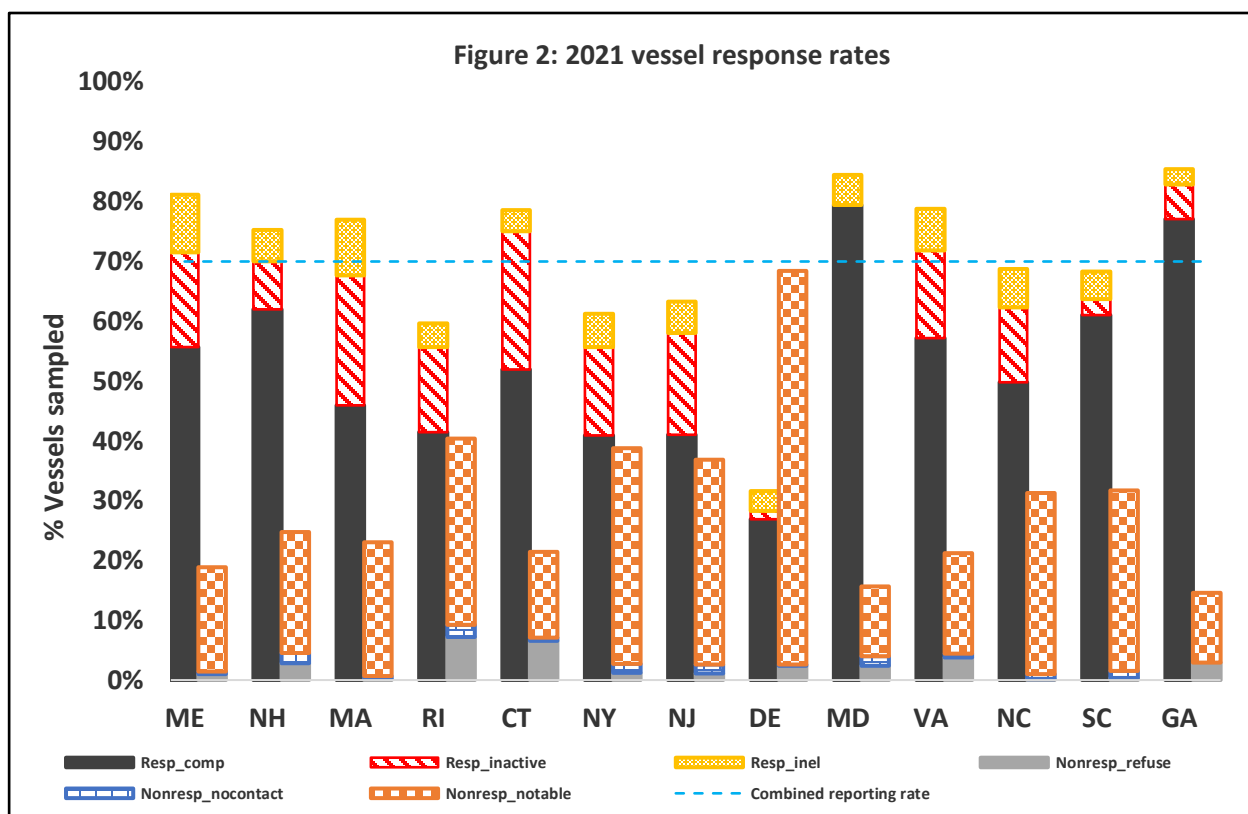
Vessels are considered inactive if the vessel representative indicates that their vessel is currently not actively participating in for-hire fishing but remains a member of the for-hire fleet. Vessels may be inactive due to repairs, or seasonal activity in their state. If a vessel representative reports that their vessel never participates in for-hire fishing, then the vessel is considered ineligible for the FHTS. Vessel representative responses resulting in ineligibility for the FHTS include the vessel no longer operating for-hire, the vessel was sold, there is a new vessel representative, or that the vessel representative is deceased.

Vessels representatives that do not report (those who could not be contacted on the telephone) are considered non-respondents. Vessel representatives that are unavailable for various reasons or simply never answer their phone are coded as "Not able to Contact". Occasionally, contact with a vessel representative is not possible due to a disconnected or incorrect telephone number. When a vessel representative's telephone number is a wrong number, bad number, or attempts to dial a fax/computer system and there are no alternate phone numbers listed in the vessel directory the non-respondent is coded as "No Contact Possible". Vessel representatives that refuse to participate in the FHTS do not complete a telephone interview and are removed from the call list for the dialing week and from any future sample weeks within the Wave.

Each of the contact status categories discussed above is associated with one or more call dispositions. A call disposition is coded for each contact attempt made to a vessel representative and summarizes the outcome of the call. The number and percentages of respondents (active, inactive and

ineligible), non-respondents that interviewers were unable to contact and when no contact was possible, and refusals for each state are summarized by final call disposition for all vessels sampled during 2021 in Table 10. There were 2 charter boats in Maryland listed as holding current HMS permits in the online vessel directory that were removed from their respective weekly call list during the LPTS sampling period before sampling was complete. In both cases, the vessel representatives reported that they complete the Charter Decal logbook; however, the vessel directory did not have updated MD Charter Decal information at the beginning of the Wave. The vessel information was updated in the vessel directory and the ACCSP removed the option of logging a call disposition of Charter Decal logbook for vessels listed as HMS permit holders during the LPTS sampling period. Any non-HMS vessel that reports fishing activity via the Charter Decal logbook program is automatically removed from the FHTS sample frame prior to the first dialing week of the Wave. Maryland vessels that report via the Charter Decal that also hold a current HMS permit are required to complete the FHTS and LPTS Add-on during the LPTS sampling months.

Figure 2 presents the annual percentages of vessels that completed the FHTS questionnaire (Resp_comp), were inactive (Resp_inactive), were ineligible for the survey (Resp_inel), refused to complete the survey (Nonresp_refuse), were not contacted and no contact was possible (Nonresp_nocontact), were not able to be contacted (Nonresp_notable) by interviewers during the dialing week. Figure 2 also displays the combined reporting rate (i.e. total percentage of vessels that responded to the survey) for all states during 2021.



A significant decrease in the proportion of respondents was observed in Delaware in 2021. The ACCSP worked with Delaware FHTS staff to identify potential sources of this decrease and develop strategies (e.g. additional outreach to for-hire vessel representatives, modifying call schedules, and development of educational materials explaining the purpose of the survey) for increasing reporting rates in future years.

LPTS Add-on Data Collection

The LPTS Add-on was conducted in conjunction with the FHTS as an additional set of questions (see Appendix A: FHTS with LPTS Add-on Questionnaire on p. 29) included with the FHTS CATI questionnaire in the Northeast Region (Maine through Virginia) from late May (survey week that includes June 1st) through October (survey week that includes October 30th). The FHTS CATI system integrates the LPTS Add-on as part of the standard FHTS questionnaire during the LPTS sampling period. The dates of each survey week in the LPTS Add-on sampling period are displayed in Table 5.

