

MRIP Primer

**Prepared for the Maryland SFAC
April 25, 2017**

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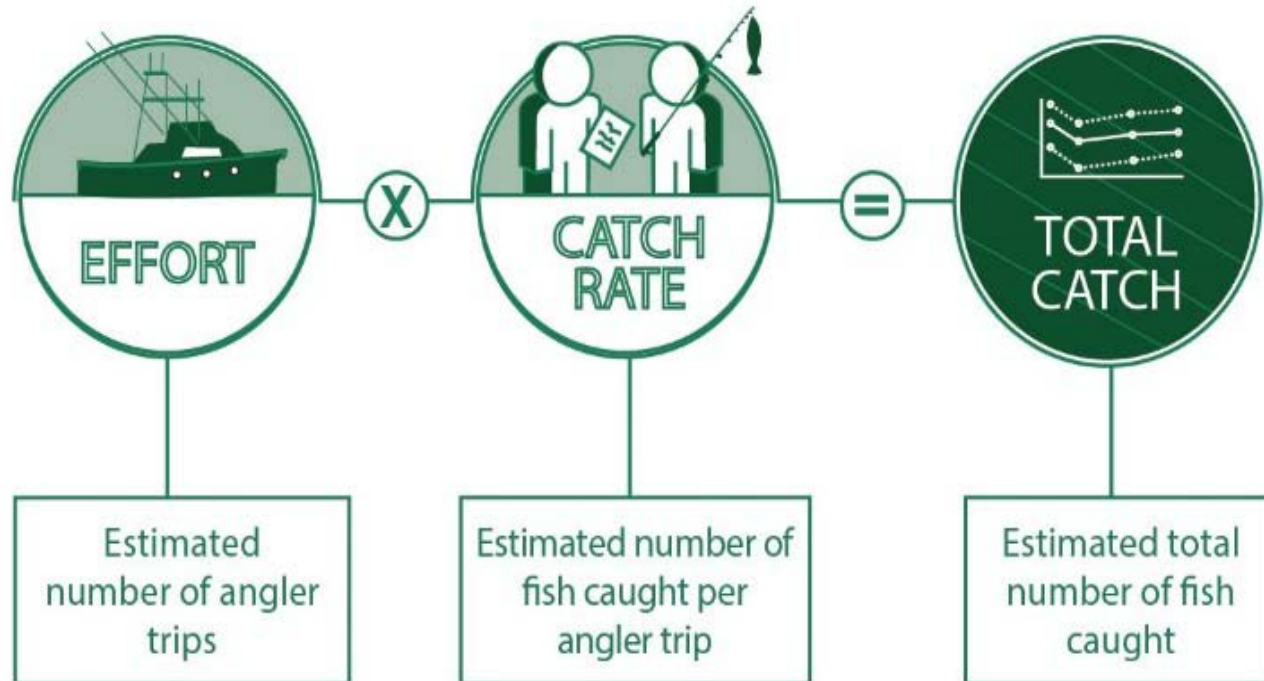
What is MRIP?

- MRIP stands for **M**arine **R**ecreation **I**nformation **P**rogram.
- MRIP is a project conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) to produce estimates of recreational saltwater fishing along the Atlantic Coast, Gulf of Mexico, Pacific coast and in Hawaii.
- MRIP is made up of *several* surveys.



How does it work?

It's a simple idea.....



How does it work?

Two main surveys collect information on the number of angler trips -



by private anglers, fishing on boats or from shore
The Coastal Household Telephone Survey

by anglers on For-Hire vessels
The For-Hire Survey



One main survey collects information on catch rate –
The Access Point Angler Intercept Survey

Maryland's saltwater recreational fishery



Most Maryland saltwater fishing is in Chesapeake Bay.

There are approximately 2.5 million saltwater angler trips in Maryland each year.

Each year, about 3500 Maryland saltwater anglers are interviewed after a fishing trip.



