Section 8. ACCSP Release, Discard, and Protected Species Interactions Monitoring Program

The ACCSP release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program will be a coastwide program (Maine through Florida) to include all living marine resources in estuarine, inshore, and offshore waters. Data should be collected from all U.S. fishing vessels leaving from and landing at east coast ports, including shore-based fishing operations. The program should be conducted throughout the year and will include commercial, recreational, and the for-hire fisheries.

The release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program will include quantitative and qualitative data collection components. The quantitative component includes an at-sea observer program and collection of release/discard data through the fishermen reporting system. The qualitative release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program will include sea turtle and marine mammal stranding networks and beach bird surveys, trend analysis, and add-ons to existing recreational and for-hire intercept and telephone surveys.

Release/discard data collected through the qualitative release/discard monitoring program and the fishermen reporting system will be used to identify and prioritize fisheries requiring collection of additional release, discard and gear configuration data through quantitative methods.

Reporting of protected species interactions and managed species data currently are the highest priorities under the ACCSP release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program. A Discard and Release Prioritization Committee will recommend priorities for the commercial, recreational, and the for-hire fisheries on an annual basis.

Required reporting of protected species interactions information is mandatory for the ACCSP commercial reporting system and is mandatory for the for-hire vessels which fall under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requirements. Reporting of protected species interactions is voluntary for recreational fishermen. Under federal statutes, incidental injury or mortality to a marine mammal during commercial fishing activities, including charter boat fisheries, must be reported within 48 hours of the end of a fishing trip, or for non-vessel fisheries, within 48 hours of occurrence.

Reporting of discards or releases through the catch and effort reporting system is strongly encouraged, although voluntary for non-protected discards or releases of other marine organisms. Any ACCSP partner may require mandatory reporting of any marine organism discard and release data, based on jurisdictional assessments or management requirements. All partners should develop outreach and fishermen training programs to improve reporting accuracy by fishermen. The ACCSP should evaluate the quality of the data and any voluntary, mandatory, and at-sea observer collection programs, at least annually.

FIGURE 8.1. Overview of the ACCSP release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program for commercial, for-hire, and recreational fisheries. See details on these programs in Sections 8.a through 8.c.

ACCSP Release, Discard and Protected Species Interactions

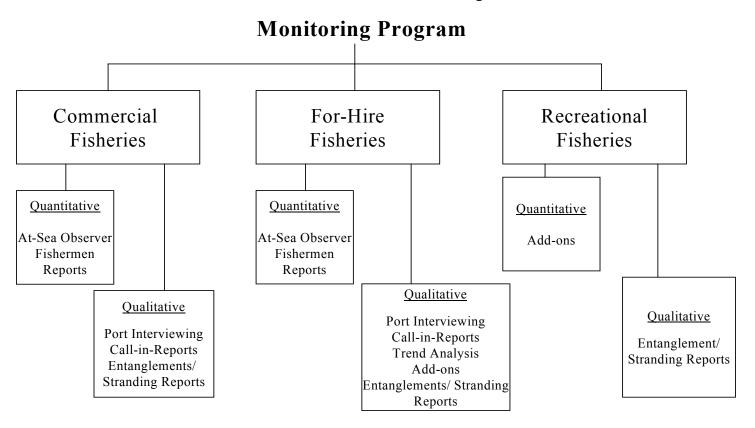
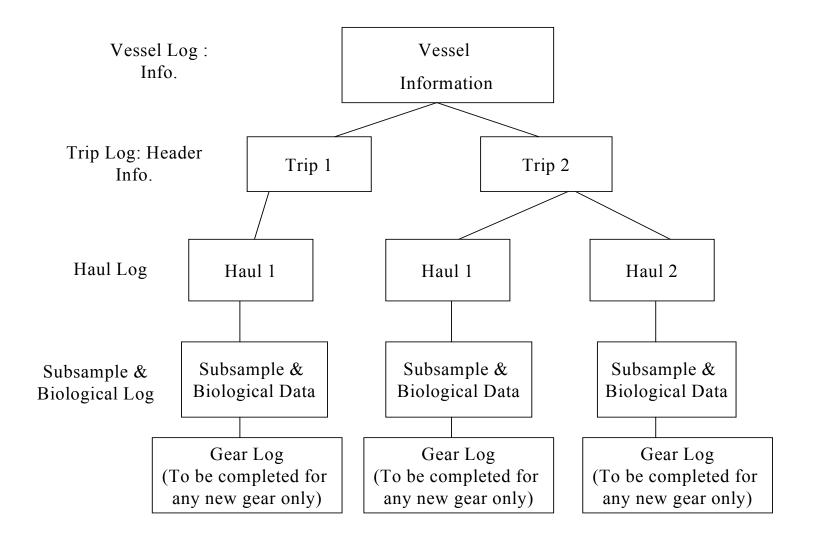


FIGURE 8.2. Flow of data collection forms for At-Sea Observer Program



Section 8.a Release, Discard, and Protected Species Interactions Monitoring Program for Commercial Fisheries

The ACCSP quantitative release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program for commercial fisheries will include an at-sea observer program and commercial fishermen reporting.

The ACCSP qualitative release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program for commercial fisheries will include port interviewing to verify finfish reporting in the fishermen trip report and strandings and entanglements data.

Section 8.b. Release, Discard, and Protected Species Interactions Monitoring Program for the For-Hire Fisheries

The ACCSP quantitative release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program for the for-hire fisheries will include an at-sea observer program and fishermen reporting, through the appropriate methodology as determined by the Discard Prioritization Committee.

