

## **FOR HIRE FISHING OPERATIONS**

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION**

#### **1. Authorizations to Collect the Information**

The National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 USC 1431, et seq.) authorizes the Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary to establish regulations to protect sanctuary resources or resolve user conflicts. This act also authorizes the Sanctuary to do research and collect information necessary for evaluating new regulations or monitoring the effects of existing and new regulations.

#### **2. How the Information Will Be Used**

The Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary has developed a public process to evaluate and revise its current management plan and regulations. Through this public process and in consultation with the Sanctuary Advisory Council, the Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary has revised its regulations to include a prohibition on spear fishing. In addition, alternatives have been evaluated a preferred alternative submitted to review and clearance in the regulatory process to create a research only area. The information will be used in monitoring and evaluating the socioeconomic impacts of Sanctuary management strategies and regulations.

#### **3. Statement of Burden**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average about three hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing burden, to Dr. Vernon R. (Bob) Leeworthy, Chief Economist, National Ocean Service, office of National marine Sanctuaries, 1305 East West Highway, SSMC 4, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Reference OMB Control Number 0648-xxxx, Expiration Date: xxxxxxxx.

#### **4. Your Participation and Protections of Proprietary Information**

Your participation is voluntary. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

The information in this survey will be treated as sensitive and protected to the extent that it satisfies the criteria for exemption under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. §552, and the Trade Secrets Act, 18 U.S.C. §1905. Any identifying information (name, name of business, address and telephone number) will be viewed only by the contractor while collecting and compiling the data. The contractor will destroy the identifying information when the databases are transmitted to NOAA.

Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_ OMB No. 0648-xxxx Exp. Date: xxxxxxxxxxxx

Location of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_

Recreational For Hire Fishing Operations in Georgia and GRNMS (Part 1)

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1. Which of the following includes your age?

18-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 over 60

2a. Are you Hispanic or Latino YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

2b. What is your race? (Mark one or more)

\_\_\_ White \_\_\_ Black or African American \_\_\_ American Indian or Alaska Native

\_\_\_ Asian \_\_\_ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

3. How many family members do you support (including yourself)?

Myself only 2 3 4 5 6 7 Greater and 7

4. Are you a member of any of the following groups?

a. Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

b. Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

c. American Sports Fishing Association (ASA) YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

d. Southern Kingfish Association (SKA) YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

d. Chamber of Commerce YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

e. An Environmental Group YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

f. Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

5. What is your primary port/marina? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you have a secondary port/marina, from where you fish part of the year? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

- If YES, then which one? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. How many years have you been a charter/party boat operator? \_\_\_\_ (number of years)
8. How many years have you been a charter/party operator in the ocean & coastal areas off Georgia? \_\_\_\_ (number of years)
9. Have you ever taken fishermen to the Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary? (Interviewer—Please show map) YES \_\_ NO \_\_
  - If YES, how many years have you taken fishermen to the Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary? \_\_\_\_ (number of years)
10. What approximate percentage of your total business income is derived from the charter/party boat operation? \_\_\_\_%
11. What approximate percentage of your TOTAL personal income is derived from the charter/party boat operation? \_\_\_\_ %
12. What approximate percentage of your TOTAL household income is derived from the charter/party boat operation? \_\_\_\_ %
13. How would you describe your fishing operation? (Mark one or more)  
\_\_\_\_ Full-time Charter Boat operation    \_\_ Part-time Charter Boat operation  
\_\_\_\_ Seasonal Charter Boat operation    If seasonal, what months \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Full-time Party/Head Boat operation    \_\_ Part-time Party/Head boat operation  
\_\_\_\_ Seasonal Party/Head boat operation    If seasonal, what months \_\_\_\_\_

