

**APPENDIX I**

**ITEM BY ITEM INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE  
INTERCEPT FORM**

This page intentionally left blank

These instructions apply to the 2014 Intercept Questionnaires (Appendix D). Some minor changes in data items should be expected from year-to-year. Several data items are critical to the data expansion routines and are termed key items. If a response to any of the key items is missing, then the interview is not valid. Key items have bold print in the following instructions and have asterisks next to the Item number on the Intercept Questionnaires and Coding Forms. Key items include mode and area of fishing; distance from shore; state and county of residence; group catch questions; catch disposition, number of catch by species; party information; and the charter boat on list question. Boxed items on the Intercept Questionnaire are not asked, but are either instructions to the interviewer or items to be recorded by the interviewer.

Items 1-10 are identifying information and are not to be asked of the angler.

Item 1 Record Type - "1" is reserved for all intercept interviews but is not on the form.

Item 2 Assignment No. – This is pre-printed on the form.

Item 3 Interviewer Code - Each interviewer will be given a unique four-digit identification number. This number must be used on all submitted forms.

Item 4 Year/Month/Day - The interviewer should record the date of the intercept. The year is pre-coded on the form. All forms from the same assignment should have the same and correct date.

Item 5 Intercept Number - Throughout an assignment the interviewer should consecutively number the forms completed for the assignment. The first form used should be coded "01", the second "02", etc., regardless of where the interview was obtained on the assignment. All forms sent in should be numbered, regardless of interview status. At the end of the assignment the last number used should be the same as the number of forms submitted. All forms from the same assignment should have a unique and sequential interview number, beginning with "01."

Item 6 Interview Time - Using military time, the interviewer should record the time the interview was **completed**. Military time runs on a 24-hour clock starting at 0001 hours (one minute past midnight) and ending at 2400 hours (midnight). For example, 4:45 p.m. should be coded "1645" hours. In the HB mode, partial interviews will be conducted on the way to the fishing grounds but the interviews are not completed until the end of the fishing trip; therefore, the time on these interviews must correctly reflect the *completion* time. Interviews obtained on Head Boat at-sea assignments should have the interview completion time entered on the interview forms, not the time of the trip start or the interview start.

Item 7 State Code - The interviewer should enter the two-digit FIPS numerical code for the State of intercept. All forms from the same assignment must have the same and accurate State FIPS code.

Item 8 County Code - The interviewer should enter the three-digit FIPS numerical code for the county of intercept. All forms from the same assignment must have the same and accurate county FIPS code. County codes must match those on the site register for the State of intercept.

Item 9 Site Code - The interviewer should enter the four-digit numerical code for the site where the interview takes place. Site codes and names are unique and are found in the Site Register.

Item 10 Interview Status - This item must be completed at the end of the interview. It serves as an indicator of interview "completeness". Interviews of status "1" or "2" are "good" interviews in that all **key** data have been obtained.

"Questionnaire complete = 1" - This code should be used if the angler responds to all items asked in the interview. In other words, the angler does not refuse to answer any question.

"Refused non-key items = 2" - This code should be used if the angler refuses one or more non-key items but answers all key items.

"Refused key item = 5" - This code should be used if the angler refuses to answer a key item. If a key item is refused, the interviewer should code the item with "9"s and terminate the interview.

Beginning with Item 11 are questions to be asked of the anglers.

**\*Item 11** Fishing From Which Mode? - Interviewers must use discretion in the wording of this question for SH anglers. Obviously, if an angler is leaving a pier, from which no boat fishing was possible, it would be inappropriate to ask whether that angler was fishing from a charter boat. A pier angler should be asked: "Would you say you were fishing from a pier, a jetty, or what?" The interviewer should include in the stem of the question responses from at least two coding categories.

All HB, CH and PR anglers should be offered all four boat alternatives: "Would you say you were fishing from a head boat, a charter boat, a private boat or a rental boat?" If the interviewer can definitively determine that the angler's response is incorrect then the technically correct response should be coded. If the angler has difficulty with the definition of a particular mode, the interviewer should provide definitions and let the angler decide. Charter and Head Boats must be coded as the type of boat it predominately operates as

to agree with the classification of the for-hire fleet as coded in the FHS Directories.

Shore mode interviews must be coded from "0" to "5" and boat mode interviews must be coded from "6" to "9".

On occasion, the angler will be unable to give a short answer to Item 11. That is, there might be extenuating circumstances that require a more detailed response. The following examples are illustrative of how these "detailed" responses should be handled:

**If the angler says:**

**Code the MODE as:**

"Bulkhead"

"2" for Jetty, Breakwater, Breachway

"This used to be a bridge but its now used for a fishing pier."

"1" for Pier

"I hired and fished from a guide boat."

"7" for Charter Boat

"I boated to a pier/dock/bridge/causeway, got out of the boat, and fished from the pier/dock/bridge/causeway ."