The ACCSP qualitative release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program for the for-hire fisheries will include port interviewing to verify finfish reporting in the fishermen logbook (if determined appropriate), call-in reporting, trend information provided through the fishermen trip report, and strandings and entanglements data, and an add-on to existing recreational telephone surveys for protected species data.

Development of sampling methodologies specific to collection of observer data from the for-hire fisheries will be accomplished once the catch/effort collection methodology has been determined for that mode.

Section 8.c. Release, Discard, and Protected Species Interactions Monitoring Program for Recreational Fisheries (Private/Rental and Shore Modes)

The ACCSP will continue to collect quantitative data on the number of released and discarded finfish species through existing recreational intercept surveys. The ACCSP will collect qualitative release/discard information on protected species for recreational fisheries (private/rental and shore modes) through an add-on to existing recreational telephone surveys, strandings, and entanglements data.

Section 8.d. Qualitative Release, Discard, and Protected Species

Interactions Monitoring Program

The qualitative component of the release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program should include a combination of the following methods: 1) strandings and entanglements programs, 2) addition of questions and/or samples to existing recreational and for-hire telephone and intercept surveys, 3) commercial fisherman reporting systems, 4) port interviewing programs, and 5) real-time reporting programs.

Add-ons to existing recreational and for-hire surveys should be as follows: 1) additional questions added to telephone surveys for protected species interactions, and 2) additional sampling in the telephone and intercept surveys for finfish species in high incidence areas and/or the addition of special questions to both surveys.

For the purposes of this Module, entanglements are defined as a human interaction between marine species and fishing gear.

The National Stranding Network will serve as the ACCSP standard for the collection of strandings data. As the Stranding Network forms are modified, they should be reviewed by the Discard Prioritization Committee for inclusion in the Program Design.

Stranding and entanglement data collection programs should collect the approved minimum data elements listed in **Tables 8.E. and 8.F.** (pp. 8-26 to 8-37), including formats, descriptions, and reporting forms.

Stranding/entanglements data will include an assessment of human interaction: 1) physical contact between marine species and fishing gear (i.e., entanglements); 2) vessel/boat strikes; or 3) other human-related causes (e.g., ingestion of marine debris, gunshot). Strandings with evidence of an entanglement will be used to qualify interactions between commercial, for-hire, and recreational fisheries when possible.

Protected species interactions, releases, and discards of other marine organisms data collected through the commercial reporting system should be evaluated for trend information, especially for identification of high incidence areas for additional quantitative sampling.

Data collected through port interviewing programs should be used to verify data collected through real-time reporting and anecdotal information. Real-time reporting (i.e., 1-800 call-in systems) should be used for reporting of unusual events (interactions with protected species and possible finfish species).

The data collected through the ACCSP qualitative release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program will be used by the Discard, Prioritization Committee to prioritize and modify the quantitative release, discard, and protected species interactions data collection programs. The release/discard prioritization process should be linked closely with the setting of biological data collection priorities by the Biological Review Panel.

Section 8.e. Quantitative At-Sea Observer Program

The ACCSP At-Sea Observer Program is mandatory for the for-hire vessels under the MMPA and vessels participating in commercial fisheries (dependent on their classification category under MMPA). As a condition of permitting, vessels should be required to carry at-sea observers

Note: The ACCSP Coordinating Council approved the ACCSP observer program as mandatory, at Jekyll Island (October 19, 1998).

Specific fisheries priorities will be determined through the discard prioritization process to be developed by the Discard Prioritization Committee.

All ACCSP at-sea observer programs should be conducted following the sampling protocols in **Table 8.G.** (p. 8-38) The ACCSP At-Sea Observer Program should collect minimum standard data elements at the haul level for commercial fisheries and at the drop level (each time gear is set) in the for-hire fisheries, utilizing adopted ACCSP standards and quality control/assurance procedures. Data on gear configuration should be collected when major changes in gear are made during a trip. Please see **Tables 8.G - 8-S** (pp.8-38 to 8-83) for the reference tables and data elements associated with the quantitative observer program.

All ACCSP at-sea observer programs should be conducted under the overall program goals with regards to protected species interactions, releases, and discards of other marine organisms as follows. The Program should develop and document specific program objectives to meet these goals.

- 1. To quantify protected species interactions, releases, and discards of other marine organisms from all U.S. commercial and for-hire recreational fishing vessels leaving from or landing at east coast ports.
- 2. To obtain accurate and representative fisheries release/discard data that may be used for required state and federal programs that:
 - Support the goals and objectives of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act such as minimizing releases and discards, release and discard mortality, and for marine mammals, reducing interactions to insignificant levels approaching zero mortality;
 - identify and evaluate fishing gear and practices that minimize or eliminate protected species interactions, releases and discards of other marine organisms;
 - provide fishermen with fishing opportunities without impacting the objectives of fishery management plans for species that are fully exploited or overfished;
 - improve contributions to regional fishery management councils and the Atlantic

States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) through a better understanding of the amount and nature of releases and discards, especially economic and regulatory releases and discards;

- assess abundance of marine resources -- assessments used by the National Marine Fisheries Service, the councils, states, and ASMFC for development and amendment of fisheries regulations/management plans and for conservation and management of marine mammals and protected species; and
- monitor the effectiveness of regulations, gear modifications, fishing practices, and fishery management plans in achieving conservation objectives.
- 3. To provide a verification tool for fishermen logbook reporting or other qualitative data collection methods;
- 4. To provide all state and federal fisheries agencies with a template for a comprehensive, long-term at-sea observer program, including standardized data elements and program design, sampling strategies, priorities, and data management; and,
- 5. To strengthen and verify the flow of information to fishery managers and scientists. The ACCSP and program partners will conduct an approved training program for all new at-sea observers, and will provide certification of qualifications through this program.

