

Science, Service, Stewardship



**Fisheries Forum 2011:
Considerations in Use of
Angler Registries as
Survey Sample Frames**

**NOAA
FISHERIES
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Improving Fishing Effort Surveys

From The NRC Review:

- “Offsite sampling methods that rely on telephone interviews are complicated by the increasing use of cellular telephones...”
- “The existing random digit dialing (RDD) survey suffers in efficiency from the low proportion of fishing households among the general population and may allow bias in estimation from its restriction to coastal counties only.”
- “Reliance on fishing license-based lists of saltwater anglers is not yet feasible...”
- “Dual-frame procedures should be used wherever possible to reduce sample bias.”

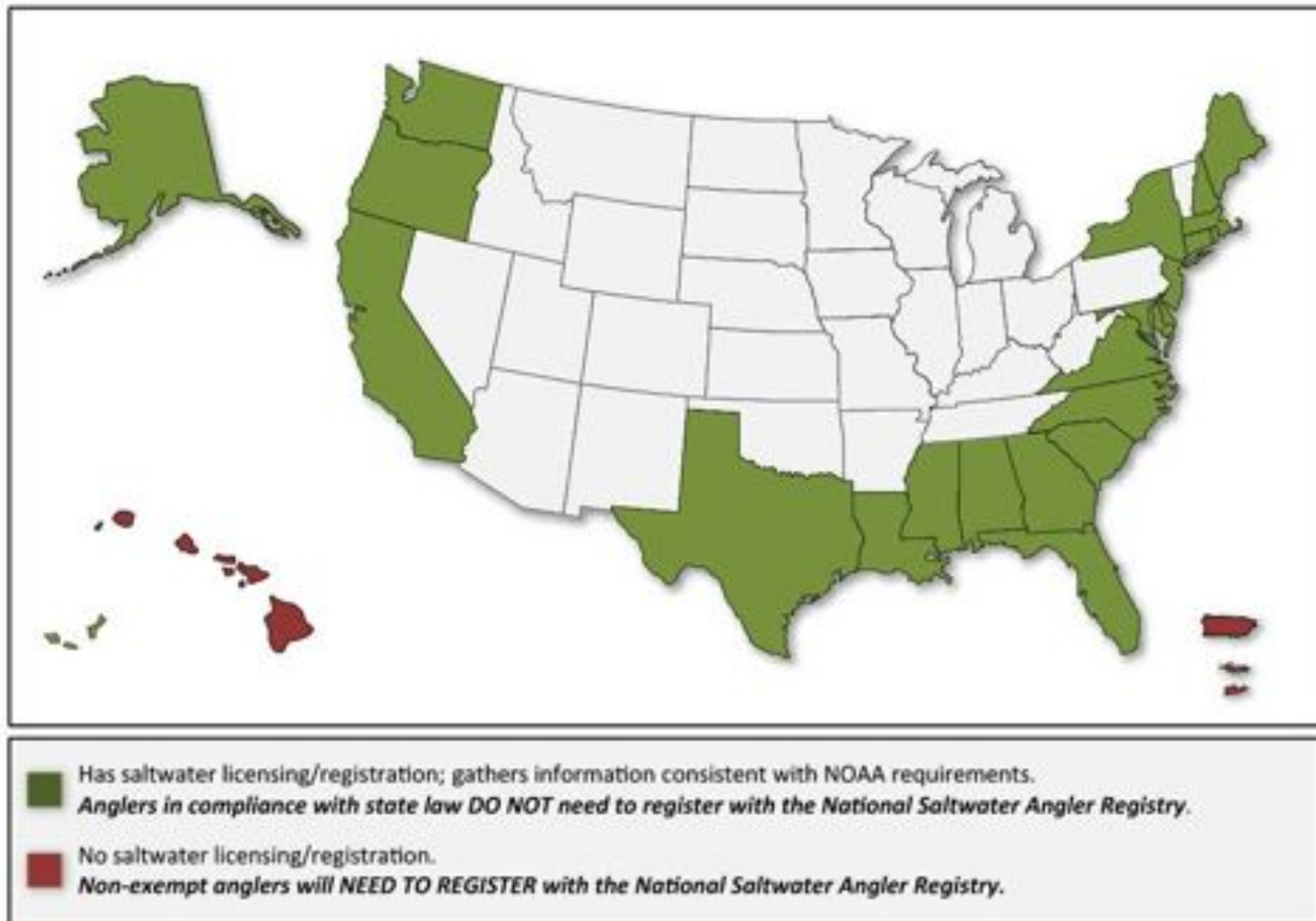


Registries are not (yet?) complete

- National registry will exclude any angling in state waters except if “for anadromous species”.
- Non-compliance.
- Many state saltwater angler registries exclude categories of anglers:
 - Seniors;
 - Anglers fishing from state-licensed piers;
 - Lifetime license holders;
 - Holders of combination licenses;
 - Youth.



State Registry Exemptions





MRIP is Sequentially Testing Several Alternatives to RDD

- Angler License Directory Telephone Survey
 - Improved efficiency
- Dual frame telephone survey
 - RDD + License frame
 - Improves coverage over either frame alone
 - Response rates declining
- Dual frame mail survey
 - Address frame (USPS) + License frame
 - Accurate frame matching
 - Improved coverage
 - Improved response rates



Trade Offs

- Coverage
- Efficiency
- Response Rates
- Timeliness
- Cost



Mixed-Mode Survey

- Address frame + License frame sampling
 - Improved coverage
 - Accurate frame matching
- Mail and telephone data collection
 - Address concerns about timeliness
- Proposed feasibility test in 2011/2012
 - Total response rates
 - Mode effects (phone vs. mail)
 - Cost
 - Will measure coverage of license frames