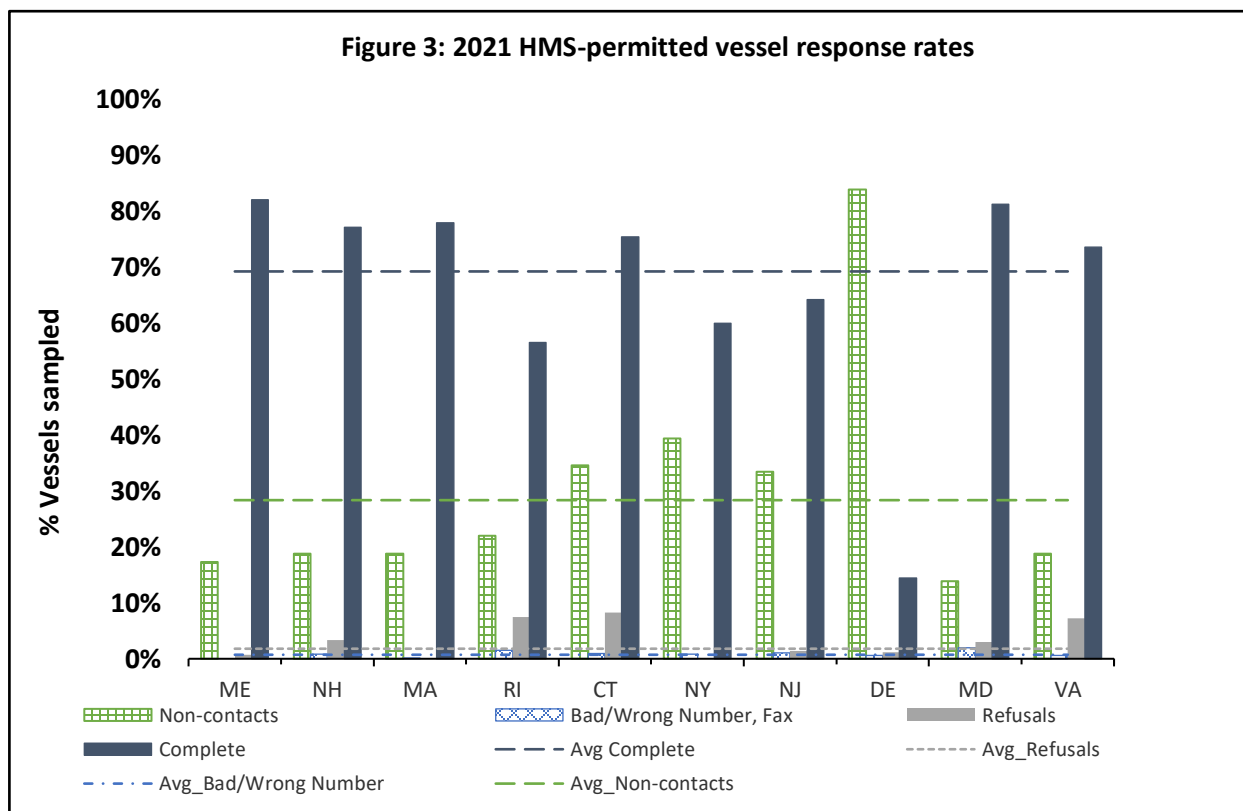
Table 5: 2021 LPTS Add-on reporting weeks

Wave	Reporting Week	Dates
3	22	May 31 - Jun 6
	23	Jun 7 - Jun 13
	24	Jun 14 - Jun 20
	25	Jun 21 - Jun 27
4	26	Jun 28 - Jul 4
	27	Jul 5 - Jul 11
	28	Jul 12 - Jul 18
	29	Jul 19 - Jul 25
	30	Jul 26 - Aug 1
	31	Aug 2 - Aug 8
	32	Aug 9 - Aug 15
	33	Aug 16 - Aug 22
	34	Aug 23 - Aug 29
5	35	Aug 30 - Sep 5
	36	Sep 6 - Sep 12
	37	Sep 13 - Sep 19
	38	Sep 20 - Sep 26
	39	Sep 27 - Oct 3
	40	Oct 4 - Oct 10
	41	Oct 11 - Oct 17
	42	Oct 18 - Oct 24
	43	Oct 25 - Oct 31

During conduct of the LPTS Add-on, interviewers screen all vessels included in the FHTS sample frame that are listed as having a Charter/Headboat category HMS permit in the online vessel directory to confirm the vessel holds a current HMS permit. Completion of the LPTS Add-on is required for all vessels holding a Charter/Headboat HMS permit that took trips targeting large pelagic species (LPS) during the sample week. There were 5,010 HMS-permitted vessels included in the FHTS sample frames from Wave 3-5 during 2021, which included 4,739 charter boats and 271 headboats. Table 11 summarizes the subset of HMS-permitted vessels included in the FHTS sample frame (17,102 total vessels drawn to be contacted) by boat type for the LPTS Add-on sampling weeks (Survey Weeks 22-43) in Waves 3-5, 2021.

Interviewers are required to follow the same dialing procedures used for the standard FHTS when conducting the LPTS Add-on. Dialing results for HMS-permitted vessels contacted to complete the LPTS Add-on are tracked and summarized using the same methods as vessels that report fishing activity via the standard FHTS (see *Distributing the Sample Frame and Tracking Dialing Results* section on p.4).

Table 13 displays the number and percentages of respondents (active, inactive, ineligible) and non-respondents (unable to contact, no contact possible, refusals) for all HMS-permitted vessels sampled during 2021 (Weeks 22-43) by final call disposition for each state. Vessels that were actively fishing and completed the survey are further categorized by reported fishing activity (LPS trips, no LPS trips, no fishing trips). Figure 3 presents the percentages of respondents (complete), non-respondents that were not contacted (non-contacts), non-respondents where no contact was possible (bad/wrong number, fax) and refusals by contact status for each state over the entire LPTS Add-on sampling period.



Trips Targeting LPS and LPS Catch

Overall, 2,872 HMS-permitted vessels were successfully contacted and completed interviews during the 2021 LPTS Add-on sampling period. During these 2,872 interviews, interviewers detailed 1,040 fishing trips targeting LPS using the LPTS Add-on questionnaire giving an average of 0.36 LPS trips per interview. Table 13 presents the average number of fishing trips targeting LPS per completed interview by state for all LPTS Add-on survey weeks during Waves 3-5, 2021. Of the 2,872 vessels that completed the LPTS Add-on, 1,528 vessels reported no fishing trips, 722 vessels reported fishing trips that were not targeting LPS, and 622 vessels reported LPS trips during their respective sample weeks. Table 14 summarizes the number and percent of HMS-permitted vessels that reported catch during

their sample week during 2021. This table does not present the total numbers of trips where catch was reported, rather, the number of vessels that reported catch for at least one trip during a given sample week. Of the 622 vessels that reported LPS trips during 2021, 450 reported catch and 172 reported no catch during the sample week.

Average Interview Length and Call Times for HMS-permitted vessels

The average duration of telephone calls specific to HMS-permitted vessels was also tracked throughout 2021 in order to identify potential problems with data collection. Interviewers should follow the same procedure outlined for the FHTS by asking the survey questions as scripted in the CATI system and limiting social conversations when conducting the LPTS Add-on. During the LPTS sampling period, interviewers must also inform vessel representatives holding current HMS permits of their reporting requirements using a modified privacy act statement read at the start of each interview. This statement addresses these requirements while also affirming the confidentiality of survey responses. Table 6 summarizes each state's average duration (in minutes) of telephone calls for all respondents by contact result in 2021. Completed surveys include those when respondents reported zero trips and one or more trips.