"0"=Pier; "1"=Dock;  
"2"=Jetty/Breakwater/Breachway;  
"3"=Bridge/Causeway

"I boated to an oil/gas platform, got out of the boat and fished from the oil/gas platform."

"4" for Other Manmade Structure and write in "oil/gas platform"

"I boated to a beach/bank, got out of the boat and fished from the beach/bank."

"5" for Beach or bank

"I boated to an reef, got out of the boat and fished while standing on the reef."

"6", "7", "8", "9" for the reported type of Boat used.

"I boated to an barge, got out of the boat and fished from the barge."

"6" for Head boat

**\*Item 12**     Type of Water Fished- Anglers are asked in what type of "water body" they did most of their fishing. The technically correct response should be coded at Item 12, instead of an obviously incorrect response from the respondent. For a SH angler, it may not be necessary to ask the question. This would be true if the interviewer has observed the fishing and can code the correct water body. Similarly, if an interviewer has ridden on a head boat, the interviewer should code the correct response without asking the question. All other boat anglers will have to be asked the question, since boats can travel great distances.

If the angler responds with an answer other than "ocean/gulf", the interviewer will need to probe to determine the correct response. The follow-up probe is: "What (sound/river/bay/inlet) was that?" The response list for Item 12 contains estuaries that have been recognized by NMFS and the Environmental Protection Agency as "National Estuaries". If the named sound, river, bay or inlet is part of one of the estuaries on the list, the interviewer should code to the appropriate estuary. The estuary maps may also be found in the Coding Manual. If the named sound, river, bay or inlet is not part of a listed estuary, the interviewer should code "2" for sound, "3" for river, or "4" for bay. "Inlet" should be coded "5" (unless it is part of one of the National Estuaries listed), with the word "inlet" (and the specific name, if applicable) written out in the white space adjacent to Item 12 on the Coding Form. It is very important to note bays, rivers, sounds, or inlets that are part of, or wholly inside, any of the named estuaries – these should be coded by the named estuary, NOT using the numeric code for sound, river, or bay. If the angler responds that he fished in a sound, river, or bay that the interviewer is not familiar with, then he/she should specifically ask "Is that (\_\_\_\_\_) sound, river, bay in any of these estuaries and name those that are reachable from the interview site (i.e., it would not be necessary to offer "Is that part of Hudson-Raritan Estuary?" if interviewing was taking place at a Maryland site, but it would be appropriate to ask "Is that (\_\_\_\_\_) sound, river, bay in the Chesapeake Estuary?, or the Delaware Estuary?" depending on the site location within MD.

"Bayou" should be coded "5" with the word "bayou" (and the specific name, if applicable) written in the white space adjacent to Item 12.

Any form coded with a "5" (other water body) must have the specific water body written on the line provided.

If the angler fished in more than one "water body", that angler should be asked in which "water body" the majority of time fishing was spent. If the angler responds that he/she fished half the time in one water body, and half the time in another, code the response to the water body in which most of the fish were caught.

"Open bays" are included with "ocean/gulf" in the first category (Code="1"). Open bays are not true bays but stretches of ocean that are called "Such-n-such" Bay by local residents, or on published maps or charts even though they are not semi-enclosed or enclosed, such as Santa Monica Bay in California. There are no open bays on the Atlantic coast, therefore, at the discretion of the contractor, this term could be omitted from the Ocean/Gulf option to avoid confusion. Interviewer training should include the instruction that the option is not available

because the geographic delineation is not present on the Atlantic Coast, so any reported 'Bay' fishing should be coded as 4 unless the named Bay is within a named Estuary (see above rule clarification).

If a "1" is coded at Item 12, the interviewer should continue with Item 13. If anything other than a "1" is coded at Item 12, the interviewer should code Item 13 with an "8" and continue with Item 14.

**\*Item 13**      Three or Ten Mile Limit? - This item is pertinent only to anglers fishing in "open water" (Code "1" at Item 12). If Item 13 is not pertinent, it should be coded with an "8".

This question is used to determine the effort and catch in State versus Federal jurisdictions. State jurisdiction occurs within the State territorial sea while Federal jurisdiction occurs in open waters beyond the territorial sea. Most States' territorial seas extend three miles from shore. The exceptions are West Florida and Texas where the territorial sea extends approximately ten miles from shore. Since anglers fishing in the shore (SH) mode must have fished within three or ten miles of shore, this is not asked of shore anglers. The interviewer should automatically code Item 13 with a "1" (three miles or less) and continue with Item 14. Anglers fishing in the ocean or gulf from any of the boat modes (HB, CH, and PR), however, must be asked the "three or ten mile" question. The interviewer should enter the appropriate response code at Item 13 and continue with Item 14.

**Item 14**      Gear? - This question is asked of all anglers. If the angler has used more than one type of gear, he/she should be asked which he/she spent more time using. The gear used the majority of the time should be entered. Only one gear box should be checked, even if the angler used more than one gear. The choices are below (see Appendix B, Glossary of Terms.)