Maryland's saltwater recreational fishery

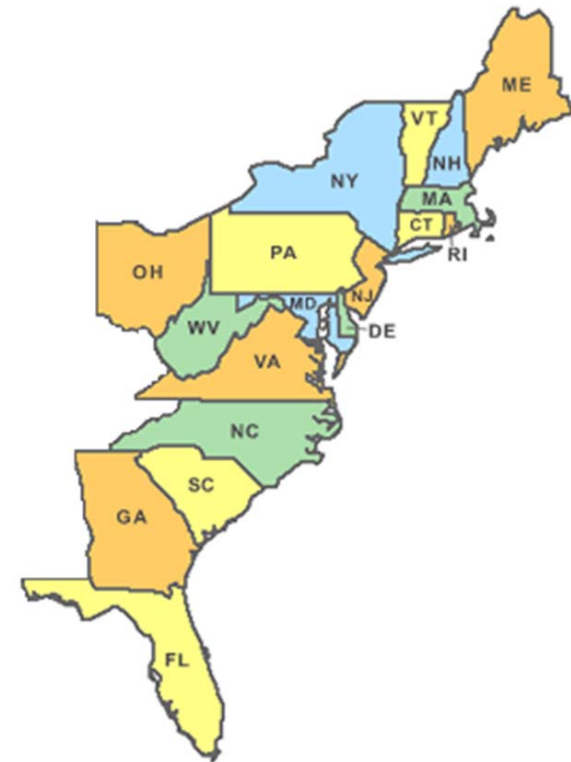


	10-YEAR AVERAGE HARVEST <i>(NUMBERS OF FISH)</i>	10-YEAR AVERAGE PRECISION <i>(< 25 IS GOOD!)</i>
WHITE PERCH	1,701,000	23
SPOT	1,576,000	24
CROAKER	928,000	23
STRIPED BASS	498,000	13
BLUEFISH	320,000	24
SUMMER FLOUNDER	51,000	36
BLACK SEA BASS	49,000	20
TAUTOG	20,000	46

How is MRIP used?

Recreational fishing information is used in 2 ways in management of migratory saltwater species:

- As input for multi-state stock assessments;
- To adjust regional and state quotas.



Who runs MRIP – and why is it changing?



The National Marine Fisheries Service is required by federal law to collect recreational fishing data.

1981: MRFSS -*Marine Recreational Fishing Statistical Survey*.

2006: The National Research Council's critical review of the MRFSS, recommending substantial changes.

MRIP is "the new MRFSS".



What changes have already been made?

2008-2011: The *ESTIMATION PROCEDURES* were overhauled.

2012: Revised harvest values were published.



What changes have already been made?



The *Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS)* collects data from recreational fishermen returning from trips to calculate **CATCH RATE**.

2013: Survey design changes started.

2016: Maryland took over field management of the APAIS....



... introducing Angela and Nestina & staff!

What changes have already been made?



2012:

The *National Saltwater Angler Registry* was implemented to improve sampling for the *private angler effort survey*.



What changes have already been made?

2013-2015:

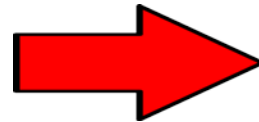
Pilot studies were done to improve the *private angler effort survey, the Coastal Household Telephone Survey (CHTS)* .

2016:

MRIP is now *also* conducting a mail survey called the *Fishing Effort Survey (FES)*.

2017:

MRIP will drop the *CHTS*.



What changes are still coming?

2016-2017:

MRIP is studying changes to the *For-Hire Survey*.

2016-2017:

MRIP is developing a ***calibration model*** to understand the differences between the estimates produced by the old and new methods.

This should be completed in 2017.



What changes are still coming?



2018:

Once a calibration model has been approved, new catch statistics will be published.

The revised estimates will be incorporated into stock assessments starting in 2018.

If recreational harvest estimates increase, this will likely result in larger estimates of stock sizes.

A VERY COMPLEX PROCESS.....

What changes are still coming?



We would like to see more precise estimates for our Coastal fisheries.

We plan to work with NOAA to improve sampling of black sea bass, tautog and summer flounder.



Are MRIP results reliable?

MRIP *generally* provides good annual estimates for species that are caught

*often,
across a wide area,
by many anglers.*



VS



It *cannot* produce good estimates for “rare event” species, for short time periods, for specific fishing modes.

Are MRIP results reliable?

Problems happen when the “odd” MRIP estimates are applied by management without accounting for these limitations!

There are 2 solutions:



Spend *millions* of dollars to sample *lots* more anglers.
We don't have that money.

Modify management to account for MRIP's limitations.
This is a complex process that will involve *changing federal law*.

More questions?