Table 6: Average interview length (minutes) for LPTS Add-on respondents by contact result

State	Completed Survey	Inactive	Ineligible
ME	9.55	2.43	3.13
NH	7.40	2.41	2.9
MA	5.96	2.09	2.03
RI	4.17	0.97	0.96
CT	6.73	0.98	3.65
NY	4.05	1.66	2.61
NJ	3.20	1.23	1.28
DE	4.00	1.04	2.3
MD	8.09	-	1.06
VA	7.97	1.08	0.83
Combined	5.67	1.80	2.02

In addition to tracking call duration, the times when telephone calls were made are recorded in the CATI system as interviewers log call dispositions or complete surveys. In general, all telephone calls for the FHTS and LPTS Add-on should be made between the hours of 9:00AM – 8:00PM each day. Calls outside of these times should only be made at the request of a vessel representative. Table 8

summarizes the earliest and latest call attempts made to HMS-permitted vessel representatives during the LPTS sampling period in 2021.

Table 7: Earliest and latest call times to HMS-permitted vessels

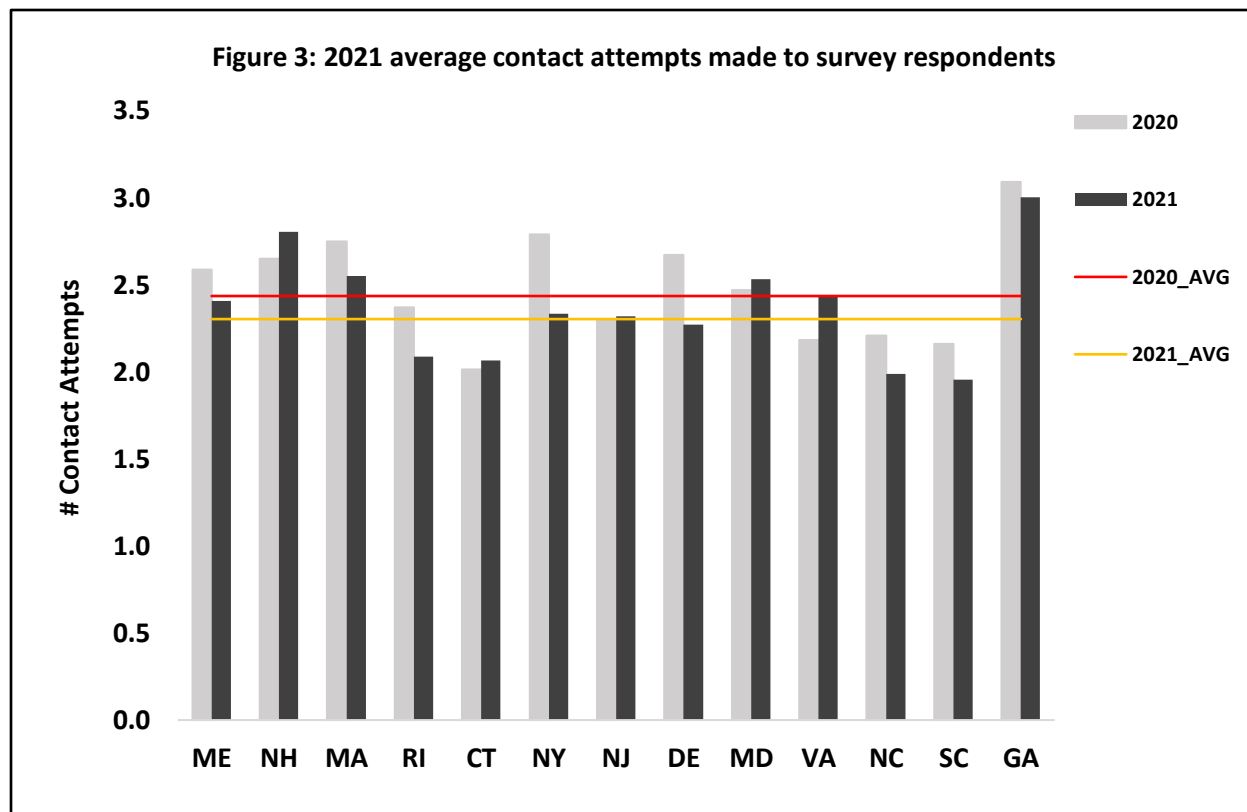
State	Earliest Call Time	Latest Call Time
ME	3:37 AM	9:39 PM
NH	8:31 AM	8:19 PM
MA	7:19 AM	9:07 PM
RI	9:10 AM	8:58 PM
CT	8:44 AM	9:06 PM
NY	9:09 AM	8:29 PM
NJ	7:24 AM	7:22 PM
DE	8:53 AM	8:02 PM
MD	6:54 AM	8:04 PM
VA	7:05 AM	8:58 PM

The earliest call attempt made by Maine FHTS staff was a completed survey logged at 3:37am during Wave 5. The call was made outside of normal dialing hours at the request of the vessel representative.

Average Number of Attempts to Contact Respondents

Call burden is an important factor contributing to cooperation and responsiveness of for-hire vessel representatives to the FHTS. The number of phone call attempts required to make contact with survey respondents provides a measure of survey cooperation. In general, the number of contact attempts made to contact survey respondents tracked changes in fishing activity (the number of completed surveys where fishing trips were reported as well as the total numbers of recreational saltwater fishing trips reported) across Waves with increases in fishing activity resulting in higher numbers of contact attempts made to vessel representatives that completed the survey. An observed decrease in the number of call attempts made to contact survey respondents over time can serve as an indicator of improved survey awareness on the part of for-hire operators and the establishment of rapport between interviewers and their state's vessel representatives. In 2021, the average number of contact attempts made to contact survey respondents each Wave was compared to the corresponding Wave from the previous year. The average number of contact attempts made to survey respondents in each Wave during 2021 was less than or equal to the corresponding 2020 Wave for all Waves except Wave 2, which displayed a slight increase (2.0 to 2.1 attempts from 2020 to 2021, respectively). During 2021, Atlantic states made 61,445 total contact attempts to the 17,102 vessels included in the sample frame. The coast wide average number of contact attempts made to vessel representatives that

completed the survey was highest for Wave 4 at 2.5 attempts and lowest for Waves 1 and 6 at 2.0 attempts. Figure 3 compares each state's average number of contact attempts made to survey respondents that completed the FHTS questionnaire between 2020 and 2021 while also displaying coast wide average numbers of contact attempts between the two years.