Non-verified observer data should be made available for data entry 1-7 days after the trip return date. Finalized data should be provided 45 days after the last day of the month for which data was collected.

The data collected through the ACCSP At-Sea Observer Program for commercial fisheries should be linked to the commercial fishermen reporting system by the unique identifier (trip start date, vessel/participant identifier, and trip number).

Given that longitude and latitude are collected at the haul level, it is not possible to provide this information at the trip level. Therefore, primary area fished will need to be determined by the observer after the completion of the trip. As recommended in **Table 8.H.** (p. 8-39), Area Fished is defined as the statistical area and distance from shore where most fishing occurs.

Pilot surveys will be conducted on a fishery-by-fishery basis to determine the appropriate level of observer coverage required to meet relevant management objectives.

Observer data vessel or individual identifiers will be disguised and the data will be aggregated before release from the ACCSP data management system. Authorized users will have access to individual identifiers. Non-authorized users requesting individual identifiers will be referred to the agency that originally collected the data.

NOTE: Under current NMFS rulings, observed data on a mandatory trip are not considered confidential since the data are observed by an agent of NMFS and not submitted by a reporting entity. Observed data on a voluntary trip is confidential.

Section 8.f. Annual Prioritization Process for the ACCSP Release, Discard, and Protected Species Interactions Monitoring Program

The ACCSP will utilize an annual prioritization process to determine fisheries to be targeted for observer coverage the following year. The process timeline will closely follow the ACCSP's Funding Decision Guidelines and the annual meeting of the ACCSP's Biological Review Panel. It is imperative that all Committee members attend these prioritization meetings. The prioritization process will be enhanced with diversity of opinion..

The evaluation matrix variables (**Table 8.A.**) will utilized to prioritize Atlantic coast fisheries for observer coverage. Fisheries with the highest point totals after the evaluation should be considered high priority fisheries. The ACCESS fisheries database developed by ASMFC staff should be updated regularly and utilized to identify the fisheries to be evaluated in the matrix.

All available catch/effort data should be utilized to evaluate the Fishery Information variables. The ACCSP data management system should sum the number of records by gear/area strata to calculate the total number of trips.

Observer effort should be allocated across the fishing season for a particular species or group.

Table 8.A.Fishery Evaluation Matrix Variables

Fishery Information

Management Agency (for information only)

Total dollar value of the fishery (for information only)

Is the fishery managed? (national, regional, or inter-jurisdictional fishery management plan?)

$$Yes = 1$$

 $No = 0$

Number of trips (general indication of the total number of trips from the prior year)

1 = 1 - 100

2 = 101 - 1000

3 = 1001 - 10,000

4 = 10,001 - 50,000

5 = 50,001 - 100,000

Total Landings (general indication of the total landings of that species by that gear type)

1 = < 33% of the total species landings

2 = 34% but < 66% of the total species landings

3 = > 67% of the total species landings

Change in Prior Year's Landings

0 = < 50% change

3 = > 50% change

Discard Information

Amount of regulatory discards (dead) of target species (percent total weight of targeted species)

0 = none

1 = low (< 5%)

2 = medium (5-20%)

3 = high (> 20%), or unknown

Protected species interactions (general indication of protected species interactions in the targeted fishery) (MMPA Rating Scale)

0 =does not affect / no interactions

3 = low - interactions not likely to harm protected species stocks

6 = medium - interactions could affect or interactions are unknown but could affect recovery of protected species stocks

9 = high - interactions adversely affect recovery of protected species stocks

Table 8.A. (cont'd)

Amount of regulated species discards (general indication of the weight of discards of other regulated species, relative to total landings)

- 0 = none
- 1 = low < 5%
- 2 = medium 5-20%
- 3 = high > 20%, or unknown

Impact of discards on other regulated species stocks (general indication of the condition and biomass of the regulated species being discarded)

- 0 = no impact
- 1 = low
- 2 = medium
- 3 = high, or unknown

Amount of non-regulated species discards (general indication of the weight of discards of other non-regulated species, relative to total landings)

- 0 = none
- 1 = low < 5%
- 2 = medium 5-20%
- 3 = high > 20%, or unknown

Impact of discards on non-regulated species stocks (general indication of the condition and biomass of the non-regulated species being discarded)

- 0 = none
- 1 = low
- 2 = medium
- 3 = high, or unknown

Figure 8.3. Fisheries Evaluation Table

Fishe	shery					Species							
Fishery	of	Manage ment Agency?	managed		Total Landings	in Prior Year's Landings	Regulatory discards of target species (dead)	Protected spp interactio n	regulated	spp	Amount of non-reg spp	Impact of discards on non-reg spp stock	
	points	no points; info only					0, 1, 2, 3	0, 3, 6, 9	0, 1, 2, 3	0, 1, 2, 3	0, 1, 2, 3	0,1, 2, 3	
					1= <33%			0 = none		0 = none		0 = none	
				1-5 points	2= 34-66% 3= >67%	3 = > 50%	1 = < 5% 2 = 5-20% 3 = > 20%	6 = med,	2 = 5-20% 3 = >20%		1 = < 5% 2 = 5-20% 3 = > 20%		
							or unknown	or unknown	or unknown	or unknown	or unknown	or unknown	

Section 8.g. Commercial Target Sampling Levels

The following target sampling levels are the ACCSP standards for the commercial fisheries portion of the Release, Discard, and Protected Species Interactions Monitoring Program:

A target of 5% of total trips, or achieving a 20-30% PSE for high priority fisheries.

