**Recreational Angler Survey of Sea Turtle Interactions**

**Shore-Based Angler Intercept Survey**

**Date:\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ Time:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(use 24 h) Survey ID:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Survey #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Site Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Data Collector: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Residential State:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Residential Zip Code:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ # of Anglers:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ # of Lines in Water\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Where was angler fishing?**  F) Pier: First 1/3, near land M) Pier: Middle 1/3 E) Pier: End 1/3, over water S) Shore B) Boat O) Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Is the angler:**  A) Active (i.e. artificial/casting and reeling) I) Inactive (i.e. not moving rod & reel)

1. **How long have you been fishing today?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**hours (record in decimals, i.e. 0.5 h)**
2. **What time of day do you usually fish at this location? (Circle all that apply)**

M) Morning A) Afternoon E) Evening N) Night AD) All day V) Varies

1. **During what seasons do you fish at this location? (Circle all that apply)** J-Just started (1st or 2nd time fishing)

Sp) Spring (Mar-May) Su) Summer (Jun-Aug) F) Fall (Sep-Nov) W) Winter (Dec-Feb)

1. **During each season mentioned above, how many days per season do you fish at this location?**

A) Just started (1st or 2nd time fishing) B) Infrequent (1-5 days/season) C) Moderate (6-15 days/season)

D) Often (16-30 days/season) E) Frequent (30+ days/season)

**Sp) Spring (Mar-May):\_\_\_\_\_ Su) Summer (Jun-Aug):\_\_\_\_\_ F) Fall (Sep-Nov):\_\_\_\_\_ W) Winter Dec-Feb):\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **What are you fishing for today? (If more than 2, circle Anything)**

A) Anything B) Catfish C) Croaker D) Drum (Red/Redfish/Black) E) Flounder

F) Ground mullet/Whiting G) Mackerel (King/Spanish) H) Trout I) Shark

J) Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **How many poles are you fishing?** 1 2 3 4 >4
2. **Are all your fishing poles rigged the same way?** YES **(record Q8-14 in Pole 1**) NO (**if no, record Q8-14 for each pole**)
3. **How many hooks per pole?**

A) All poles or Pole 1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B) Pole 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_ C) Pole 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_ D) Pole 4:\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **What type of line connects to your hook?**  M) Monofilament B) Braid D) Dacron W) Wire (single or multi strand)

Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A) All poles or Pole 1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B) Pole 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_ C) Pole 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_ D) Pole 4:\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **What type of hook are you using?** JI) J-hook, inline JO) J-hook, offset CO) Circle, offset CI) Circle, inline K) Kahle G) Jig T) Treble Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A) All poles or Pole 1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B) Pole 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_ C) Pole 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_ D) Pole 4:\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Is the hook barbless?** N) No Y) Yes

A) All poles or Pole 1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B) Pole 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_ C) Pole 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_ D) Pole 4:\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **What is the hook length (mm)? Measure length for all hook types. (Length = top of the hook to the bottom)**

A) All poles or Pole 1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B) Pole 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_ C) Pole 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_ D) Pole 4:\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **If the hook is a circle hook, the gape should be measured (mm). (Gape = tip of the point to the inside of the shaft)**

A) All poles or Pole 1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B) Pole 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_ C) Pole 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_ D) Pole 4:\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **What bait are you using today?** DS) Dead shrimp LS) Live shrimp S) Squid C) Crab AR) Artificial

W) Whole fish (live/dead? what kind?): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CB) Cut bait/fish (what kind?):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

O) Other (what kind?):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ A) All poles or Pole 1:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B) Pole 2:\_\_\_\_\_\_ C) Pole 3:\_\_\_\_\_\_ D) Pole 4:\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **What do you do with your unused bait?**

T) Throw in water G) Give to other angler H) Take home D) Discard elsewhere N) Never have unused bait

1. **Where do you usually clean your fish?** D) Do not clean fish S) on site H) at home O) Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. **If on site, where do you discard fish remains?** W) Water T) Trash can O) Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The next several questions all deal with what you have observed in the last 6 months while fishing at this location:**

**18. Have you observed sea turtles in the water around this location?** NO YES

**19. Have you observed sea turtles eating discarded bait near this location?** NO YES

**20. Have you observed anyone catch a sea turtle at this location?** NO YES

**21. What would you do if you caught/hooked a sea turtle?**

A) Report incident to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B) Cut line C) Take to wildlife rehab D) Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**22. Have YOU caught a sea turtle at this location?** NO YES

