

Appendix J
Letter from NMFS to Anglers



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910**

TO WHOM THIS CONCERNS:

The National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, in Silver Spring, MD, is given responsibility under the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act of 1976 for managing the nation's marine resources. This responsibility requires that information be gathered from U.S. recreational anglers pertinent to their marine fishing activities.

Interviewers are being assigned to selected fishing locations along coastal areas of the country in order to talk with marine anglers, and to count and measure their catch. Information collected by interviewers will be analyzed and used to help improve the quality of fishing for all anglers.

You are encouraged to cooperate with the interviewer at your location; however, participation is voluntary. Questions regarding the surveyor activities of the interviewer may be addressed to:

Dave Van Voorhees, Ph.D.
Division Chief
Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program
U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 12362
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
(301) 713-2328

The Survey is described in detail and actual survey data are available at our web site: <http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/index.html>. Go to the Fisheries Statistics and Economics Division and then to the Recreational Fisheries section.

The public reporting burden for the Intercept Survey portion of the Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey (OMB No. 0648-0052) is estimated to average 4.5 minutes per interview, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments concerning this burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the office listed above and/or to the:

Office of Management and Budget
Paperwork Reduction Project (0648-0052)
Washington, D.C. 20503

