

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
REPORT ON RECREATIONAL FISHING ESTIMATES**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS) collects data on catch and effort and produces monthly estimates for four modes of fishing: man-made structures, beaches and banks, private and rental boats, and commercial passenger fishing vessels (CPFVs). Each mode has a unique sampling design to best capture representative fishing activity in the mode. Since the inception of CRFS in 2004, sampling designs and estimation procedures have been modified to improve reliability of the estimates and increase sampling efficiency.

In 2011, CRFS switched from using data from a voluntary telephone survey to estimate CPFV effort (number of angler trips) to using mandatory logs submitted by CPFV captains in conjunction with a CRFS field survey of CPFV effort. This switch improved reliability of the estimates and reduced survey costs.

The CRFS sampling designs and estimation procedures have undergone a number of reviews including a review by National Marine Fisheries Service's Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP). CDFW also periodically reviews its data collection and estimation procedures to ensure the best possible estimates are provided for management of marine fisheries. CDFW recently reviewed the program coding for estimating CPFV catch and found that some of the code needed revising so that the model can correctly estimate effort and catch from the CPFV logs and CRFS field sampling data.

Due to the model coding revisions in progress, CDFW delayed the submission of July and August 2015 estimates to RecFIN until the processing and estimation procedures for the CPFV mode could be completed, and the output thoroughly reviewed. CDFW expects that the July, August and September 2015 estimates will be submitted to RecFIN on or about November 12th.