**ECONOMIC INFORMATION**

14. Number of boats/vessels at the operation: \_\_\_\_ (number of vessels)
15. Capacity of fishermen per vessel in operation:  
Vessel 1: \_\_\_\_ fishermen    Vessel 2: \_\_\_\_ fishermen  
Vessel 3: \_\_\_\_ fishermen    Vessel 4: \_\_\_\_ fishermen
16. Number of employees at the operation:  
a. Full time \_\_\_\_    b. Part time \_\_\_\_    c. Seasonal \_\_\_\_
17. Please provide your best estimate of the replacement value of the following items that you used last year (fill in year \_\_\_\_).
  - a. Vessel(s) and electronic equipment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Diving and snorkeling gear: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Compressors \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Rods/Reels \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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e. Other gear (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

18. Outstanding balance on loan amounts for vessels and equipment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

19. Please provide your best estimate for the following expenses last year:

Permits/Licenses: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Docking fees: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Interest payments on vessel(s): \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
P&I insurance on vessel(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Maintenance/repair on vessel/electronic equipment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Maintenance on rods/reels: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Maintenance/repair on other equipment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Advertising: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Office rent/mortgage: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Office utilities (electric, water, telephone, Internet): \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Depreciation on vessel and equipment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Business taxes: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

20. Please provide your best estimate for the following trip related expenses last year:

Fuel/oil: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Ice: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Food/Supplies: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Bait: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Captain wages & salaries (if not owner-captain): \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Crew wages & salaries Number: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

21. Please provide your best estimate of your total business revenues last year:  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

22. Please provide your best estimate of your total revenues and/or percent of total revenues (from Question 21) last year by each geographic area: (See map for definitions of each area)

All Areas	\$ _____	% _____
Georgia outside GRNMS	\$ _____	% _____
GRNMS	\$ _____	% _____

**PERSON DAYS AND TRIP COSTS**

23. Please provide your best estimate of the number person days by type of activity for last year and the percentage of person days by activity and area. (Interviewer – show map of areas). A person day is one person for a whole day or any part of a day. 10 people on-board for an overnight trip would be 20 person days.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Total Person-days</b>	<b>All Areas (%)</b>	<b>Georgia Outside GRNMS (%)</b>	<b>Inside GRNMS (%)</b>
Bottom fishing				
Trolling/Drifting				
Spear fishing				
All Activities				

24. Please provide your best estimate of the cost per day for a typical day of operation by activity.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Fuel/Oil</b>	<b>Ice</b>	<b>Bait</b>	<b>Food/Supplies</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Crew</b>	<b>Captain (if not owner)</b>
Bottom fishing							
Trolling/Drifting							
Spear fishing							

25. Please provide the percentage of your person days of operation across each 1-minute by 1-minute grid cell for each activity. This is a forward looking rather than just your past activity patterns. We want to know where you expect you will conduct your activities in the future. This will be used to assess the possible impacts of any future zoning of areas by GRNMS.

Coding sheet attached.

**For Hire Fishing Operators in GRNMS Part 2.**

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND PERCEPTIONS**

1. Please list the sources of information that you have received in the past on the GRNNMS and score them to your level of trust. Score level of trust 1=No trust at all, 2=very little trust, 3=neither trust nor distrust, 4=trust very much, and 5=completely trust.

SOURCE	Sources Used	Trust Sources
a. FGBNMS website	_____	_____
b. FGBNMS Staff	_____	_____
c. Sanctuary Advisory Council	_____	_____
d. FGBNMS brochures/literature	_____	_____
e. FGBNMS signage	_____	_____
f. Information in newspapers	_____	_____
g. Radio	_____	_____
h. TV	_____	_____
i. Word of mouth	_____	_____
j. Social Media (Twitter, You Tube, etc)	_____	_____
k. Others (please specify, include people like a marina manager, fishing guide, other anglers, local community leader, family member, friend, etc.)	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

For the next set of questions, please provide your answer on a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means **Strongly agree**, 2 means **Moderately agree**, 3 means **Neutral**, 4 means **Moderately disagree**, and 5 means **Strongly disagree**