A target of 2% of total trips for all other fisheries.

(in order to begin baseline data collection from non-priority fisheries)

These target sampling levels must be evaluated annually on a fishery by fishery basis to determine where the variance stabilizes and to meet desired goals.

Section 8.h. Recreational Fisheries Priorities

Recreational fisheries priorities should be compiled and evaluated as a portion of the ACCSP fishery prioritization process outlined in Section 8.f.

Until the ACCSP catch/effort and at-sea observer methodologies are determined, no observer targets be established for the for-hire fishery. However, finalization of the for-hire catch-effort protocols should not preclude a Partner proposing an observer pilot study for the for-hire sector.

Section 8.i. Observer Data Tracking System

The ACCSP will utilize a target tracking system, to track the number of observed trips so that observer effort may be reallocated as targets are met. ACCSP Partners should upload the following minimum data elements to the ACCSP tracking system before the 10th of the month following collection. The submission timeline will allow two effort reallocations per calendar quarter.

Partners are encouraged to monitor the tracking system as required to complete targets. The tracking system should reset to zero at the end of each quarter.

Table 8.B. Data Elements Required for the ACCSP Observer Tracking System

State Landed
Port Landed
Target Species (all three, if noted) (**Table 8.H.** p. 8-39)
Primary Area Fished
Primary Gear Used
Number of Protected Species Interactions

Section 8.j. Quality Assurance/Quality Control

Quality assurance/quality control standards for the Discard, Release, and Protected Species

Interactions module may be found in Appendix F-3 of the ACCSP Program Design.