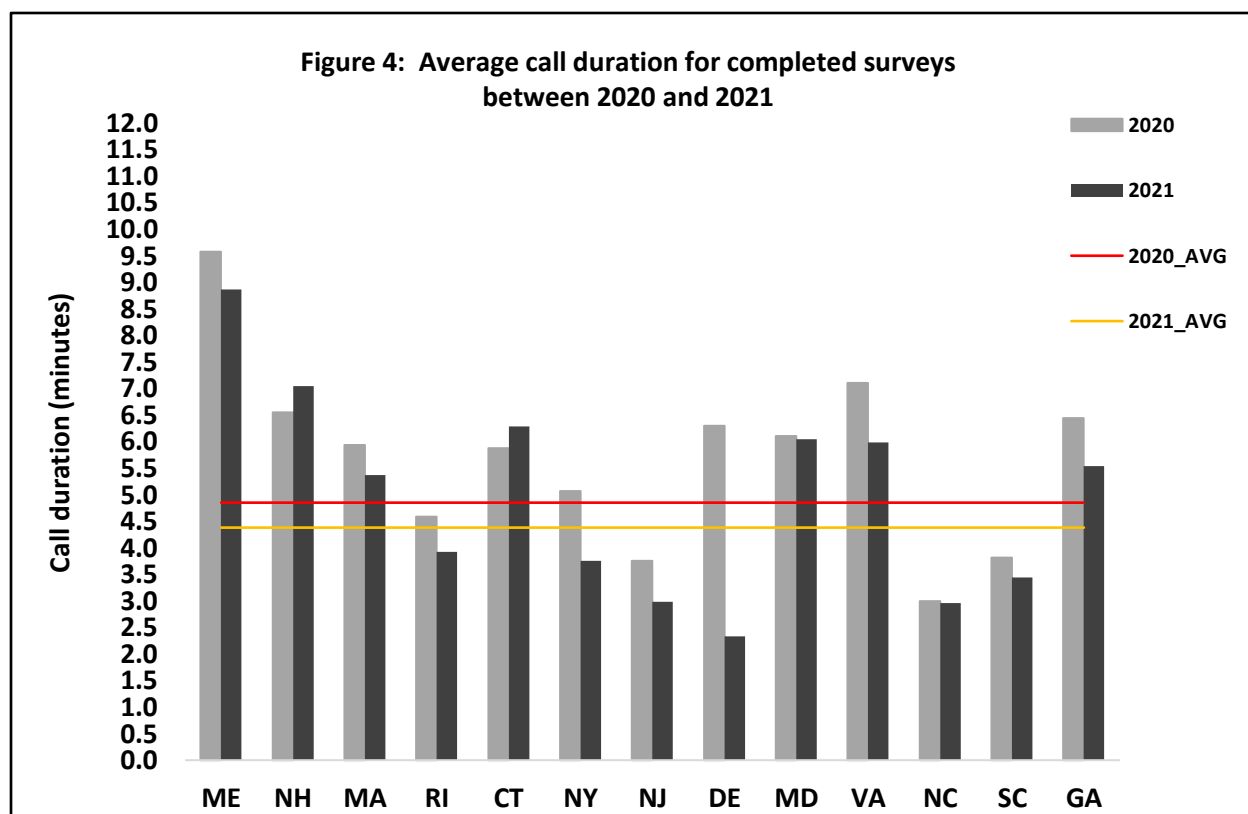
The coast wide average number of contact attempts made to vessel representatives that completed the FHTS questionnaire decreased slightly from 2.4 to 2.3 attempts on an annual basis. A full summary of average contact attempts made to all survey respondents and refusals in 2021 is displayed by contact result in Table 8.

Table 8: Average number of contact attempts made to all vessels by contact result

State	Respondents			Non-Respondents
	Completed survey	Inactive	Ineligible	Refusals
ME	2.4	1.9	1.8	3.2
NH	2.8	1.5	1.6	1.5
MA	2.5	2.0	2.0	1.5
RI	2.1	1.5	1.7	1.1
CT	2.1	1.4	1.1	1.1
NY	2.3	1.7	1.9	1.6
NJ	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.1
DE	2.3	3.2	2.0	1.3
MD	2.5	-	2.8	2.1
VA	2.4	1.5	1.4	1.7
NC	2.0	1.8	1.7	2.2
SC	2.0	1.5	1.8	1.2
GA	3.0	1.8	2.4	1.9
Average	2.3	1.8	1.8	1.5

Average Interview Length

The average duration of telephone calls is monitored throughout each Wave in order to identify potential problems with data collection. When conducting interviews, interviewers should generally ask the survey questions as scripted in the CATI system and make efforts to limit social conversations with respondents. These practices help ensure accurate data collection, timely completion of interviews, and the building of professional working relationships with for-hire vessel representatives. Figure 4 compares each state's average duration (in minutes) of telephone calls resulting in completed surveys between 2020 and 2021 while also comparing the coast wide average duration between the two years. Completed surveys include those when respondents reported zero trips and one or more trips.



During 2021, the average call duration for telephone calls resulting in completed surveys peaked in Wave 4 at 5.5 minutes and was lowest in Wave 1 at 2.2 minutes. Similar to average number of contact attempts, changes in average call duration followed changes in completed surveys where fishing trips were reported and the total numbers of recreational saltwater fishing trips reported with increased fishing activity resulting in longer call durations. In 2021, average call durations each Wave were compared to the corresponding Wave from 2020 to determine if increased experience of interviewers using the FHTS CATI results in shorter call durations. The average call duration for completed surveys was shorter in all Waves, except Wave 2, during 2021 when compared to 2020. Table 9 summarizes each state's average duration (in minutes) of telephone calls and presents a combined coast wide average duration for all respondents by contact result in 2021.

Table 9: Average interview length (minutes) for survey respondents by contact result

State	Complete w/ Trips	Complete w/o Trips	Inactive	Ineligible
ME	13.30	3.76	2.23	4.09
NH	10.65	2.82	2.48	4.03
MA	7.95	2.95	2.13	2.1
RI	7.97	1.59	1.04	0.79
CT	10.08	2.14	1.19	1.04
NY	6.73	2.38	1.98	2.34
NJ	4.69	1.52	1.13	1.14
DE	11.79	1.80	1.16	2.21
MD	14.63	2.85	-	1.19
VA	10.64	2.31	1.11	1.12
NC	6.18	1.41	1.63	1.45
SC	5.44	1.45	1.54	1.4
GA	10.41	2.21	1.49	3.05
Average	7.64	2.06	1.72	1.86