2. The process that NOAA has used to develop rules and regulations for the GRNMS was open and fair to all groups.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

3. The process has used by NOAA to develop boundaries and regulations for the GRNMS zones was open and fair to all groups.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

4. It has not mattered whether the average person participated in the workshops and meeting on the GRNMS because the average person could not influence the final decisions.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

5. NOAA has not addressed the concerns of other federal and state governments in developing rules and regulations for the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

6. NOAA has not addressed the concerns of individual citizens in developing rules and regulations for the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

7. Once that the GRNMS regulations have been in effect, there has been no way that the average person to voice his/her opinion on the usefulness of the regulations.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

8. The procedures that NOAA has established to deal with violations of GRNMS regulations have been fair and just.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

**NOTES**

**ATTITUDES ABOUT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND REGULATION**

In this section, we want to know what you think about current and proposed management strategies in the GRNMS, the effects of those management strategies and regulations, and how you think the GRNMS management has performed.

In management plan review public scoping and Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings, GRNMS has recently expanded its regulations to include a prohibition on spear fishing. In addition, in consultation with the Sanctuary Advisory Council and public meetings, GRNMS has evaluated several alternatives for a research only area in which all activities would be prohibited, except research and education.

For the next set of questions, please provide your answer on a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means **Strongly agree**, 2 means **Moderately agree**, 3 means **Neutral**, 4 means **Moderately disagree**, and 5 means **Strongly disagree**

9. I support the GRNMS as it is currently established.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

10. I support the establishment of a research only area in the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

11. A research only area in the GRNMS would have a positive impact on the marine environment.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

12. There should be more areas set aside as a research only areas in the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

13. I support the prohibition of spear fishing in the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

14. There has been a net economic benefit to the coastal Georgia economy from the establishment of the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

15. Charter/Party boat fishing operations have benefited from the establishment of the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

16. GRNMS regulations have had no effect on my business.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

17. I support the no anchoring regulations in the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

18. I support the current no discharge regulations in the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

19. I support the current no harvest of bottom formations or taking of invertebrates inside the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

20. I support the rod-and-reel or hand line only fishing regulation in the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

21. I support the no taking of marine mammals and turtles in the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

22. I support the requirement of using a mooring buoy instead of anchoring in the GRNMS with the limit of vessel size for mooring use of 100 feet or less.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

23. I support stricter regulations on discharging of pollutants in the GRNMS.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

**OMB No. 0648-xxxx. Expiration date: xxxxxxxx.**

24. Please rate the status/condition of the following resources at GRNMS by their status/condition since the implementation of the GRNMS (1981), where 1 is much better and 5 is much worse.

RESOURCE	Better ←-----→ Worse					
a. Water quality	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
b. Sea-based pollution/marine debris	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
c. Live bottom habitat	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
d. Other bottom habitat	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
e. Fish populations (bottom fish)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
f. Fish populations (other fish)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
g. Other sea life (abundance)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
h. Other sea life (diversity)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
i. Mooring buoys	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
j. Invasive species (lionfish)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