- 01 = Hook & Line
- 02 = Dip Net, A-Frame
- 03 = Cast Net
- 04 = Gill Net
- 05 = Seine
- 06 = Trawl
- 07 = Trap
- 08 = Spear
- 09 = Hand
- 10 = Other (Specify)

**Item 15a**      Time Fishing? - All anglers are asked how many hours they spent fishing with gear in the water in the mode of intercept on the day of intercept. If the angler fished at more than one site in the mode group of intercept,

he/she should be reminded to include all hours spent fishing in the mode at all sites. If the angler fished at a site in a different mode group, he/she should not include time spent fishing in the non-intercept mode.

Interviewers should note that a box with a pre-coded decimal has been provided and that the question requires "to the nearest **half** hour". Only "0" or "5" should appear in the box to the right of the decimal.

Since a trip is defined as fishing in one mode in one waking day, it is waking day hours that should be entered. This should never exceed 24.0.

Time fishing must be less than Item 15b -Time on Boat.

Item 15b Time On Boat? - All anglers fishing from a boat mode are asked how many hours they spent on their boat, away from the dock, in the mode of the intercept on the day of the intercept. This question is meant to measure trip time. Do not include time spent in the boat while the boat is at the dock. Code 15b as "Not Applicable" if the angler is fishing from shore mode.  
The minimum entry is "00.5" and the maximum entry is "24.0". The number to the right of the decimal must be "0" or "5". Time on Boat should be larger than Item 15a -Time Fishing.

Item 16 Additional Hours? - This question is used for beach/bank shore anglers who have not yet completed their fishing for the day. Incomplete trip interviews are allowed **only** for the beach/bank category (i.e. mode 5 only) within the shore mode. Incomplete trip interviews can only be obtained during the second half of the sampling period at each site within the cluster. During the first half of the scheduled period at each site angler exit counts and interviews of BB completed trip anglers may be conducted.

Item 17 Target Species? - The interviewer should ask all anglers to name the kinds of fish they were fishing for. The interviewer should enter the name(s) of the fish on the line(s) provided above the coding boxes and look up the code(s) after the interview is completed.

If the angler says "no", "anything", or "nothing in particular", etc., the interviewer should check the "no", "anything", or "nothing in particular" box and **leave the coding boxes blank**.

If the angler mentions only one species, that angler should not be pressed for two. The species mentioned would be coded in the first set of boxes and the second set would be left blank. If the angler names two or more species, the interviewer should code only the first two mentioned.



The interviewer should note that identification of a particular **species** of fish is desired, if at all possible. If the angler names a family of fish, the interviewer should probe to determine whether he/she preferred a particular species in that family. For example, if the angler states he or she was fishing for drum, the interviewer should ask "Any particular kind of drum?" If the angler has no preference within the family of fish and several species are possible within that family, the interviewer should enter the family code. If, however, the interviewer knows that the angler could only be going after one species within that family (e.g. there is only one species found in the area), he/she should enter that species code. For this item, knowledge of how local names translate to exact species is very important. If the angler uses a local (i.e., slang) name (see the Coding Manual), the interviewer should also enter the accepted common name from the species list (see Coding Manual) for the species or family so that field supervisors can check the species code entered.

Interviewers should only record reasonable responses to this item. If an angler responds that he/she was fishing for a species not found in his/her area, the checkbox for "no particular species/anything" should be checked. For example, it is not reasonable that anyone would fish for oceanic pelagic species like blue marlin from an inland pier.

If the intercepted angler is an eligible shellfisher, the target species should be coded to "no particular species/anything".

All codes must be valid Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS) finfish species codes; otherwise known as Taxonomic Serial Numbers (TSNs).

Item 18      Days Fishing in Past 12 Months? - All anglers are asked how many days they have been saltwater sport fin-fishing in the state of intercept or from a boat launched in the state of intercept, exclusive of the day of intercept, in the past 12 months.

The wording of this item is very important. The angler should think back to the same date in the previous year. He/she should **not** include days spent freshwater fishing, commercially fishing, shellfishing, or days spent fishing in other states.

The interviewer may have to work with an angler to come up with a specific number. Anglers are likely to say something like "every week" or "once a month". In these instances the interviewer should translate the response to a number and verify that number with the angler.

Since the question requires days and the day of intercept should not be included, the maximum acceptable entry would be "364", and the

minimum acceptable entry would be "000". Codes "998" and "999" are provided for "don't know" and "refused", respectively.

Item 19 Days Fishing in Past 2 Months? - All anglers are asked the question at Item 19. The limitations that apply to Item 18 also apply to Item 19.

Since the question requires days and the day of intercept should not be included, the maximum acceptable entry would be "59" to "62", depending on the months included, and the minimum acceptable entry would be "00". Codes "98" and "99" are provided for "don't know" and "refused", respectively. Also, the entry at Item 19 should never exceed the entry at Item 18.