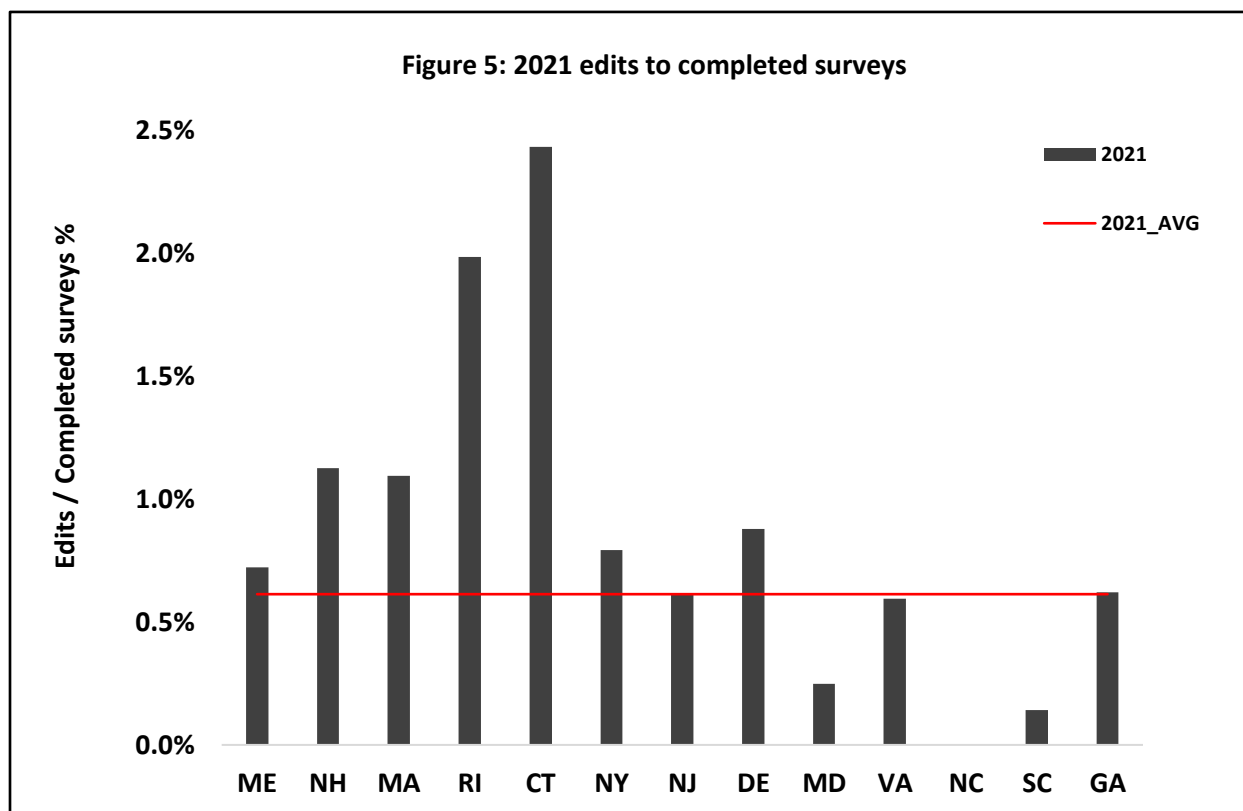
Data Revision and Error Correction

Data revisions and error corrections begin when state interviewers perform initial error corrections during interviews. Most data items in the survey questionnaire have limited selection lists and built in logic checks. Also, all survey questions in a given section of the questionnaire (e.g., introduction, logbook, and follow-up) must be completed with no logic errors present before the interviewer can advance to the next section of the questionnaire. As call attempts and surveys are completed throughout the month/Wave, state and/or regional coordinators can view the raw data within the Validations and Completed Survey sections of the FHTS Selection portion of the ACCSP's Assignment Tracking Application (ATA).

The Validations page provides a real-time view of all completed call attempts within each state. This interactive table allows state coordinators to track call attempts by interviewer, call start date, and call disposition. If an interviewer identifies an issue with a call attempt to a given vessel representative, the state coordinator can search for the specific logged call and send a change request message to the ACCSP. For example, if an incorrect call disposition was logged resulting in the removal of a vessel from the call list for the week, the specific call attempt can be identified for correction to the ACCSP so that the vessel can be added back to the call list and dialing completed for the week. The Completed Survey page provides a real-time view of all data items for completed surveys. State coordinators regularly

review survey responses and can send data change requests to the ACCSP throughout each Wave. This page is also used to review possible data errors identified by the ACCSP.

The ACCSP runs several data check programs through statistical analytic software (SAS) to identify and correct data discrepancies arising from data collection. In 2021, the ACCSP ran these error checks on 8,653 completed surveys and edited data discrepancies with the cooperation of state coordinators and interviewers. In total, 18 edits were communicated to participating Atlantic states throughout 2021. Figure 5 displays each state's proportion of data edits to all completed surveys while also displaying the average for the coast. In future Waves, the ACCSP plans to develop an automated report in the ATA to display real-time data edits as a proportion of edits to the number of completed surveys.



Preparing and Delivering Data

The ACCSP has continued to refine SAS error check programs designed to identify and correct data discrepancies arising from data collection. Once finished with preliminary data editing each wave, the ACCSP ran several data check programs through SAS in order to fix all possible problems prior to submission to NOAA Fisheries. Once clean data was obtained, data sets were delivered to NOAA Fisheries in ASCII and SAS formats each month. The ACCSP completed on time delivery of Wave 1 data

on March 17, Wave 2 data on May 17, Wave 3 data on July 19, Wave 4 data on September 17, Wave 5 data on November 19, and Wave 6 data on January 18.

Table 10: Contact results by final call disposition

Maine	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	277	277	55.6%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	79	79	15.9%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	48	9.6%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5	1.0%
Not able to contact	68	4	0	10	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	87	17.5%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0.4%
Total	68	4	0	10	0	4	1	2	5	48	356	498	100.0%

New Hampshire	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	178	178	62.0%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	23	8.0%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	15	5.2%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8	2.8%
Not able to contact	1	0	0	56	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	58	20.2%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	1.7%
Total	1	0	0	56	0	1	0	5	8	15	201	287	100.0%

Table 10: Contact results by final call disposition

Massachusetts	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1554	1554	45.9%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	732	732	21.6%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	317	0	317	9.4%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8	0.2%
Not able to contact	673	8	0	52	11	11	2	0	0	0	0	757	22.4%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	0.4%
Total	673	8	0	52	11	11	2	14	8	317	2286	3382	100.0%

Rhode Island	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	252	252	41.4%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	87	87	14.3%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	24	3.9%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	0	0	44	7.2%
Not able to contact	124	0	0	9	0	55	2	0	0	0	0	190	31.2%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	12	2.0%
Total	124	0	0	9	0	55	2	12	44	24	339	609	100.0%

Table 10: Contact results by final call disposition

Connecticut	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	247	247	51.9%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	110	110	23.1%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	17	3.6%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	31	6.5%
Not able to contact	14	0	0	46	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	68	14.3%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0.6%
Total	14	0	0	46	5	3	0	3	31	17	357	476	100.0%

New York	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	757	757	40.9%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	274	274	14.8%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	103	0	103	5.6%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	22	1.2%
Not able to contact	0	1	1	544	12	104	6	0	0	0	0	668	36.1%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	28	1.5%
Total	0	1	1	544	12	104	6	28	22	103	1031	1852	100.0%

Table 10: Contact results by final call disposition

New Jersey	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	821	821	41.0%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	341	341	17.0%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	105	0	105	5.2%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	21	1.0%
Not able to contact	605	2	0	15	1	61	1	0	0	0	0	685	34.2%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	31	1.5%
Total	605	2	0	15	1	61	1	31	21	105	1162	2004	100.0%

Delaware	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	114	114	26.9%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	1.4%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	14	3.3%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	10	2.4%
Not able to contact	247	6	0	23	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	279	65.8%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0.2%
Total	247	6	0	23	0	1	2	1	10	14	120	424	100.0%

Table 10: Contact results by final call disposition

Maryland*	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	402	402	79.4%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	25	4.9%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12	2.4%
Not able to contact	48	0	0	2	0	7	2	0	0	0	0	59	11.7%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	1.6%
Total	48	0	0	2	0	7	2	8	12	25	402	506	100.0%

Virginia	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	336	336	57.1%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	86	14.6%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	0	41	7.0%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	22	3.7%
Not able to contact	80	3	0	3	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	99	16.8%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0.7%
Total	80	3	0	3	0	13	0	4	22	41	422	588	100.0%

*Maryland contact results include 2 HMS-permitted vessels logged as MD Charter Decal added to Refusals. HMS-permitted vessels that report activity via the MD Charter Decal are still required to complete the FHTS and LPTS Add-on during the LPTS sampling period (*see Distributing the Sample Frame and Tracking Dialing Results on p. 10*).