**END OF SURVEY IF PARTICIPANT DID NOT CATCH ANY SEA TURTLES OR ASK BELOW QUESTIONS**

**23. If YES, How many?** A) \_\_\_\_\_\_ within last 30 days B) \_\_\_\_\_\_2-3 months ago C) \_\_\_\_\_\_4-6 months ago

**24. What time were the turtle(s) caught?** A) Daytime (8 am – 8 pm) B) Nighttime (8 pm – 8 am) C) Both

A) \_\_\_\_\_\_ within last 30 days B) \_\_\_\_\_\_2-3 months ago C) \_\_\_\_\_\_4-6 months ago

**25. Have you caught or hooked a sea turtle today?** NO YES

**26. Was the most recently captured sea turtle:**  H) Hooked E) Entangled HE) Hooked & entangled

U) Unknown O) Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**27. If hooked, could you tell where the sea turtle was hooked? External is anywhere on the body, flippers or head.**

E) External M) Inside mouth S) Swallowed NS) Not sure

**28. If hooked, was the hook removed?** NO YES Not sure

**29. Was all the line removed?** NO YES Not sure

**30. If NO: amount of line remaining \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ feet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ inches**

**31. What happened to the sea turtle?**

A) Turtle released on site with ALL gear removed B) Turtle released on site with some gear attached C) Turtle collected by rehab facility staff

**32. How was the sea turtle landed?**  A) Used a net B) Pulled up by line C) Walked to shore D) Not landed

**33. Were there any tags/markings on sea turtle?** NO YES (circle all that apply): F) Flipper S) Satellite P) Paint

**34. Did you notify anyone about the capture? (Rehab facility, state or federal agency)** YES NO

**35. If YES, who did you call?** R) Rehab facility S) State agency F) Federal agency O) Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**36. If NO, why was the turtle capture not reported?** A) Did not know B) No phone C) Afraid to get in trouble

D) Did not want to wait/unable to wait for rehab staff E) Too time consuming

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**Additional questions on other protected species.**

(Regionally specific species)

**Sturgeon**

1. **Would you recognize a sturgeon if caught?** NO YES
2. **If yes, have you caught a sturgeon in the last 6 months while fishing at this location?** NO YES

**Sawfish**

1. **Would you recognize a sawfish if caught?** NO YES
2. **If yes, have you caught a sawfish in the last 6 months while fishing at this location?** NO YES

**Marine Mammals**

1. **In the last 6 months, have you observed a marine mammal while fishing at this location?** NO YES
2. **If yes, what kind of marine mammal?** A) Seal B) Dolphin C) Porpoise D) Whale E) Unknown
3. **Have you caught a marine mammal in the last 6 months while fishing at this location?** NO YES
4. **If yes, what kind of marine mammal?** A) Seal B) Dolphin C) Porpoise D) Whale E) Unknown
5. **In the last 6 months, how many dolphins have tried to take bait or catch off of your gear?**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Record number 0 or greater)

1. **In the last 6 months, how many dolphins have become hooked or entangled in your gear?**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Record number 0 or greater)

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**PRA STATEMEN**T   
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**Expiration Date: 12/31/2026**

1. **SURVEY JUSTIFICATION**

Collection of these data on sea turtle interactions in the pier-based recreational fishing sector is necessary to fulfill statutory requirements of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.) Section 7 analysis, and will provide necessary data for the conservation and recovery of endangered and threatened sea turtle populations.

**B. SURVEY PURPOSE**

The sea turtle interaction data that will be collected via this survey collection will be used by NOAA Fisheries protected species managers to evaluate the impacts of recreational fishing on sea turtle populations. Analysis of data collected from this survey will be used in agency documents, such as ESA Section 7 Biological Opinions and other regulatory documents. These documents are disseminated to the public, but the raw survey results will not be disseminated to the public. NOAA Fisheries will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with NOAA standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information.

**C. PUBLIC BURDEN**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, 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 regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to Sara Wissmann, NOAA Fisheries, Office of Protected Resources, sara.wissmann@noaa.gov.  
  
**D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Participation in this survey is voluntary. The information collected will be protected and kept anonymous if released. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subjected to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.