**\*Item 20** Residence? - All anglers are asked their State and county of residence. If the angler does not know his/her county of residence, the interviewer should ask for their city and enter the city name and circle "city" on the Coding Form. In that instance, the coding boxes for county would be left blank. They would be completed later based on city name by the field supervisor or other contractor personnel. If the angler should ask, it is their legal residence that they should be reporting. Since this is not included in the question stem, interviewers should only provide this information if the respondent asks for clarification.

After interview completion, interviewers should code the response with the correct FIPS codes for State and county (from the Coding Manual). If an angler is a resident of some country other than the United States, the appropriate country code must be coded in the State position and "998" must be coded in the county position. If the interviewer is unsure of the correct code, he/she should write out the necessary information and leave the coding boxes blank for completion by field supervisors or other Contractor personnel.

Item 21 ZIP Code? - All anglers are asked the ZIP Code of their residence. The ZIP Code given should be the ZIP Code of the residence named by State and county in Item 20. As before, if the angler should ask, it is the legal residence that is desired. If an angler is a resident of a country other than the United States, "99997" should be recorded.

Item 22 Type of Residence? - All anglers are asked what type of residence they live in. Single family homes and apartments are considered "private residences". Dorms, barracks, nursing homes, and rooming houses are considered "institutional housing units".

If the angler lives in a private residence, the interviewer should code Item 22 with a "1" and continue with Item 23.

If the angler lives in institutional housing, the interviewer should code Item 22 with a "2", code Item 23 with an "8", and continue with Item 24.

Item 23      Type of Address – This question asks where the angler receives residential (i.e. personal) mail. If the angler receives residential mail at his/her house and a P.O. Box, both items should be checked. Note that if an angler is self employed and receives personal mail at home but receives business mail at a PO Box, do NOT enter a check mark for P.O. Box.

Item 24      Name and Phone Provided? - All anglers are asked to give a full name and a telephone number for survey verification. Approximately ten percent of all anglers interviewed by each interviewer will be contacted for survey verification purposes. Names and phone numbers should be written on the boxes provided at Item 24. If the angler is a very young child, accompanied by an adult, the interviewer should also get the name of the adult. Note that this question is not asked of minors under the age of 16 when fishing without an adult present.

It is not necessary to obtain the angler's home telephone number. Any number at which he/she can be reached is acceptable. However, if a work number is obtained, the interviewer should note that it is a work number so that validation attempts will be made during working hours. The interviewer should circle D for day phone or N for night phone. The interviewer should make sure that an area code is obtained.

**\*Item 25**      Unavailable Catch (Type 2 Records)? - All anglers are asked to report on fish caught in the mode that are not available for inspection. **Each angler must report his/her own unavailable catch in the mode of intercept.** If the angler was at a different site in the same mode, unavailable fish from the other site should be included.

Any fish that the interviewer is unable to positively identify AND count MUST be recorded as "unavailable catch" (under Item 25). Each fish must be counted by the interviewer in order for it to be recorded as "available catch" (Item 31). NMFS maintains this rule because we are confident in properly trained interviewers' ability to identify fish to the species level and to accurately count how many there are of each species. However, we are not confident in all anglers' ability to accurately identify fish to the species level. Even one misidentified fish will result in the recording of inaccurate information, which is why we need to record all information reported by anglers as "unavailable catch". Anglers may be tempted to over or under-report the number of fish caught, which is another reason for recording the fish as "unavailable catch".

Interviewers should keep in mind that it is possible to record some fish of the same species as "unavailable catch" and other fish as "available catch". If an angler says that he has five Atlantic Cod in a cooler but only allows the interviewer to positively identify and count three of them, the interviewer should record the three Atlantic Cod as "available catch" and the other two as "unavailable catch".

A separate line must be filled in for each unique species-disposition combination. Each line of information is called a "Type 2" record. Each "Type 2" record must contain a species name, a 6-digit species code (TSN), the number of fish, and a disposition code.

Species name and code, number of fish and disposition are key items. It is also important that interviewers write out the full species name (be sure to use the accepted common name). **Abbreviations are not acceptable.** Each interviewer should strive to report an angler's Type 2 catch to the species level. Since the interviewer cannot inspect or count unavailable catch, it is recognized that the species and numbers reported may not be exact. It is appropriate to show the anglers pictures from the field guide in order to clarify a fish species after narrowing down the possibilities to two or three species. However, at no time should the interviewers force the anglers into choosing one of several species without first narrowing down the possibilities based on the anglers' description. If necessary, one of the "unidentified fish" codes may be used as a *last resort*.

NOTE: If an angler refuses to allow an interviewer to see or count his/her catch, but he/she reports the catch, the interviewer should list the catch in Type 2. This interview is still considered "good" because the angler reported his/her catch to the interviewer.

