



ROY COOPER
Governor

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2021 North Carolina Catch Card Program for Recreational Landed Bluefin Tuna, Swordfish, Billfishes, and Sharks

As part of the coastal effort to improve estimates of recreational catches of Atlantic bluefin tuna, blue marlin, white marlin, roundscale spearfish, sailfish, and **swordfish**, the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries designed a Catch Card Program to monitor these species. This program requires mandatory reporting using a catch card and tag for all bluefin tuna, blue marlin, white marlin, roundscale spearfish, sailfish, and **swordfish** recreationally landed in North Carolina and all dead bluefin released. Sharks are voluntarily reported at this time.

- Your vessel must have a valid Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) permit from the National Marine Fisheries Service to fish for or keep Atlantic bluefin tuna, blue marlin, white marlin, roundscale spearfish, sailfish, and **swordfish**. A person with an HMS permit for their vessel cannot transfer the fish to another vessel without a permit.
- Anglers are required to complete a North Carolina Billfish, Shark and Tuna Catch Card and tag their catch. Catch cards and HMS tags are available from reporting stations (see below). Anglers who arrive to the dock after business hours may use the After Hours Reporting hotline (1-800-682-2632). The HMS tag must be affixed to the bluefin tuna, blue marlin, white marlin, roundscale spearfish, sailfish, and **swordfish** prior to its removal from the vessel. Bluefin tuna, blue marlin, white marlin, roundscale spearfish, sailfish, and **swordfish** aboard trailered vessels are required to have the tag affixed to the fish before the vessel is removed from the water.

Completing a catch card is fast. Most information can be copied from your Highly Migratory Species Permit. The catch card is perforated down the middle to provide the angler with a receipt.

| REPORTING SITE | LOCATION | TELEPHONE |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Anchorage Marina | Atlantic Beach | 252-726-4423 |
| Captain Stacy Fishing Center | Atlantic Beach | 252-726-4675 |
| Chasin Tails Outdoors | Atlantic Beach | 252-240-3474 |
| Seawater Marina | Atlantic Beach | 252-726-1637 |
| Olde Towne Yacht Club | Beaufort | 252-726-3066 |
| Town Creek Marina | Beaufort | 252-728-6111 |
| Hurricane Fishing Center | Calabash | 910-579-3660 |
| Harker's Island Fishing Center | Harker's Island | 252-728-3907 |
| Hatteras Harbor Marina | Hatteras | 252-986-2166 |
| Oden's Dock | Hatteras | 252-986-2555 |
| Teach's Lair Marina | Hatteras | 252-986-2460 |
| Holden Beach Marina | Holden Beach | 910-842-5447 |
| Oregon Inlet Fishing Center | Manteo | 252-441-6301 |
| Pirate's Cove | Manteo | 252-473-3906 |
| Shallowbag Bay Marina | Manteo | 252-305-8726 |
| Carolina Princess | Morehead City | 252-726-5479 |
| Portside Marina | Morehead City | 252-726-7678 |
| Ocean Isle Fishing Center | Ocean Isle | 910-575-3474 |
| Anchorage Marina | Ocracoke | 252-928-6661 |
| Southport Marina | Southport | 910-457-9900 |
| Outer Banks Marina | Wanchese | 252-473-9991 |
| Bridge Tender Marina | Wrightsville Beach | 910-256-6550 |
| Creekside Yacht Club | Wrightsville Beach | 910-350-0023 |

NC Recreational Highly Migratory Species Reporting Requirements:

<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/hms-reporting-requirements>

Identification Information: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/find-species>