



The Newsletter of the Marine  
Recreational Information Program

# Newscast

## NOAA Fisheries Releases Response to National Academies Recommendations, Final Version of MRIP Strategic Plan

NOAA Fisheries has released its Framework for Addressing the National Academies Recommendations and the final version of the five-year MRIP Strategic Plan. Both documents will serve as important guideposts as we continue our commitment to making improvements to catch and effort surveys and the resulting estimates.

### Response to National Academies Review

In January 2017, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine released a comprehensive follow-up review to their 2006 independent, expert analysis of MRIP. NOAA Fisheries requested this follow-up review to measure MRIP's progress in implementing recommendations from the Academies' previous report. The 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.

While the Academies recognized the agency for making "impressive progress" over the past 10 years, the review also highlighted some remaining challenges and offered a series of recommendations. The Framework lays out our approach for addressing each of the Academies' specific recommendations. The Academies report, Review of the Marine Recreational Information Program, is available for PDF download on the National Academies Press [website](#). The Framework for Addressing the National Academies Recommendations is available on the MRIP [website](#).

### MRIP Strategic Plan

The other document just released, the five-year MRIP Strategic Plan, was developed by a Working Group with broad federal and regional representation, and

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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.

### Ask MRIP

Do you have questions about MRIP or our surveys? Ask us and we'll provide answers in an upcoming newsletter. 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 [countryfish.noaa.gov](http://countryfish.noaa.gov).

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incorporates feedback from stakeholders gathered during the public comment period. 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.

The Plan and several supporting documents can be found [here](#).

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