The question to ask concerning disposition is: "What did you do or do you plan to do with the (species name)?" The interviewer may have to probe until the ultimate disposition of the fish is determined. For example, disposition code 3 should be used if the angler plans to give the fish to his friend, if his friend is planning to eat it.

The disposition codes can be found below Item 25 on the Intercept Form. They include: (1) Thrown back alive; (3) Eaten - plan to eat; (4) Used for bait - plan to use for bait; (5) Sold - plan to sell; (6) Thrown back dead - plan to throw away; and (7) Plan to use for some other purpose.

The use of disposition 7, "some other purpose" should be limited. It should only be used if the angler's response is unusual and does not fall under one of the other dispositions. (If disposition 7 is used, the interviewer should write the angler's response on the form.) Disposition 8, "don't know/didn't ask" and disposition 9 "refused" cannot be used for

unavailable fish. The use of these two codes will result in a status 5 interview.

NOTE: There is no code for “given away.” If the fish have been given away (or are going to be given away), the interviewer should ask what the recipient intends to do with the fish and code accordingly. If the fish were given away to be used for bait the correct disposition would be “4”.

All filleted fish should be considered “unavailable catch” and entered under Item 25. NMFS does not believe that an interviewer can look at a slab of meat and identify the fish to the species level. However, if enough of the carcass is left to allow for accurate species identification and an accurate count, the fish can be entered as “available catch” under Item 31. Anglers may think that fillets are available catch and not report them in response to the question at Item 25. If an interviewer should look at an angler’s catch and discover that all of the fish have been filleted, the fillets must be entered as “Type 2” records, and there would be no “Type 3” records. Interviewers *should not assume* that all fillets would be eaten. Even with fillets it is important to ask the question concerning disposition.

Each angler must report on his/her own unavailable catch. If a group of anglers report that they together caught a certain number of fish, and that these fish have been filleted, the interviewer should strive to determine how many fish each angler caught. Fillets should be entered as “Type 2” records (unavailable catch), and each angler’s own unavailable catch must be entered on his/her own form. If the group of anglers cannot determine how many fish they individually caught, the interviewer should divide the total number of fish by the total number of anglers contributing to the catch, and report this number of fish on each angler’s form.

Note that anglers often provide a range of numbers in response to this question (e.g. “15 or 20”). In this case, ask the angler to choose one; NEVER “split the difference” or in any other way respond for the angler. The angler must provide a specific response to this question, or the interview must be terminated and status coded =5 (key question not answered).

The catch may appear to be grouped if each angler reports a high number of fish. If a high number is reported or the number seems improbable, the interviewer should probe with each angler to confirm that the angler is reporting his/her individual catch and note this on the form.

If one species is disposed of in two or more manners, it will be necessary to complete two or more “Type 2” records for the species. For example, if an angler caught a total of eight bluefish, five of which he/she threw back alive, and three of which he/she plans to eat, the interviewer should

complete two "Type 2" records. The first "Type 2" record would be five bluefish with disposition 1, and the second "Type 2" record would be three bluefish with disposition 3.

Three coding boxes are provided for "Number of Fish" under Item 25. As stated above, this is the number of fish of the listed species-disposition combination caught by an individual angler. Since Item 25 is a key item, there are no "don't know" or "refused" codes reserved for "Number of fish." A number must be entered! ("998" will be read as nine hundred ninety-eight fish!) If an angler has more than 999 unavailable fish of one species-disposition combination, the interviewer should write out the actual number in the available white space on the form. The Contractor will need to manually input the number into the dataset before data delivery.

Seven lines have been provided on the Intercept Form for "Type 2" records. If more than seven are needed, the interviewer should use the second page of a clean Intercept Form. Both the additional and the original form must be clearly marked with "page 1 of 2" and "page 2 of 2." Items 2 through 10 on page 2 must be filled out and these items must match Items 2 through 10 on page 1.

Box B: Observed for Discard? - This box must be completed for every interview, regardless of mode. If the assignment was not a headboat ride-along then the box "not a headboat ride" would be checked. If the assignment was a headboat ride-along, then either the "Yes" or "No" box will be checked depending on whether or not that particular angler was observed for discard (Type 9) catch. If that angler was observed for discards, all of the discards for that angler should be recorded on the discard form (i.e. none will be recorded in the Type 2 section).

It is possible to check "yes" in Box B (did observe angler for discards) and not have any fish listed on the discard form because the angler did not catch any fish that were discarded. If this happens, a comment should be written in the "Notes/Comments" section.

**\* Item 26**

Were Fish Caught To Look At? - All anglers are asked whether they caught any fish in the mode of intercept that the interviewer can examine and count. If the angler caught some fish that are available for inspection and can be counted, the interviewer should code Item 26 as "Yes" and continue with Item 27. This angler must have some data recorded as available catch (Item 31.)