Table 8.C. Examples of per Sample Requirements and Annual Sample Targets Northeast Sampling Requirements, per Sample, by Species, 2001

~~~			Sample, by Species, 200
<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>LENGTHS</b>	<u>SCALES</u>	<u>OTOLITHS</u>
Alewife	100	20	
Winter flounder	100	25	
small	50	10	
Black Sea Bass	100	25	
Blueback herring	100		20
Bluefish	100	25	
Butterfish	100		25 or freeze 25+ fish
Cod Scrod	50		10
Market	100		20
			20
Large or whale	100	<b></b>	
Cusk	100		20
American plaice (dab)	100		25
small	50	10 or	10
Spiny dogfish	100 sexed	No age	
Summer flounder (fluke)	100	25	
small	50	10	
Witch flounder (grey sole)	100		25
small	50	10	
Haddock	100		50
Scrod (only)	50		25
Lobster	100 sexed	no age	
Mackerel	100 sexed	no uge	freeze 25+ fish
Monkfish	100	no age	HCCZC 23 · HSH
Ocean Quahog	30	_	
Pollock	100	no age	20
Redfish	100 sexed		10 male & 10 female
		**	To male & To Temale
Red Crab	100 sexed	no age	
Rock Crab	100 sexed	no age	
Scup	100	25	
Surf Clams	30	no age	
Sea Herring			freeze 50+ fish
Sea Scallops	200	no age	
Shad	100	25	
Shrimp			freeze 1 qt.
Silver hake	100		
Juvenile (only)	30		
Squid <i>Loligo</i>	100	_	
Illex	100		
Striped Bass	100	25	
Tilefish	100		20
Weakfish	100	25	
White hake	100		25
Windowpane	100	25	
Small	50	10	<del></del>
Yellowtail flounder		15 males & 15 fen	 log
	100 sexed	13 maies & 13 len	iaics –
Industrial Species	1-3 bushels	_	

## BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS by SPECIES/REGION - FY2000

Region	Species	Mkt Cat	Gear	Statistical Area	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr- Jun	Jul-Sep	тот
ME	ATL HALIBUT	UNC	ALL	51	0	0	1	0	1
MA-N	ATL HALIBUT	UNC	ALL	51	0	0	1	0	1
				TOTAL	. 0	0	2	0	2
NJ	BLACK SEA BASS	JUMBO/LRG	ALL	6	1	1	2	0	4
RI	BLACK SEA BASS	JUMBO/LRG	OT	53-63	1	1	1	0	3
VA/MD	BLACK SEA BASS	JUMBO/LRG	ALL	62	0	0	2	2	4
VA/MD	BLACK SEA BASS	JUMBO/LRG		61-63	0	4	2	0	6
NJ	BLACK SEA BASS	MED	ALL	6	1	1	2	0	4
RI	BLACK SEA BASS	MED	OT	53-63	1	1	1	0	3
VA/MD	BLACK SEA BASS	MED	ALL	62	0	0	2	2	4
VA/MD	BLACK SEA BASS	MED	OT	61-63	0	4	2	0	6
NJ	BLACK SEA BASS	SM	ALL	6	1	2	2	1	6
RI	BLACK SEA BASS	SM	OT	53-63	1	1	1	0	3
VA/MD	BLACK SEA BASS	SM	ALL	62	0	0	2	2	4
VA/MD	BLACK SEA BASS	SM	ОТ	61-63 TOTAL	6	4 19	2 21	7	6 53
					_				
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	LMNSL	OT	522,56,525	1	1	1	1	4
MA-N	BLACKBACK	LRG	OT	51	2	1	2	1	6
MA-N	BLACKBACK	LRG	OT	522,56,525	0	1	1	0	2
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	LRG	OT	51	0	0	1	0	1
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	LRG	OT	521,526,53	1	1	1	2	5
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	LRG	OT	522,56,525	1	1	2	2	6
RI RI	BLACKBACK	LRG	OT OT	521,526,53,61	0	1	<u>1</u> 1	1	<u>3</u>
MA-N	BLACKBACK BLACKBACK	LRG MED	OT	62,63 51	0	0		0	<u> </u>
MA-N	BLACKBACK	MED	OT	522,56,525	0	1	<u>0</u> 1	0	2
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	MED	OT	522,50,525	0	0	<u> </u>	1	2
RI	BLACKBACK	MED	OT	521,526,53,61	0	1	2	1	4
RI	BLACKBACK	MED	OT	62,63	0	1	1	0	2
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	PW	OT	51	0	1	0	0	1
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	PW	OT	521,526,53	1	0	1	1	3
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	PW	OT	522,56,525	1	1	1	1	4
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	PW	OT	61-63	0	1	0	0	<u>·</u> 1
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	SM	OT	51	0	1	1	0	2
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	SM	OT	521,526,53	1	1	2	3	7
MA-S/CC	BLACKBACK	SM	OT	522,56,525	1	1	2	2	6
RI	BLACKBACK	SM	OT	521,526,53,61	0	0	1	1	2
MA-N	BLACKBACK	UNC	OT	522,56,525	0	1	1	0	2
NY/LI	BLACKBACK	UNC	OT	61-63	0	2	2	2	6
				TOTAL		19	26	19	73
MA-N	BLUEFISH	UNC	ALL	52,53	0	0	0	1 1	1
MA-S/CC	BLUEFISH	UNC	ALL	52,53	1	0	0	1	2
ME/NH	BLUEFISH	UNC	ALL	52,51	0	0	0	1	1
NJ	BLUEFISH	UNC	ALL	53,6	1	0	3	3	7
NY/LI	BLUEFISH	UNC	ALL	52,53,56,6	3	0	3	3	9
RI	BLUEFISH	UNC	ALL	52,53,56,6	1	0	0	1	2

VA/MD	BLUEFISH	UNC	ALL	6		2	0	1	1	4
					TOTAL	8	0	7	11	26
RI	BUTTERFISH	LRG	OT	52,53,56,	6	2	2	0	0	4
RI	BUTTERFISH	MED	OT	52,53,56,	6	1	1	0	0	2