Table 10: Contact results by final call disposition

North Carolina	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1652	1652	49.8%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	412	412	12.4%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	215	0	215	6.5%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	6	0.2%
Not able to contact	909	6	0	59	3	26	2	0	0	0	0	1005	30.3%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	26	0.8%
Total	909	6	0	59	3	26	2	26	6	215	2064	3316	100.0%

South Carolina	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1419	1419	61.0%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	62	2.7%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	107	0	107	4.6%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	9	0.4%
Not able to contact	657	4	0	9	4	28	0	0	0	0	0	702	30.2%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	27	1.2%
Total	657	4	0	9	4	28	0	27	9	107	1481	2326	100.0%

Table 10: Contact results by final call disposition

Georgia	Call Disposition												
Status	Answering machine	Line busy	Language barrier	No answer	Not available	Unavailable for the Week	Incomplete	Bad number/ Wrong number/ Fax/computer	Refusals	Ineligible	Successful Contact	Total	%
Completed survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	644	644	77.0%
Inactive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	48	5.7%
Ineligible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	22	2.6%
Refusal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	24	2.9%
Not able to contact	79	0	0	0	1	18	0	0	0	0	0	98	11.7%
No contact possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total	79	0	0	0	1	18	0	0	24	22	692	836	100.0%

Table 11: HMS-permitted vessels included in the FHTS sample frame (survey weeks 22-43)

		Wave								
		Wave 3 (Week 22-25)			Wave 4 (Week 26-34)			Wave 5 (Week 35-43)		
		Drawn	2021 Total	%Drawn	Drawn	2021 Total	%Drawn	Drawn	2021 Total	%Drawn
	Boat Type									
ME	Charter	46	265	17.4%	122	265	46.0%	97	265	36.6%
	Head boat	4	35	11.4%	16	35	45.7%	15	35	42.9%
NH	Charter	30	193	15.5%	91	193	47.2%	72	193	37.3%
	Head boat	8	47	17.0%	17	47	36.2%	22	47	46.8%
MA	Charter	277	1543	18.0%	683	1543	44.3%	583	1543	37.8%
	Head boat	4	26	15.4%	8	26	30.8%	14	26	53.8%
RI	Charter	53	292	18.2%	115	292	39.4%	124	292	42.5%
	Head boat	9	41	22.0%	23	41	56.1%	9	41	22.0%
CT	Charter	39	193	20.2%	75	193	38.9%	79	193	40.9%
	Head boat	3	14	21.4%	3	14	21.4%	8	14	57.1%
NY	Charter	121	687	17.6%	288	687	41.9%	278	687	40.5%
	Head boat	8	48	16.7%	22	48	45.8%	18	48	37.5%
NJ	Charter	176	949	18.5%	405	949	42.7%	368	949	38.8%
	Head boat	5	27	18.5%	9	27	33.3%	13	27	48.1%
DE	Charter	30	151	19.9%	66	151	43.7%	55	151	36.4%
	Head boat	3	15	20.0%	9	15	60.0%	3	15	20.0%
MD	Charter	56	296	18.9%	125	296	42.2%	115	296	38.9%
	Head boat	1	7	14.3%	3	7	42.9%	3	7	42.9%
VA	Charter	28	170	16.5%	75	170	44.1%	67	170	39.4%
	Head boat	1	11	9.1%	4	11	36.4%	6	11	54.5%
All	Charter	856	4739	18.1%	2045	4739	43.2%	1838	4739	38.8%
	Head boat	46	271	17.0%	114	271	42.1%	111	271	41.0%

Table 12: 2021 LPTS Add-on contact results by final call disposition

		Completed Interview?														All	
		Yes			No												
		Large Pelagic Trips	No Large Pelagic Trips	No Trips	Answering Machine	Line Busy	Language Barrier	No Answer	Not Available	Unreachable	Incomplete	Bad/Wrong number Fax/Computer	Refusal	Ineligible	Inactive		
State																	
ME	Count	23	71	77	43	3	0	3	0	2	1	0	2	25	50	300	
	%	7.7%	23.7%	25.7%	14.3%	1.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.3%	0.0%	0.7%	8.3%	16.7%	100.0%	
NH	Count	36	51	66	1	0	0	44	0	0	0	2	8	12	20	240	
	%	15.0%	21.3%	27.5%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	18.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	3.3%	5.0%	8.3%	100.0%	
MA	Count	254	252	466	313	1	0	18	8	5	0	3	0	92	157	1569	
	%	16.2%	16.1%	29.7%	19.9%	0.1%	0.0%	1.1%	0.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	5.9%	10.0%	100.0%	
RI	Count	16	37	106	76	0	0	5	0	32	2	5	25	9	20	333	
	%	4.8%	11.1%	31.8%	22.8%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%	9.6%	0.6%	1.5%	7.5%	2.7%	6.0%	100.0%	
CT	Count	21	46	78	8	0	0	18	3	3	0	2	17	3	8	207	
	%	10.1%	22.2%	37.7%	3.9%	0.0%	0.0%	8.7%	1.4%	1.4%	0.0%	1.0%	8.2%	1.4%	3.9%	100.0%	
NY	Count	58	72	271	0	0	0	239	1	48	1	6	0	16	23	735	
	%	7.9%	9.8%	36.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	32.5%	0.1%	6.5%	0.1%	0.8%	0.0%	2.2%	3.1%	100.0%	
NJ	Count	113	129	270	284	1	0	4	1	36	0	10	14	32	82	976	
	%	11.6%	13.2%	27.7%	29.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.1%	3.7%	0.0%	1.0%	1.4%	3.3%	8.4%	100.0%	
DE	Count	1	2	13	120	2	0	16	0	1	0	1	2	2	6	166	
	%	0.6%	1.2%	7.8%	72.3%	1.2%	0.0%	9.6%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.6%	1.2%	1.2%	3.6%	100.0%	
MD*	Count	77	21	135	36	0	0	1	0	4	1	6	9	13	0	303	
	%	25.4%	6.9%	44.6%	11.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	1.3%	0.3%	2.0%	3.0%	4.3%	0.0%	100.0%	
VA	Count	23	41	46	28	0	0	1	0	5	0	1	13	8	15	181	
	%	12.7%	22.7%	25.4%	15.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%	0.6%	7.2%	4.4%	8.3%	100.0%	
All	Count	622	722	1528	909	7	0	349	13	136	5	36	90	212	381	5010	
	%	12.4%	14.4%	30.5%	18.1%	0.1%	0.0%	7.0%	0.3%	2.7%	0.1%	0.7%	1.8%	4.2%	7.6%	100.0%	

*MD contact results include 2 HMS-permitted vessels logged as MD Charter Decal added to Refusals. HMS-permitted vessels that report activity via the MD Charter Decal are still required to complete the FHTS and LPTS Add-on during the LPTS sampling period (see *Distributing the Sample Frame and Tracking Dialing Results on p. 10*).