If the angler *did not* catch any fish available for inspection or he/she did not allow the interviewer to identify or count the catch, the interviewer should code Item 26 as "No," code Items 27-29 as "8's" representing "Not

Applicable,” and continue with Item 30. This angler should have no data recorded as available catch (Item 31), but should have an entry at Item 30.

If the angler caught fish that are available for inspection, but they have already been entered on another angler's form because they could not be separated, the interviewer should code Item 26 as “3 - Fish on another angler's form.” The interviewer is then instructed to enter the interview number where the fish are located in the boxes provided. He/she should code Items 27-29 as “8's” and continue with Item 30. This angler should have no data recorded as available catch (Item 31), but should have an entry at Item 30.

Interviewers should note that the stem of Item 26 includes the words “to look at.” Fish that have been filleted are not considered available “to look at.” If it turns out that the angler's fish have all been filleted, the interviewer will have to go back and change the angler's response to Item 26. Filleted fish are entered at unavailable catch (Item 25), **not** at available catch (Item 31.)

- \* **Item 27**     Catch Mixed? - This question is asked *only* of those anglers who caught fish available for inspection and whose fish have not been entered on another angler's form. If Item 27 is not applicable, it should be coded as “8.”

If the angler caught all of the available fish, the interviewer should code Item 27 as “1 - All caught by Angler,” code Items 28 and 29 as “8's” representing “not applicable,” and continue with Item 30.

If other anglers have contributed to the available catch, the interviewer should code Item 27 as “2 - Other Contributors” and continue with Item 28.

- \* **Item 28**     Separate Catch? - This question is asked *only* of those anglers who report that several anglers have contributed to their available catch at Item 27. If Item 28 is not applicable, it should be coded as “8.”

If the angler can separate out his/her own available catch, the interviewer should code Item 28 as “1 - Yes,” code Item 29 as “88” and continue with Item 30. **Only the angler's own available catch should then be entered at available catch (Item 31.)**

If the angler cannot separate out his/her own available catch, the interviewer should code Item 28 with “2 – No” and continue with Item 29. **All of the available catch would then be entered on this angler's form at available catch (Item 31.)**

- \* Item 29**     Number Who Caught Fish? - This question is asked only of those anglers who cannot separate their available fish from the available fish caught by others in their fishing party ("No" at Item 28.) If Item 29 is not applicable, it should be coded as "88."

The angler is asked to indicate the number of anglers who contributed to the total available catch. There are TWO potential situations which require different coding to correctly capture the correct number of anglers who contributed to this mixed/grouped catch:

- 1) All anglers in the 'contributing group' are interviewed. Regardless of each angler's success (caught any fish or none), each angler is interviewed separately and the group catch is recorded on ONE form. If this is the case then only the number of anglers who actually caught a fish should be entered into this item, "the number of anglers who caught fish". (The anglers who did NOT catch a fish will respond NO to Item 26 and will automatically be counted as a "contributor" with zero catch).
- 2) Only some of the anglers who contributed to the grouped catch are interviewed, and the interviewer is unsure of which ones caught fish and which ones did not, but all those that were interviewed reported that they had available catch in the group recorded on the first form. Include ALL the anglers in the 'contributing group' in the count of 'anglers who caught fish' regardless of each individual's success. This method insures that the catch rate derived from this group correctly captures all the anglers who fished and all the fish that were caught to provide an accurate group average catch rate (# fish/#anglers).

Here is an example of a grouped-catch boat party and the two situations of interviewing and subsequent coding to produce the correct catch rate:

Number people who fished (anglers): 5

Number who caught at least one fish: 3

Actual catch per angler, but unknown by group, all 11 fish are in one cooler, except the two anglers who did not catch any fish recall that correctly.

Number of scup caught by angler #1: 3

Number of scup caught by angler #2: 6

Number of scup caught by angler #3: 2

Number of scup caught by angler #4: 0

Number of scup caught by angler #5: 0

Total number of scup: 11

True catch rate:  $11 \text{ scup} / 5 \text{ anglers} = 2.20 \text{ scup per angler}$ .

Case 1: All anglers interviewed. Catch is grouped on first angler's interview form.

Angler #1: Q26 – Yes, fish available; Q27 – Other contributors; Q28 - No, cannot separate my catch; Q29 – 3 Anglers caught fish.

Angler #2: Q26 – Yes, but recorded on Form #1 (Q27-28 – NA, Q29 – NA (88))

Angler #3: Q26 – Yes, but recorded on Form #1 (Q27-28 – NA, Q29 – NA (88))

Anglers #4 & #5: Q26 - NO available catch. Q27-28 – NA, Q29 – NA (88).



Results: 11 scup recorded on form # 1.

Total number contributing anglers: 3 (from form #1), 0 from forms #2 & 3 (included on #1), 1 from form #4, 1 from form #5 = 5 anglers.