RI	BUTTERFISH	SM	OT	52,53,56,	6	2	2	0	0	4
NJ	BUTTERFISH	UNC	OT	53,6		1	1	1	1	4
NY/LI	BUTTERFISH	UNC	ОТ	51-53,6		0	1	0	0	1
RI	BUTTERFISH	UNC	OT	5		2	3	2	0	7
				-	TOTAL		10	3	1	22
MA-N	COD	LRG	GN	51		1	1	1	1	4
MA-N	COD	LRG	GN	52,53,56		1	1	1	1	4
MA-S/CC	COD	LRG	GN	51		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	COD	LRG	GN	51		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	COD	LRG	GN	52,53,56		1	<del>.</del> 1	1	1	4
MA-S/CC	COD	LRG	LL	51		1	1	1	1	4
MA-N	COD	LRG	OT	51		2	3	3	2	10
MA-N	COD	LRG	OT	52,53,56		2	2	2	2	8
	COD		OT					3	2	9
MA-S/CC ME/NH	COD	LRG LRG	OT	52,53,56 51		2	<u>2</u> 1	1	1	4
ME/NH	COD	LRG	OT	52,53,56		1	11	2	1	5
MA-N	COD	MKT	GN	51		1	1	1	1	4
MA-N	COD	MKT	GN	52,53,56		2	2	2	2	8
MA-S/CC	COD	MKT	GN	51		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	COD	MKT	GN	51		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	COD	MKT	GN	52,53,56		1	2	2	2	7
MA-S/CC	COD	MKT	LL	51		1	11	1	1	4
MA-N	COD	MKT	OT	51		1	3	3	1	8
MA-N	COD	MKT	OT	52,53,56		2	2	3	3	10
MA-S/CC	COD	MKT	OT	52,53,56		2	2	4	3	11
ME/NH	COD	MKT	OT	51		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	COD	MKT	OT	52,53,56		2	2	2	2	8
MA-N	COD	SCROD	GN	51		1	1	1	1	4
MA-N	COD	SCROD	GN	52,53,56		1	1	1	1	4
MA-S/CC	COD	SCROD	GN	51		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	COD	SCROD	GN	51		0	0	1	1	2
ME/NH	COD	SCROD	GN	52,53,56		1	0	1	1	3
MA-S/CC	COD	SCROD	LL	51		1	1	1	1	4
MA-N	COD	SCROD	OT	51		2	2	1	1	6
MA-N	COD	SCROD	OT	52,53,56		2	2	2	3	9
MA-S/CC	COD	SCROD	OT	52,53,56		2	1	2	3	8
ME/NH	COD	SCROD	OT	51		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	COD	SCROD	OT	52,53,56		1	1	2	1	5
MA-S/CC	COD	UNC	GN	52,53,56		3	3	3	3	12
MA-S/CC	COD	UNC	LL	52,53,56		3	3	3	3	12
				, ,	TOTAL		50	58	53	209
MA-N	CUSK	UNC	ОТ	5		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	CUSK	UNC	OT	5		1	2	1	1	5
MA-N	CUSK	UNC	LL	5		1	1	1	1	4
ME/NH	CUSK	UNC	LL	5		1	1	1	1	4
.v.		5110		J	TOTAL		5	4	4	17
MA-N	DAB	LRG	ОТ	51,52,56		1	1	2	2	6
MA-S/CC	DAB	LRG	OT	52,53,56		0	0	1	1	2
ME/NH	DAB	LRG	OT	51,52,56		2	2	2	2	8
IVIL/INII	טו וט	L1 (O	٥.	01,02,00						<u> </u>

RI MA-N MA-S/CC ME/NH MA-N MA-S/CC ME/NH	DAB DAB DAB DAB DAB DAB DAB	LRG MED MED MED SM SM SM	ALL OT OT OT OT OT OT	5,6 51,52,56 52,53,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 52,53,56 51,52,56 TOTA	0 2 0 1 2 1 1 1 L 10	0 1 0 1 2 2 1	1 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 17	0 2 1 2 1 1 2 14	1 7 2 6 7 6 6 6 51
MA-N MA-N MA-N MA-S/CC MA-S/CC ME/NH ME/NH VA/MD	DOGFISH DOGFISH DOGFISH DOGFISH DOGFISH DOGFISH DOGFISH DOGFISH	UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC	GN OT LL/LT GN LL/LT GN OT ALL	51,52,56	0 1 0 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 10	0 0 0 0 0 2 2 2	2 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 1	2 1 1 2 2 2 2 0	4 3 2 3 6 8 8 5 39
MA-S/CC NJ NY/LI RI VA/MD MA-S/CC NJ NY/LI RI VA/MD MA-N MA-S/CC NJ NY/LI RI VA/MD NJ NY/LI RI VA/MD NJ NY/LI RI VA/MD	FLUKE	JUMBO JUMBO JUMBO JUMBO JUMBO LRG LRG LRG LRG MED MED MED MED MED MED SM SM SM SM	OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT	52,53,56,6 53,6 53,6 52,53,56,6 62,63 52,53,56,6 53,6 52,53,56,6 52,53,56,6 52,53,56,6 53,6 52,53,56,6 53,6 52,53,56,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 52,53,56,6 53,6 53,6 52,53,56,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 52,53,56,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6 53,6	0 1 1 1 2 0 1 1 1 2 3 0 0 0 1 1 1 2 3 1 1 1 2 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 2 2 2 4 1 4 6 0 1 4 2 4 6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 0 1 1 2 2 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 2 2 1 2 1 1 2 1 2 1 1 2 1 1 2 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	3 5 5 5 8 5 8 5 10 11 1 3 8 6 10 11 4 4 4 4 2
MA-N MA-S/CC MA-S/CC ME/NH NJ NJ NY/LI RI RI RI VA/MD MA-N MA-S/CC ME/NH NJ RI	GOOSEFISH	LRG	ALL OT SD ALL GN SD GN OT SD ALL ALL ALL ALL ALL	5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6	1 6 7 3 0 1 1 1 2 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0	4 8 3 4 3 1 0 0 0 2 0 1 1 1 1	3 6 5 4 1 1 1 1 3 0 2 1 1 1 1 1	1 4 6 3 0 1 0 0 2 1 1 1 1 0 0	9 24 21 14 4 2 2 9 1 4 4 4 2 1 4

