

Appendix G

Private LPTS Advance Letter
For-Hire Add-on Advance Letter

October 12, 2006
John Smith
1234 Main Street
Anywhere, USA 12345

Vessel Name:<<All Aboard>>
Permit Category<<HMS Permit>>
Vessel Permit<<123456789>>
Vessel Operator<<John Smith>>
Principal Port<<State>>

Dear Mr. Smith,

Every year, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) sponsors the Large Pelagics Survey (LPS) which is designed to collect information about offshore recreational fishing for large pelagic species such as tunas, billfishes, sharks, dolphin, wahoo, and amberjack. The LPS consists of both a dockside component and a telephone survey. Information collected from the LPS is critical to managing and enhancing the recreational opportunities available in the fishery. Information on catch and effort of many important migratory species are reported to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and are used by NMFS for domestic fisheries management.

You have been selected to participate in the LPS telephone survey. QuanTech, Inc., of Arlington, Virginia is contracted to select random samples of boats from the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) permit list and contact the operators of those boats to collect information on fishing activity for large pelagic species. Your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated and is an important step toward fulfilling your mandatory reporting requirement as an HMS permit holder. Even *if you did not fish* during the reporting period indicated below it is still important that you participate in the survey.

You have been selected to report fishing activity of the All Aboard for:

10/17/2006 through 10/30/2006

Beginning on **Monday, 10/31/2006**

we will attempt to contact you by telephone to collect this information.

The enclosed form shows the kinds of information you will be requested to provide on the telephone. You can use this form to record the information during the specified weeks of fishing, but you are *not required* to complete it. *It is provided for your convenience.* On the back of the form you will find specific explanations of the types of data that will be requested in the telephone interview. You may complete the form for trips taken during the specified weeks and return it by fax to **1-877-694-8808**. If you choose to complete the survey via fax, the scheduled telephone interview should be cancelled within 24 hours of receipt of your information.

If you have any questions concerning the form or this important survey please call me at (301) 713-2328 or send an email to ron.salz@noaa.gov. If you are not planning to renew your permit, or need to schedule a better time for our interviewers to speak with you, please call QuanTech at **1-800-229-5220**. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Ronald Salz, Fishery Biologist
NOAA Fisheries

October 11, 2006

«RNAME»
 «rep_add»
 «rep_cty», «rep_st», «rep_zip»
 Dear «First_name»,

The For-Hire Survey is the official method for collecting recreational catch and effort data from the Atlantic for-hire (charter and party/headboat) fleet. For-hire vessels are sampled weekly from a coast-wide vessel directory to report trip information for the previous week's fishing activity; catch information is obtained through a dockside/at-sea field survey.

You have been selected to report fishing activity of the «vsl_name» for the week of:

«Begin_date» through «End_date»

If you are a Highly Migratory Species (HMS) permit holder, our interviewers will ask you additional questions about any trips you have taken targeting large pelagic species (e.g., tunas, sharks, billfishes, dolphin, wahoo, amberjack). This will eliminate the need for a separate Large Pelagics Survey telephone interview, and is an important step toward fulfilling your mandatory reporting requirement as an HMS permit holder.

The enclosed logsheet can be used to record your trip information during the specified week of fishing (instructions are provided on the back). Beginning **Monday, «Call_Date»**, we will attempt to contact you by telephone to collect this information or you can:

- Logon to <http://forhire.fishingsurvey.com> beginning **Monday, «Call_Date»** using your assigned PIN provided below;
- Schedule/initiate a phone interview by calling the following toll-free hotline:
1-800-229-5220; or
- Fax the enclosed logsheet to the following toll-free fax number: **1-877-694-8808**.

If you participate in the Northeast Region's Vessel Trip Report (VTR) program, you may fax in your VTRs for the week you have been selected to report. If we do not receive a fax, you will be contacted as indicated above.

If you have any questions concerning the alternate reporting options or this important survey in general, please contact me at (301) 713-2328 or send an email to ron.salz@noaa.gov. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Ronald Salz, *Fishery Biologist*
 NOAA Fisheries

Vessel Name:	«vsl_name»
Vessel Number:	«vsl_num»
PIN:	«pin»
HMS Permit:	Yes