Observed catch rate:  $11 \text{ scup} / 5 \text{ anglers} = 2.2 \text{ scup per angler} = \text{true catch rate}.$

Case 2: Only first 3 anglers interviewed. Catch is grouped on first angler's interview form.

Angler #1: Q26 – Yes, fish available; Q27 – Other contributors; Q28 - No, cannot separate my catch; Q29 – 5 Anglers 'caught' fish ("contributed to total catch").

Angler #2: Q26 – Yes, but recorded on Form #1 (Q27-28 – NA, Q29 – NA (88))

Angler #3: Q26 – Yes, but recorded on Form #1 (Q27-28 – NA, Q29 – NA (88))

Anglers #4 & #5: Not interviewed – catch status unknown to interviewer.

Results: 11 scup recorded on form # 1.

Total number contributing anglers: 5 (from form #1), 0 from forms #2 & 3 (included on #1) = 5 anglers.

Observed catch rate:  $11 \text{ scup} / 5 \text{ anglers} = 2.2 \text{ scup per angler} = \text{true catch rate}.$

Here are 5 other possible ways to code items 26-29:

ANGLER REPORTS	CODE:
This angler has <b>no available catch</b> . He/she has not caught any fish that the interviewer can look at.	Q26 – 2 (No) Q27 – 8 (not applicable) Q28 – 8 (not applicable) Q29 – 88 (not applicable)
This angler has <b>available catch</b> . The angler caught the fish that the interviewer can look at and count, and the angler <b>caught all the fish</b> .	Q26 – 1 (Yes) Q27 – 1 (All caught by angler) Q28 – 8 (not applicable) Q29 – 88 (not applicable)
This angler has <b>available catch</b> . She/he is part of a <b>group of five anglers who all caught fish</b> . She/he cannot separate her/his individual catch. All of the group's available catch is listed on <b>this angler's</b> form.	Q26 – 1 (Yes) Q27 – 2 (other anglers contributed) Q28 – 2 (cannot separate catch) Q29 – 05 (all 5 anglers contributed to group catch)
This angler's <b>available catch</b> is part of a <b>group catch</b> which was <b>recorded on the form of the first angler in the group who was interviewed that day</b> .	Q26 – 3 (01 – fish on other form – the first interview of the day) Q27 – 8 (not applicable) Q28 – 8 (not applicable) Q29 – 88 (not applicable)
This angler has <b>available catch</b> . He/she is part of a group, but each angler <b>can separate</b> his/her share of the catch from that of the others in the group.	Q26 – 1 (Yes) Q27 – 2 (other anglers contributed) Q28 – 1 (Yes, I can separate my fish) Q29 – 88 (not applicable)

- \* **Item 30** Party Size? - This question is asked to determine how many anglers fished on the boat, *including* the angler being interviewed. Do not include captain or crew. If the angler fished alone on a boat, code as "001." Please code as "Shore Mode" if the angler was fishing from the shore mode.

For the purpose of this survey, a "fishing party" is defined as a group of anglers who fished on the same boat on the same day. Therefore, all anglers fishing from the same boat are considered members of the same "fishing party" regardless of whether they traveled together to the site. In addition, all anglers fishing from the same charter/head boat should be considered members of the same fishing party. **Please note that the number of people on the boat**

**must be identical for anglers in the same party.** If anglers of the same fishing party report a different number of people on the boat, it may be because they do not know the exact number. This may be true especially for HB or CH mode interviews, where the number of anglers fishing on the boat may be high. In this case, it is appropriate to clarify the number on the boat by asking the mate or captain, if possible.

Interviewers should be aware that the number of contributors recorded in Item 29 *cannot exceed* the number of anglers in a “fishing party.”

- \* **Box D** First Person from Boat? - This question applies to those anglers who fished from a boat and who responded that the number of people on the boat (Item 30) was greater than one. Box D must be coded as “8 – Not Applicable” if the response to Item 30 is “001,” or if the angler was fishing in shore mode (Item 11).

If the angler indicated in Item 30 that he/she fished together with other anglers on the same boat, then the interviewer should ask him/herself “Is this the first person on the boat that I have interviewed?” If the response is “yes,” code Box D as “1 - Yes.” If he/she is not the first interviewed, code as “2 - No” and record the interview number of the first angler in the party in the boxes provided. If the interview is HB or CH mode, and more than one boat came in at the same time, the interviewer may need to ask the angler which charter/headboat he/she was on.

Data from Item 30 and Box D are used to determine if being in a group affects catch rates. Box C and D are not questions to be asked of the angler. Rather, they are items to be filled in by the interviewer after the interview is completed.

- \* **Box E** Vessel on List? – This question applies to those anglers who fished from a “for hire” vessel (CH or HB mode) and refers to whether or not the vessel is in the sample frame for the FHS. Regardless of whether or not the vessel is on the list the boat name (or registration number if the boat doesn’t have a name) must be written out for every interview conducted in CH or HB modes. The boat name must be **identical** to the name that appears on the vessel (spelling and special characters).