VA/MD MA-N MA-S/CC MA-S/CC ME/NH NJ RI VA/MD MA-N MA-S/CC NJ NJ NY/LI NY/LI VA/MD	GOOSEFISH	PW SM SM SM SM SM UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC	ALL ALL OT ALL ALL ALL ALL ALL ALL ALL ALL ALL AL	5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6 5,6	TOTAL	0 1 8 5 2 1 3 0 1 1 9 9 1 1 0 67	1 2 10 2 3 1 2 1 0 0 0 2 2 1 0 0 0 5 8	1 8 5 3 1 2 1 0 1 5 5 1 2 2 2 69	1 1 4 7 3 1 5 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 46	3 5 30 19 11 4 12 2 1 2 17 17 3 3 2 240
MA-N MA-S/CC ME/NH MA-N ME/NH MA-N MA-S/CC ME/NH	GREY SOLE	LRG LRG MED MED SM/PW SM/PW SM/PW	OT OT OT OT OT OT OT	51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56	TOTAL	1 1 3 1 2 1 1 2	1 1 3 1 2 1 1 2 12	1 1 3 1 2 1 1 2 12	1 1 3 1 2 1 1 2 12	4 4 12 4 8 4 4 8 4
MA-N MA-N MA-S/CC ME/NH ME/NH RI MA-N MA-N MA-N MA-S/CC ME/NH RI	HADDOCK	LRG LRG LRG LRG LRG SCROD SCROD SCROD SCROD SCROD SCROD SCROD	OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT	51 52,56 52,56 51 52,56 51 52,56 51 52,56 51 52,56 5	TOTAL	1 2 2 1 1 0 1 2 2 1 1 0 1	1 1 2 1 1 0 1 1 2 1 1 0 1 1 2	1 2 2 1 1 1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1	1 2 1 1 0 1 1 2 1 1 0 1	4 6 8 4 4 1 4 6 8 4 4 1 54
MA-N ME/NH NJ RI	HERRING HERRING HERRING HERRING	UNC UNC UNC UNC	ALL OT ALL ALL	51,52,56 51 6 5,6	TOTAL	10 25 0 0 35	20 0 5 15 40	10 20 0 0 30	10 35 0 0 45	50 80 5 15
RI NJ NJ VA/MD	Illex Illex Illex Illex ** See monthly sampl	FT FT FT OT ling plan	UNC UNC LG UNC	5,6 62 61-63 61-63		6 6 0 0	3 4 0 3 10	8 6 4 3 21	12 9 6 5	29 25 10 11 75
MA-N MA-S/CC ME/NH RI	LOBSTER LOBSTER LOBSTER LOBSTER	UNC UNC UNC UNC	LP LP LP LP	52 5 515 52,53,56	6 TOTAL	1 3 1 4 9	0 2 1 4 7	1 4 1 4 10	1 4 1 4 10	3 13 4 16 36

MA-S/CC MA-S/CC RI RI NY/LI NJ VA/MD	Loligo Loligo Loligo Loligo Loligo Loligo Loligo ** See monthly sampl MACKEREL MACKEREL	OT PN OT FT OT OT OT UNC UNC	UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC OT	5 5,6 5,6 5,6 6 6		0 0 5 6 3 9 0 23	0 0 9 11 3 12 1 36	2 5 4 5 3 5 0 24	0 2 3 4 6 2 0 17	2 7 21 26 15 28 1 100
RI VA/MD	MACKEREL MACKEREL	UNC UNC	OT OT	5,6 5,6	TOTAL	4 0	1 10	4 0 9	0 0	12 1 27
MA-S/CC RI NY/LI	OCEAN POUT OCEAN POUT OCEAN POUT	UNC UNC UNC	OT OT OT	51,52,53 52,53,6 53,6	TOTAL	0 0 0	2 2 3 7	2 2 3 7	0 0 0	4 4 6 14
MA-S/CC ME/NH NJ NY/LI RI VA/MD	OCEAN QUAHOG OCEAN QUAHOG OCEAN QUAHOG OCEAN QUAHOG OCEAN QUAHOG	UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC UNC	CD CD CD CD CD	53,61 51 61,62 53, 61 52,53,56 62,63	TOTAL	7 5 5 5 10 5 37	7 5 10 5 10 5 42	7 5 10 5 8 5 40	7 5 10 5 8 5 40	28 20 35 20 36 20 159
NJ RI	OFFSHORE HAKE OFFSHORE HAKE	UNC UNC	OT OT	53,61 53,61	TOTAL	0 0	0 0 0	1 1 2	0 0 0	1 1 2
MA-N MA-N ME/NH ME/NH MA-N ME/NH ME/NH ME/NH	POLLOCK POLLOCK POLLOCK POLLOCK POLLOCK POLLOCK POLLOCK POLLOCK	LRG LRG LRG MED MED SM SM	GN OT GN OT OT GN GN	51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56 51,52,56		1 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	1 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	1 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	1 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	4 12 8 8 8 8 8 8 8
MA-N NJ NY/LI RI	RED HAKE RED HAKE RED HAKE RED HAKE	UNC UNC UNC UNC	OT OT OT OT	51,52,56 52,53,56, 52,53,56, 52,53,56,	6	1 1 3 1	0 1 3 1 5	1 1 1 2 5	1 1 1 1 4	3 4 8 5 20
MA-N ME/NH	REDFISH REDFISH	UNC UNC	OT OT	51,52,56 51,52,56	TOTAL	1 3	2 1 3	2 2 4	2 1 3	8 5 13
MA-S/CC NJ RI MA-S/CC NJ	SCUP SCUP SCUP SCUP SCUP	JUM JUM JUM LRG LRG	ALL ALL ALL OT	52,53,56 6 53,6 52,53,56 53,6		0 0 0 1	0 2 0 0 4	1 0 1 1	1 0 1 1	2 2 2 3 7

NY/LI	SCUP	LRG	ALL	53,6	I	1	1	1 1	0	3
RI	SCUP	LRG	ALL	52,53,56,6		2	1	1	1	5
VA/MD	SCUP	LRG	OT	6		0	1	0	0	1
NJ	SCUP	LRG MIX	OT	52,53,6		0	2	0	0	2
MA-S/CC	SCUP	MED	ALL	52,53,56		1	0	1	1	3
NJ	SCUP	MED	OT	53,6		0	1	1	0	2
NY/LI	SCUP	MED	ALL	53,6		1	1	1	0	3
RI	SCUP	MED	ALL	52,53,56,6		2	1	1	1	5
VA/MD	SCUP	MED	OT	6		0	1	0	0	1
NJ	SCUP	PIN	ALL	6		0	1	0	0	1
NY/LI	SCUP	PIN	ALL	6		1	0	0	0	1
