

THIS IS A VOLUNTARY SURVEY

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

3. 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)

4. 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): _____

5. 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: _____

6. How many poles are you fishing? 1 2 3 4 >4

7. 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)

8. How many hooks per pole?
A) All poles or Pole 1: _____ B) Pole 2: _____ C) Pole 3: _____ D) Pole 4: _____

9. 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: _____

10. 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: _____

11. Is the hook barbless? N) No Y) Yes
A) All poles or Pole 1: _____ B) Pole 2: _____ C) Pole 3: _____ D) Pole 4: _____

12. 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: _____

13. 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: _____

14. 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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15. 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

16. Where do you usually clean your fish? D) Do not clean fish S) on site H) at home O) Other _____

17. 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

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

Marine Mammals

- 5. In the last 6 months, have you observed a marine mammal while fishing at this location? NO YES
- 6. If yes, what kind of marine mammal? A) Seal B) Dolphin C) Porpoise D) Whale E) Unknown
- 7. Have you caught a marine mammal in the last 6 months while fishing at this location? NO YES
- 8. If yes, what kind of marine mammal? A) Seal B) Dolphin C) Porpoise D) Whale E) Unknown
- 9. In the last 6 months, how many dolphins have tried to take bait or catch off of your gear?
_____ (Record number 0 or greater)
- 10. In the last 6 months, how many dolphins have become hooked or entangled in your gear?
_____ (Record number 0 or greater)

PRA STATEMENT
Recreational Angler Survey of Sea Turtle Interactions
OMB Control Number: XXXX-XXXX
Expiration Date: 12/31/2026

A. 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.