Why Collect Recreational Fisheries Data

- Recreational fishing in Australia is an important leisure activity
  - Economic and social benefits
- Largest and most widely dispersed recreational activity that uses a natural resource in Australia
- Recreational data can be used to
  - Contribute to stock assessments to improve sustainable management
  - Ensures appropriate consideration of rec fishing in policy-making
  - Provide greater security and access
  - Help design effective and enforceable control measures

Issues with Collecting Recreational Fisheries Data

- Large number of participants and fishing access points
- Diversity of methods, locations, target species
- Lack of participant registry
- Distrust in collecting and providing data
- Lack of ongoing interest

The National Recreational and Indigenous Fishing survey (2003)

- Aims included
  - To quantify fishing activity by indigenous fishing communities in northern Australia

- Results
  - Estimated 37,000 Indigenous fishers in northern Australia on about 420,000 days during the year
  - This was a participation rate of 91.7%
  - Line fishing and hand collection most common methods
  - About 3 million aquatic animals caught, mostly
    - Shellfish (mussels, oysters)
    - Finfish (mullet, catfish, seaperch/snappers, bream, barramundi)

Tools available – Mail surveys

- Easy to role out across large area
- Data types
  - attitudinal
  - catch
  - effort
- Sample group from
  - Drivers licence
  - Obtained from onsite surveys
  - Fishing licence registry

Tools available – Angler diary

- Fishers self report
- Diaries, logbooks, questionnaires, mobile apps
- Data types
  - socio-economic
  - catch
  - effort
- Requires dedication from volunteers
- Focused on avid anglers
- Often done in conjunction with phone/mail surveys
- Can get long time series of data

Tools available – Telephone

- Sample group from
  - Phone book
  - Fishing licence registry
- Screening survey to get willing participants
- Data types
  - attitudinal
  - demographic
  - socio-economic
  - catch
  - effort
- Good for getting participation rates

Tools available – Internet

- Sample group from
  - advertising
  - opt-in
  - incentivesd
- Data types
  - attitudinal
  - demographic
  - socio-economic
  - catch
  - effort
- Good for getting participation rates

The National Recreational Fishing Survey is identifying the range of economic and social values of fishing for fishers, businesses and communities across Australia. It will provide the first up-to-date picture of the value of recreational fishing in Australia since 2001.

Take part in the National Recreational Fishing Survey for your chance to WIN!

TAKE PART IN ONE OR ALL OF OUR SURVEYS TO ENTER OUR PRIZE DRAWS

Tools available – Aerial

- Cost effective for fishing effort from boat and shore

- Data – only effort

- Often used in conjunction with other types of surveys

- Stratify by
  - Season/month
  - day type (weekday, weekend, public holiday)
  - time of day

Tools available – Access points

- Interviews on-site (e.g. boat ramp) at completion of fishing trip

- Trailer count

- Either single site or bus route survey (numerous sites)

- Data
  - catch
  - effort
  - length
  - attitudinal

Tools available – Roving

- For where there are many access points e.g. land based fishing or diving
- Travel in pre-determined routes
- Interviews during fishing
- Data
  - catch
  - effort
  - length
  - attitudinal
- Can stratify by
  - Season/month
  - day type (weekday, weekend, public holiday)
  - time of day

Tools available – Remote cameras

- Cameras at
  - choke points (e.g. boat ramp, marina entrance)
  - popular land-bases areas

- Count
  - number of launches and retrievals
  - number of fishers

- Does not usually monitor fishing activity

- Usually to supplement another survey

Sources of information

- http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/Documents/research_reports/frr301.pdfConducted at the end of the survey

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