25. The GRNMS is mostly responsible for the status/condition of the resources that you rated in the previous question.

1      2      3      4      5      I don't know

26. In which area(s) has the GRNMS been most successful?

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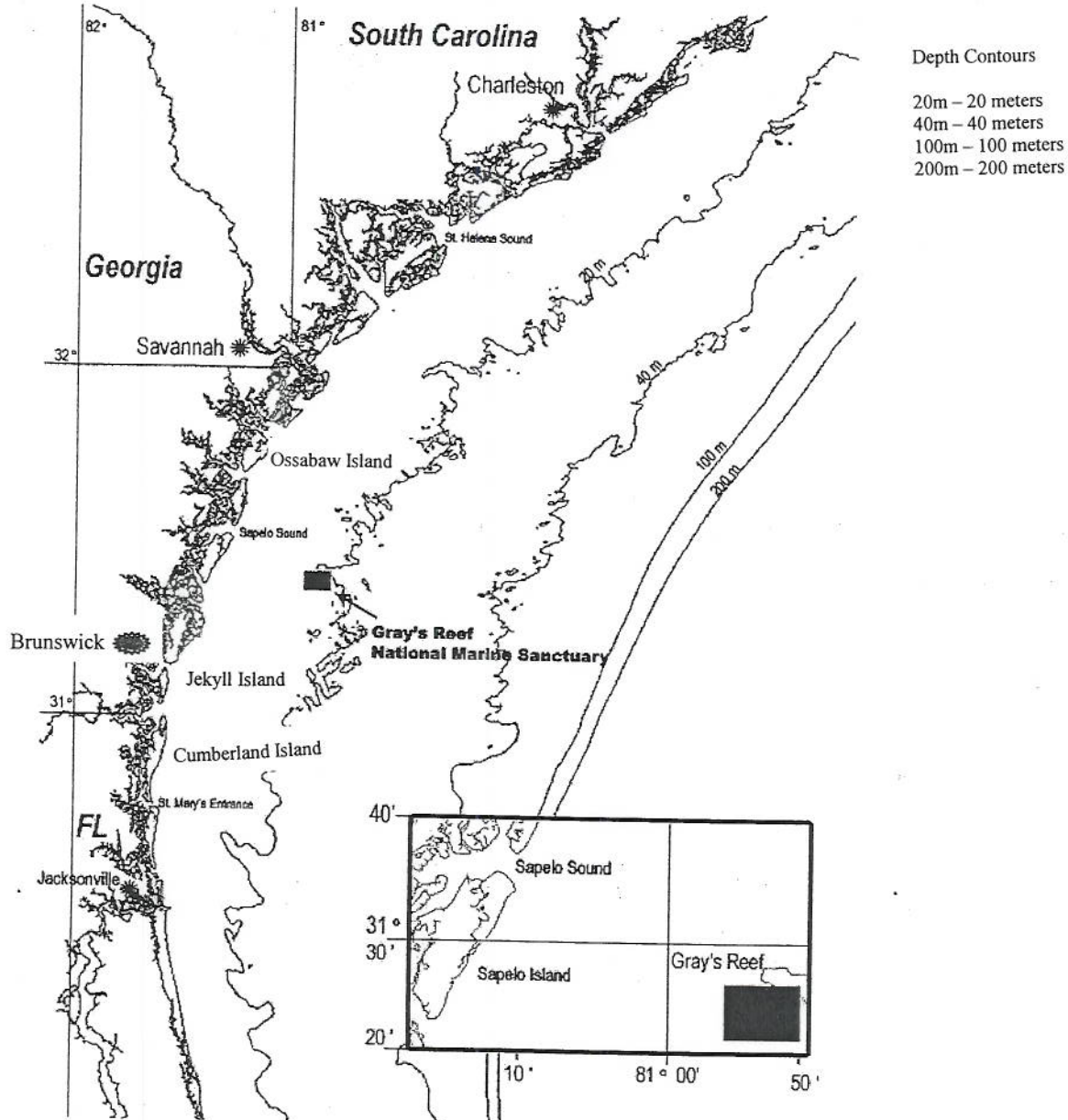
27. In which area(s) has the GRNMS been least successful?

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**Definition.** Ocean areas include the Atlantic Ocean and coastal areas include inland bays, estuaries and tidally influenced portions of rivers where fresh and saltwater mix.

### Map of Coastal & Ocean Georgia and GRNMS



- Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary (GRNMS) is located 16 miles offshore of Sapelo Island, Georgia.
- GRNMS is 22-square miles and contains rocky ledges and sandy flats.
- GRNMS is a popular recreational fishing site with some diving.
- No commercial fishing currently takes place in GRNMS, but it is not prohibited.