

2022 Maryland Catch Card Census Program

The department and National Marine Fisheries Service designed a Catch Card Census program to monitor recreational landings of bluefin tuna, swordfish, billfishes, and sharks. This mandatory reporting program uses a catch card and tag for all bluefin tuna, swordfish, blue marlin, white marlin, roundscale spearfish, sailfish, and sharks (except spiny dogfish) recreationally landed in Maryland.

- **The vessel owner must have a valid Atlantic highly migratory species permit** from the National Marine Fisheries Service to fish for or keep bluefin tuna, swordfish, billfishes, or sharks in Federal waters. A person with a highly migratory species permit for their vessel cannot use that permit on a different vessel.
- **Anglers are required by regulation to complete the appropriate catch card(s)**, which are available from reporting stations or online; return the completed card(s) to a reporting station in the Ocean City area to obtain a landing tag. **This tag must be affixed** to the bluefin tuna, swordfish, billfish, or shark prior to its removal from the vessel. Bluefin tuna, swordfish, billfishes, or sharks on board trailered vessels are required to have the tag affixed to the fish before the vessel is removed from the water. If you land a shark from the beach please visit the nearest reporting station for a card and tag. The kiosk only has cards available and the detachable receipt replaces the tag. **Anglers must keep the receipt** and drop the completed card in the locked mailbox. The kiosk at the Colonel Jack Taylor Boathouse is to be used only after reporting stations are closed.
- Completing a catch card is fast because most information can be copied from your highly migratory species permit. PDFs of the catch cards are available online at dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/coastal/tagging.aspx. You can fill it out on the way to the reporting station to get your tag and save time. Please **do not forget to report your live and dead releases on the catch cards**. There is no penalty for dead releases. If turning in several catch cards for the same vessel/species per day, please fill in the releases on only one card per species. This information meets a reporting requirement to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

Reporting Station Information

Station	Address	City	Phone	Billfishes / Swordfish	Bluefin Tuna	Sharks	Time
Alltackle	12826 B Ocean Gateway	Ocean City	(410) 213-2840	X	X	X	Business Hours
Atlantic Tackle	12930 Sunset Ave.	Ocean City	(410) 213-0421	X	X	X	Business Hours
Bahia Marina	2107 Herring Way	Ocean City	(410) 289-7438	X	X	X	Business Hours
Buck's	11848 Assateague Rd.	Berlin, MD	(443) 513-4661			X	Business Hours
Fisherman's Marina	12806 Sunset Ave.	Ocean City	(410) 213-2478	X	X	X	Business Hours
Ocean City Fishing Center	12940 Inlet Isle Lane West	Ocean City	(410) 213-1121	X	X	X	Business Hours
Pines Point Provisions and Seafood	869 Yacht Club Drive	Ocean Pines	(410) 641-2248	X	X	X	Business Hours
Sunset Marina	12911 Sunset Ave.	Ocean City	(410) 213-9600	X	X	X	Business Hours
Talbot Street Pier & Marina	311 Talbot St.	Ocean City	(410) 289-9125	X	X	X	Business Hours
White Marlin Marina	205 Somerset St.	Ocean City	(410) 289-6470	X	X	X	Business Hours
Maryland Department of Natural Resources	Colonel Jack Taylor Boathouse 12917 Harbor Road	Ocean City	(410) 213-1531	X	X	X	After Business Hours

The NOAA Fisheries Atlantic HMS Compliance Guides, identification and catch and release information is available online: www.fisheries.noaa.gov/atlantic-highly-migratory-species/atlantic-highly-migratory-species-fishery-compliance-guides.

Dusky, sandbar, and many other sharks are prohibited. If you cannot identify the species, let it go in the water.

While retention of shortfin makos is still allowed as of April 1, 2022, changes to the regulations are forthcoming to implement the recent ICCAT recommendation. Individuals should monitor the Atlantic HMS website (<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/atlantic-highly-migratory-species>) under Notices and Rules for updates.



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This document is available in alternative format upon request.