If the vessel has no name, the box labeled “Check box if vessel has no name.” should be checked. The vessel number (e.g. MD1234AB) should then be written on the form for verification purposes. Under

no circumstances should the vessel ID (e.g. 2400000) be written on the form.

- \* **Item 31** **Available Catch (Type 3 Records)?** - The angler's available catch should be entered at Item 31 on the Intercept Form. Each line of information recorded is called a "Type 3" record. Each "Type 3" record **MUST** have the following information:

Species name (common name, as indicated in the Coding Manual)

- The corresponding 6-digit species code (also from the Coding Manual);
- The total number of that species (all counted by the interviewer); and
- The disposition code (indicating what the angler plans to do with the **majority** of the fish of that species.)

Without this information, the intercept is considered a status 5 interview, and cannot be used. **In addition, the interviewer should strive to obtain weight and length measurements for each fish!**

If the angler is in somewhat of a hurry and won't allow the interviewer to obtain both weights and lengths, the priority is to obtain weights.

Interviewers must positively identify and count **ALL** fish that are recorded under the "available catch" section. If they are only able to identify and count some of the fish, those that are identified and counted should be recorded under the "available catch" section (Item 31), and those that are not should be recorded under the "unavailable catch" section (Item 25).

When more than one fish of a species is available, the interviewer need not repeat the species name, the species code, the total number of fish, or the disposition code on all lines. In that case, the interviewer should draw arrows down, indicating that the boxes are exactly the same as the ones above. This only holds true, however, for the species name, the species code, total number and disposition. Even if the weights and lengths are the same (which is highly unlikely), they must be written out. As with unavailable catch, it is important that interviewers write out the full species name (making sure to use the accepted common name). Abbreviations are not acceptable.

If fifteen or fewer fish of one species are available, interviewers should try to weigh and measure all of them. If more than fifteen fish of one species are available, the interviewer should randomly select fifteen fish to be weighed and measured. No more than fifteen fish

of one species should be weighed and measured per angler. If the catch is grouped, and there are more than fifteen fish of one species, the interviewer should attempt to weigh and measure up to fifteen fish per species per angler.

Three coding boxes have been provided for “# of Fish” in Item 31. As stated in the discussion of Item 25, no codes have been reserved for “don’t know” and “refused.” A “999” will be read as nine hundred ninety-nine fish. Numbers above three digits, that is, above “999,” should be written out in the available space.

If length or weight is missing, the interviewer should fill in the boxes for the missing data with “9’s.” **Missing data should be footnoted with an explanation.** Acceptable reasons for not obtaining weight or length measurements include:

- Angler refused to let the interviewer weigh his/her fish.
- Angler refused to let the interviewer measure his/her fish.
- The interviewer was unable to obtain a weight because the fish was gutted.
- The interviewer was unable to obtain a weight because the weight exceeded the capacity of the large scale.
- The interviewer was unable to obtain a length because the fish was damaged in some way, or only a carcass (“rack”) remained.

If length and/or weight information are missing for some fish of a species (e.g., the angler refused to have the appropriate number weighed and measured) but some weights or measurements are available, the interviewer should fill in the available weights and lengths using separate “Type 3” records. Additional records for the fish of this species with “9’s” filled in for the missing weight and length should not be added. The interviewer should use a footnote to explain why some fish were not weighed and measured.

If an angler allows an interviewer to identify and count his/her catch, but refuses to allow an interviewer to weigh/measure the catch, the interview is still “good” as long as the angler answered all key items. If all key and non-key items were obtained, it is still considered a “status 1” interview.

If length and weight information are missing on all fish of a species, the interviewer should only fill out one “Type 3” record for the species. That record would have “9’s” in the length and weight

boxes. Again, a reason for the missing data should be written on the form.

The disposition codes for the "Type 3" records are listed under Item 31. The question to be asked is: "What do you plan to do with the majority of the (species name)?" Since only one disposition can be used for each species under Item 31, it is important that the disposition is coded as to what the angler plans to do with most of the fish. For example, if an angler has caught three fish of the same species, and he/she intends to sell the largest one and eat the two smaller ones, then the interviewer should code all records with disposition as "3 - Eaten/Plan to eat." This is because more fish will be eaten than sold.

Weight should be used to determine the disposition code when the fish split evenly by number into two or more dispositions. For example, if there are exactly two fish of one species, one of which will be sold and one of which will be eaten, the interviewer should code to the disposition of the *heavier fish*.

Fifteen "Type 3" records can be entered on each Intercept Form. If more than fifteen are needed, the interviewer should use the second page of a clean Intercept Form, fill out Items 2-10 using the same information from the first form, and attach that form to the original form. In some instances, several "second pages" may be needed. As with "Type 2" records, the interviewer should mark each page as "page 1 of 2," etc.

The interviewer should never skip a "Type 3" record line on a coding form. The next fish should be entered on the next line.