Table 13: LPS trips per completed interview

		Wave			All
		Wave 3	Wave 4	Wave 5	
State					
ME	Interviews	35	92	44	171
	Trips	3	17	12	32
	Mean	0.09	0.18	0.27	0.19
NH	Interviews	27	71	55	153
	Trips	5	26	31	62
	Mean	0.19	0.37	0.56	0.41
MA	Interviews	164	438	370	972
	Trips	20	194	212	426
	Mean	0.12	0.44	0.57	0.44
RI	Interviews	42	72	45	159
	Trips	5	19	2	26
	Mean	0.12	0.26	0.04	0.16
CT	Interviews	32	52	61	145
	Trips	5	12	13	30
	Mean	0.16	0.23	0.21	0.21
NY	Interviews	69	154	178	401
	Trips	12	37	29	78
	Mean	0.17	0.24	0.16	0.19
NJ	Interviews	106	218	188	512
	Trips	31	94	42	167
	Mean	0.29	0.43	0.22	0.33
DE	Interviews	2	8	6	16
	Trips	0	1	0	1
	Mean	0	0.125	0	0.0625
MD	Interviews	38	98	97	233
	Trips	40	107	33	180
	Mean	1.05	1.09	0.34	0.77
VA	Interviews	14	47	49	110
	Trips	3	29	6	38
	Mean	0.21	0.62	0.12	0.35
All	Interviews	529	1250	1093	2872
	Trips	124	536	380	1040
	Mean	0.23	0.43	0.35	0.36

Table 14: Number and percent of vessels that caught fish

		Caught Fish?		All
		Yes	No	
State				
ME	Count	18	5	23
	%	78.3	21.7	100.0
NH	Count	22	13	35
	%	62.9	37.1	100.0
MA	Count	140	113	253
	%	55.3	44.7	100.0
RI	Count	15	2	17
	%	88.2	11.8	100.0
CT	Count	18	3	21
	%	85.7	14.3	100.0
NY	Count	47	11	58
	%	81.0	19.0	100.0
NJ	Count	94	19	113
	%	83.2	16.8	100.0
DE	Count	1	0	1
	%	100.0	0.0	100.0
MD	Count	74	4	78
	%	94.9	5.1	100.0
VA	Count	21	2	23
	%	91.3	8.7	100.0
All	Count	450	172	622
	%	72.3	27.7	100.0

Appendix A: FHTS with LPTS Add-on questionnaire

INTRODUCTION

Hello, my name is (interviewer's name) calling from (state agency) on behalf of NOAA Fisheries Services and the For-Hire Survey. May I speak with (vessel representative's name)?

QS1. Are you still the captain, owner or designated representative of the [vsl_name]?

Yes – Go to QS2

No – Go to QS1A

QS1A. Is someone else currently operating the [vsl_name]?

Yes – Record updated contact if known, vessel directory update created, and end the call

No – Vessel directory update created, end survey

Don't Know – Vessel directory update created, end survey

QS2. Can you provide information on the activity of the [vsl_name] during the last week (Monday through Sunday)?

Yes – Go to Q1

No – Go to QS2A

QS2A. Is there someone else I can contact?

Yes – Log callback with appropriate vessel contact, end survey

No – Log vessel as Unreachable during dialing week, end survey

QS3. Does the [vessel name] hold a current HMS permit?

Yes – Go to Q1.

No – Go to Q3.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

PS1 (to be read for all standard FHTS surveys). The [vsl_name] has been selected at random from a directory of charter and headboats to be included in this week's survey of trips. This data will remain confidential, and this survey is being conducted in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, therefore your participation is voluntary

PS2 (to be read during conduct of the LPTS Add-on if Q1 = "Yes"). If the [vsl_name] holds a current HMS permit, the data collection for this survey is part of the HMS reporting requirements. Questions related to HMS fishing trips are conducted under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. Your answers will be treated as confidential, and data from this survey may only be released in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974.

Q1. What category is your NMFS HMS permit?

1 = Atlantic Tunas General 4 = Swordfish General 9 = Don't know/Refused
2 = Angling 5 = Swordfish/Tunas combination General
3 = Charter/headboat 6 = No permit

Q1A. Do you ever sell fish like tunas or sharks caught from [vsl_name]?

Yes
No

Q2. Our records show your principal port as being located in [st_port]. Is this still accurate?

Yes – Go to Q3
No – Got to Q2A

Q2A. In what state do you usually launch or dock this vessel?

Record correct state – Go to Q3

Q3. This month, is the primary site where you dock or launch this vessel still located at [vessel_port]?

Yes – Go to Q4
No – Got to Q3A

Q3A. In what state, county and site do you usually dock or launch the vessel [vsl_name]?

Record correct state, county, and site – Go to Q4

Q4 with no HMS permit (Q53 = No). During the last week (Monday through Sunday), how many saltwater fishing trips targeting finfish did the [vessel name] take?

Record –
If Q4 = 0, go to FOLLOW-UP.

Q4 with HMS permit (Q53 = Yes). During the last week (Monday through Sunday), how many saltwater fishing trips targeting finfish did the [vessel name] take? Please remember to include ALL trips, not just those where you fished for a large pelagic species.

Record – Go to Q5
If Q4 = 0, go to FOLLOW-UP

Q5. How many of these trips were with paying passengers?

Record –

Q6. How many of these trips consisted of more than one day of fishing?

Record –

Q7. On how many of these trips did you target a large pelagic species such as tunas, sharks, billfish, dolphin, wahoo, amberjack or similar offshore species?

Record – Go to Q8

Q8. During the last week (Monday through Sunday), how many additional non-fishing trips did your boat make? Please include any trips taken for fuel, bait, or other recreational activities.

Record – If Q8 > 0, go to Q8A.

If Q8 = 0, go to Q9.

Q8A. On what days did each of these additional boat trips occur?

Record – Go to Q9

Q9. On what days did each of the saltwater fishing trips taken by the [vsl_name] occur? (Multiday Trips: Record date the trip ended)

Record – Go to Q10

Q10. How many separate fishing trips did you take on each day?

Record – Read following statement to confirm number of fishing trips. Go to Q11

You reported ____ total non-fishing trip(s) and ____ total fishing trip(s). Now that we have information on the total number of trips taken, we would like to obtain specific information about each of the fishing trips.

The logsheet is created from the trip total responses recorded in the Introduction page of the FHTS/LPTS Add-on questionnaire. Each row in the logsheet represents an individual trip. The interviewer will ask each of the following questions to detail each of the trips reported for the fishing week.

LOGSHEET

Q11. Was this trip with paying passengers?

Yes –

No –

Q12. On this trip, did you target large pelagic species such as tunas, sharks, billfish, dolphin, wahoo, amberjack or similar offshore species?

Yes –

No – Go to next trip/follow-up questions.

Q13. How many days of fishing occurred on this trip?

Record –

Q14. We are only interested in collecting information about passengers who actively fished by having a line in the water. Excluding captain and crew, how many people actively fished during the trip?

Record –

Q15. The day of the week of this trip, determined from previous responses.

Confirm trip day with captain. Adjust day of the week if incorrect. –

Q16. How many members of the crew fished?

Record –

Q17. To what state did your boat return from this trip?

Record –

Q18. To what county did this trip return? (See FIPS counties and county codes in Intercept Survey Training Manual.)

Record –

Q19. Did this trip return to a marina, dock, or launch ramp to which the public normally has access? If so, to what particular marina, dock, or launch ramp did this trip return? (Record MRFSS 4-digit site code.)

Record –

7777 = Private access site

8888 = Unknown public access site

9999 = Refused site information

Q20. At what time (to the nearest half-hour) did your boat leave the dock for that trip?

Record –

Q21. At what time (to the nearest half-hour) did your boat return from that trip?

Record –

Q22. To the nearest half-hour, how much time was spent actively fishing with gear in the water? (Record vessel fishing hours.)

Record –

Q23. What fishing method or methods (read all options) were used on that trip? (Record first two methods mentioned)

1=Trolling

2=Bottom fishing

3=Casting

4=Fly-fishing

5=Drifting

6=Chunking

7=Chumming
8=Other
97=Don't know
99=Refused

Q24. Was most of your fishing effort on that trip in the ocean, a sound, a river, or a bay?

