



# NEWSCAST

The Newsletter of the Marine Recreational Information Program

**NOAA  
FISHERIES**



**April 4, 2017**

## IN THIS ISSUE

### **MRIP Releases Five-Year Strategic Plan; Seeks Public Comment**

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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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## **MRIP Releases Five-Year Strategic Plan; Seeks Public Comment**

Today, MRIP released its draft five-year Strategic Plan and is requesting input on the Plan from our partners and stakeholders. Developed by a Working Group with broad federal and regional representation, the Plan lays out a clear, well-defined strategy for continuing to improve our survey methods while providing a sound basis for implementing new and expanded surveys through a system of regional partnerships.

The Plan emphasizes enhancing collaboration with partners, meeting customer needs, ensuring sound science and quality products, and improving communications with partners and stakeholders. It identifies specific strategies, tactics, outcomes, metrics, and timelines for achieving these goals. The document also articulates MRIP's mission, vision, and values, and provides a detailed history and major milestones of the Program.

We are seeking public feedback as part of MRIP's ongoing commitment to improving our surveys through collaboration among federal, regional, and state agencies, and the saltwater recreational fishing community. Incorporating comments from scientists, managers, fishermen, and others is a critical step in ensuring that the Strategic Plan guides MRIP in a direction that will ensure the sustainability of recreational fishing today, and for generations to come.

We welcome all input, and are particularly interested in whether the goals, strategies, and tactics we've outlined are likely to meet partner and stakeholder needs, as well as achieve the mission and vision stated in the Plan.

The document and details on providing feedback can be found on the homepage of the MRIP website, [countryfish.noaa.gov](http://countryfish.noaa.gov). Comments are due by June 30, 2017.

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## **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](mailto:david.bard@noaa.gov).

To learn more about improvements MRIP is making, visit our website at [countmyfish.noaa.gov](http://countmyfish.noaa.gov).

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