



NEWSCAST

The Newsletter of the Marine Recreational Information Program

**NOAA
FISHERIES**



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National Academies Releases New Independent Analysis of MRIP

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

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National Academies Releases New MRIP Review, Recognizes NOAA Fisheries for Making "Impressive Progress"

Today, the National Academies of Sciences released a comprehensive follow-up review to its 2006 independent, expert analysis of NOAA Fisheries' saltwater recreational information collection efforts. The Academies recognized the agency for making "impressive progress" over the past 10 years, including "major improvements" to MRIP survey designs. The review also highlighted some remaining challenges and offered a series of recommendations for continued improvements to MRIP surveys.

The agency requested this follow-up review to measure progress made toward implementing recommendations from the Academies' 2006 report. This review and its findings will help us further refine our recreational fisheries information collection efforts and prioritize our improvement efforts to best meet the evolving needs of fisheries scientists, stock assessors, managers, and stakeholders.

The review specifically noted that methods used in the Access Point Angler Intercept Survey are "a vast improvement over the previous sampling and estimation procedures and reflect state of the art methods in survey sampling." The Academies also acknowledged that the methodologies associated with the new, mail-based Fishing Effort Survey are "major improvements" over those used with the current Coastal Household Telephone Survey.

The National Academies is the nation's premier source of independent, expert advice on scientific, engineering, and medical issues. The service to government by the Academies has become so essential that Congress and the White House have issued legislation and executive orders that reaffirm its unique role.

To read the National Academies' press release and report, "A Review of the Marine Recreational Information Program," click [here](#). You can find a summary at [this link](#). Please don't forget that the National Academies is hosting a webinar later today at 2 pm EST. To register, please follow [this link](#). To learn more about the review, visit the [National Academies' project page](#).

Ask MRIP

Do you have questions about MRIP or our surveys? Ask us and we'll answer your question in an upcoming newsletter. If you've got a question about MRIP that you'd like answered, please e-mail Dave Bard at david.bard@noaa.gov.

To learn more about improvements MRIP is making, visit our website at countmyfish.noaa.gov.

[NOAA's Marine Recreational Information Program](#) | David.Bard@noaa.gov