1= Ocean – Go to Q24A
2= Sound – Go to Q24B
3= River – Go to Q24B
4= Bay – Go to Q24B
5= Other – Go to Q24B

Q24A. If Q24 = "Ocean" then ask: Was most of your fishing less than or greater than three miles from shore?

1= 3 miles or less
2= More than 3 miles

Q24B. If Q17 = "Connecticut", and Q24 = 2, 3, or 4: Was most of your fishing in the Long Island Sound or a bay or river that empties into the Long Island Sound?

Q24B. If Q17 = "Delaware", and Q24 = 2, 3, or 4: Was most of your fishing in the Delaware Bay or a bay or river that empties into the Delaware Bay?

Q24B. If Q17 = "Maryland" or "Virginia", and Q24 = 2, 3, or 4: Was most of your fishing in the Chesapeake Bay or a bay or river that empties into the Chesapeake Bay? Also ask, was most of your fishing in the Potomac River or a river that empties into the Potomac River?

Q24B. If Q17 = "New Jersey", Q24 = 2, 3, or 4, and trip_cnty = 9 or 11: Was most of your fishing in the Delaware Bay or a bay or river that empties into the Delaware Bay? If trip_cnty = 23 or 25: Was most of your fishing in the Raritan Bay or a bay or river that empties into the Raritan Bay?

Q24B. If Q17 = "New York" and Q24 = 2, 3, or 4 and trip_cnty = 5, 59, 61, 81, or 103: Was most of your fishing in Long Island Sound or a bay or river that opens into Long Island Sound? If trip_cnty = 47 or 85: Was most of your fishing in the Raritan Bay or a bay or river that empties into the Raritan Bay?

Q24B. If Q17 = "North Carolina", and Q24 = 2, 3, or 4: Was most of your fishing in the Albemarle/Pamlico estuary or a bay or river that empties into the Albemarle/Pamlico Estuary?

Q24B. If Q17 = "Massachusetts", and Q24 = 2, 3, or 4 and trip_cnty = 1, 5, 7, or 19: Was most of your fishing in the Buzzard's Bay or a river that empties into the Buzzard's Bay?

Q24B. If Q17 = "Rhode Island", and Q24 = 2, 3, or 4: Was most of your fishing in the Narragansett Bay or a bay or river that empties into the Narragansett Bay? If response is "No" then ask, was most of your fishing in the Long Island Sound or a bay or river that empties into the Long Island Sound?

Q25. What species were targeted on that trip? That is, when you left the dock, what species were you planning on fishing for?

[26] Other Species

[98] Don't know/Don't remember

[99] Refused

IF Target = LPS and is not bluefin, shark, billfish or tuna, go to Q26.

IF Target NE LPS Go to next trip.

Q25A. IF Q25 (TARGET) = "Shark" then attempt to identify species.

Record – Got to Q26

Q25A. IF Q25 (TARGET) = "Tuna" then ask: What type of Tuna were you fishing for?

1=Other Tuna – Go to Q26

2=Bluefin – Go to Q25B

3=Bigeye – Go to Q26

4=Yellowfin – Go to Q26

5=No Specific Tuna – Go to Q26

8=DK– Go to Q26

9=Refuse– Go to Q26

Q25B. IF Q25A = Bluefin then ask: What size class of BLUEFIN Tuna were you fishing for?

1=Young School – Go to Q26

2=School – Go to Q26

3=Large School – Go to Q26

4=Small Medium – Go to Q26

5=Large Medium – Go to Q26

6=Giant – Go to Q26

7=No Specific Size Class – Go to Q26

8=DK– Go to Q26

9=Refuse– Go to Q26

Q25A. IF Q25 (TARGET) = Billfish then ask: What type of Billfish were you fishing for?

1=Blue Marlin – Go to Q26

2=White Marlin – Go to Q26

3=Sailfish – Go to Q26

4=Swordfish – Go to Q26

5=Roundscale Spearfish – Go to Q26

6=Longbill Spearfish – Go to Q26

7=No Specific Billfish – Go to Q26

8=DK– Go to Q26

9=Refuse– Go to Q26

Q26. Were you participating in a tournament on that day?

Yes – Go to Q26A

No – Go to Q27

DK – Go to Q27

Q26A. IF Q26 = YES then ask: What was the name of the tournament?

Record Name –

Q27. Were you primarily using a rod and reel on this trip?

Yes – Go to Q28

No – Go to Q27A

Q27A. IF Q27 = NO then ask: What type of gear was primarily used on the trip?

1 = Rod and Reel – Go to Q28

2 = Handline – Go to Q28

3 = Harpoon – Go to next trip

4 = Other: Specify – Go to Q27B

Q27B. Please specify what “other” fishing gear was used primarily on this trip.

Record – If not rod & reel type of gear, go to next trip.

Q28. How many lines were used on that trip? (Record maximum number of lines used)

Record –

Q29. What type of bait was used during that trip (Live, Dead, Artificial, Other)?

Live –

Dead –

Artificial –

Other: Specify – Go to Q29A

Q29A. What other type of bait did you use during that trip?

Yes –

No –

Q30. What is the name of the fishing grounds on which you did most of your fishing? (use lookup list, categorized by state)

Record –

Q31. How many miles (maximum) were the fishing grounds from the nearest shoreline? Enter a number OR 998 for Don't Know, 999 for Refused.

Record –

Q32. What was the average ocean depth, in feet, where you were fishing? Enter a number or 98 for Don't Know, 99 for Refused.

Record –

Q33. What was the average surface water temperature, in degrees Fahrenheit, where you were fishing?

Record –

Q34. Did you catch any fish on this trip?

Yes – Go to Q35

No – Go to Next Trip

Q35. If Q34 = “YES” then ask: What type of fish did you catch?

Not Tuna or Shark or Marlin – Go to Next Trip

Tuna(s) – Attempt to specify species, Go to Q36 (If given Bluefin, Go to Q35A)

Shark – Attempt to specify species, Go to Q36 if given specific Shortfin Mako, Blue Shark, Sandbar Shark, Dusky Shark (Go to Next Trip if other or no species specified)

White or Blue Marlin – Go to Q36

Q35A. IF Q35 = “BLUEFIN TUNA” then ask: What size class of Bluefin Tuna?

Young School (<27” Curved Fork Length) – Go to Q36

School (27 – <47” Curved Fork Length) – Go to Q36

Large School (47 – 59” Curved Fork Length) – Go to Q36

Small Medium (59 – <73” Curved Fork Length) – Go to Q36

Large Medium (73 – <81” Curved Fork Length) – Go to Q36

Giant – (81”+ Curved Fork Length) – Go to Q36

DK – Go to Q36

Refused – Go to Q36

Q36. How many of those {species/class} did you keep?

Record –

Q37. How many of those {species/class} did you release alive?

Record –

Q38. How many of those {species/class} did you release dead?

Record –

FOLLOW-UP

Q39. Did you receive notification from us that we would contact you for this interview? If “No”, ask for correct mailing address and briefly explain that notification will be sent prior to any later contacts and continue.

Yes – Go to Q40

No – Record correct address. Go to Q40

Don’t know – Go to Q40

Q40. If Q39 is "Yes", then ask: Did you choose to use the optional form included with the mailing to record data for the vessel name? (Record form use.)

Yes –

No –

Don't Know –

Q41. In case the vessel name is ever selected again for this survey, at what time of day would you prefer to be called? (Record preferred time.)

Those are all of the questions that I have for you, thank you for your time and cooperation. Have a good day/evening. Goodbye.