

Design and Estimation for Recreational Fisheries Surveys

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We describe new design and estimation approaches being implemented for US recreational marine fisheries surveys. The goal of the surveys is to estimate total recreational catch and its characteristics for fish species of interest. This multi-year development project is a collaborative effort with US National Marine Fisheries Service scientists and included a large-scale field pilot study in 2010. We discuss some of the challenges associated with implementing statistically valid angler intercept surveys for the full coastline of the US, and the solutions proposed to address them.

Key words: intercept survey, weighting, relative efficiency comparison.