MA-S/CC	SCUP	SM	ALL	52,53,56		1	0	0	0	1
NJ	SCUP	SM	OT	53,6		1	1	1	1	4
NY/LI	SCUP	SM	ALL	53,6		1	0	0	0	1
RI	SCUP	SM	OT	52,53,56,6		1	1	1	1	4
VA/MD	SCUP	SM	OT	6		0	1	1	0	2
NY/LI	SCUP	UNC	ALL	53,6		2	1	1	1	5
				TC	DTAL	16	20	14	10	60
MA-N	SEA SCALLOP	UNC	SD	ANY	Г	0	0	1	1	2
MA-S/CC	SEA SCALLOP	UNC	SD	5		9	10	28	21	68
MA-S/CC	SEA SCALLOP	UNC	SD	6		5	7	19	13	44
ME/NH	SEA SCALLOP	UNC	SD	ANY		9	7	1	0	17
NJ	SEA SCALLOP	UNC	SD	ANY		3	6	17	11	37
RI	SEA SCALLOP	UNC	SD	ANY		0	0	0	1	1
VA/MD	SEA SCALLOP	UNC	SD	ANY		6	13	29	19	67
VA/MD	SEA SCALLOP	UNC	TRAW	ANY		1	3	7	5	16
			L	TC	L DTAL	33	46	102	71	252
					J171L					
MA-N	SHRIMP	UNC	OT	51	_	0	4	2	0	6
ME/NH	SHRIMP	UNC	ОТ	51	, , , L	0	16	6	0	22
				IC	OTAL	0	20	8	0	28
NJ	SILVER HAKE	JUV	OT	ANY		2	2	2	2	8
NY/LI	SILVER HAKE	JUV	OT	ANY		8	8	6	6	28
RI	SILVER HAKE	JUV	OT	ANY		2	3	4	2	11
MA-N	SILVER HAKE	UNC	OT	5		4	1	1	4	10
MA-S/CC	SILVER HAKE	UNC	OT	5		4	1	1	4	10
NJ	SILVER HAKE	UNC	OT	6		2	3	3	2	10
NY/LI	SILVER HAKE	UNC	OT	52,53,6		10	14	8	8	40
RI	SILVER HAKE	UNC	OT	52		5	3	2	0	10
RI	SILVER HAKE	UNC	OT	53,6		3	5	10	0	18
					DTAL	40	40	37	28	145
NJ	SURFCLAM	UNC	CD	6	Г	10	10	10	10	40
NY/LI	SURFCLAM	UNC	CD	61,53	F	10	10	10	10	40
VA/MD	SURFCLAM	UNC	CD	6	F	10	10	10	10	40
.,		0.1.0			OTAL	30	30	30	30	120
N 41 - /N 11 1	TII EE1011	LRG	LL	52-63	_	0	1	1	0	2
I//IE//IXIE	HERSH				<u> </u>			ı	٥	
ME/NH N.I	TILEFISH TILEFISH		1.1	52-63		U 1	2	2	0	4
NJ	TILEFISH	LRG	LL H	52-63 52-63	F	0 1	1	2	0	4
NJ NY/LI	TILEFISH TILEFISH	LRG LRG	LL	52-63		1	1	1	1	4
NJ NY/LI ME/NH	TILEFISH TILEFISH TILEFISH	LRG LRG MED	LL LL	52-63 52-63	-	1 0	1 1	1	1 0	4 2
NJ NY/LI ME/NH RI	TILEFISH TILEFISH TILEFISH TILEFISH	LRG LRG MED MED	LL LL ALL	52-63 52-63 52-63		1 0 1	1 1 0	1 1 1	1 0 1	4 2 3
NJ NY/LI ME/NH RI NY/LI	TILEFISH TILEFISH TILEFISH TILEFISH TILEFISH	LRG LRG MED MED MED	LL LL ALL LL	52-63 52-63 52-63 52-63		1 0 1 3	1 1 0 3	1 1 1 2	1 0 1 2	4 2 3 10
NJ NY/LI ME/NH RI	TILEFISH TILEFISH TILEFISH TILEFISH	LRG LRG MED MED	LL LL ALL	52-63 52-63 52-63		1 0 1	1 1 0	1 1 1	1 0 1	4 2 3

NY/LI NJ	TILEFISH TILEFISH	SM/KIT SM/KIT	LL LL	52-63 52-63	TOTAL	3 1 10	2 1 14	1 1 12	1 0 5	7 3 41
MA-N MA-N MA-N MA-N ME/NH ME/NH ME/NH MA-N ME/NH ME/NH MA-N ME/NH MA-N MA-N MA-N MA-N MA-N MA-N MA-N MA-N	WHITE HAKE	LRG LRG LRG LRG LRG LRG MED MED MED MED SM SM SM SM UNC UNC UNC	GN OT OT GN LL/LT OT OT OT OT OT GN OT CT OT	5 51,52,56 52,53,56 51,52,56 5,6 5 51,52,6 52,53,56 5 51,52,56 52,53,56 51,52,56 5 5,52,53,56 5		1 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 2 1 1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 2 1 3 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	4 4 4 6 4 7 4 6 6 6 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
MA-S/CC NY/LI RI	WINDOWPANE WINDOWPANE WINDOWPANE	UNC UNC UNC	ОТ ОТ ОТ	52,56 53,61 52,53,61	TOTAL	19 5 2 2 9	18 4 1 0 5	21 3 1 0 4	23 5 1 0 6	81 17 5 2 24
MA-N MA-S/CC MA-S/CC RI RI RI MA-N MA-S/CC MA-S/CC RI RI	YELLOWTAIL	LRG LRG LRG LRG LRG LRG SM SM SM SM SM SM SM	OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT	514,521 514,521 522,56,52 526,53 526,537,5 522,525,5 526,53 514,521 514,521 522,56,52 526,53 526,537,5 522,525,5	539 56 25 539	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 112

#### ANNUAL South Atlantic Sampling Targets, by Species, 2001/2002

Samplers should attempt to obtain at least 30 length frequencies of a single species/market category, but no more than 50, from each sampled trip.

Please Note: Non-rounded target numbers are a three-year average of lengths or biological samples taken for that species from that state. Rounded target numbers are state-apportioned portions of the entire South Atlantic target.

SPECIES Black Grouper	STATE FL GA	Lengths 1200	<u>Otoliths</u>	Gonads 960
	NC NC	3		
	SC	21		
	50	21		
Black Sea Bass	FL	136	34	
	GA	600	240	
	NC	1200	480	
	SC	600	240	
Gag Grouper	FL	600	240	
	GA	600	240	
	NC	600	240	
	SC	600	240	
Golden Tilefish	FL	1200	480	
	GA	1200	480	
	NC	79		
	SC	1200	480	
Grey Snapper	FL	1200	960	1200
Grey Snapper	GA	7	900	1200
	NC NC	1		
	SC	16		
	SC	10		
Gray Triggerfish	FL	1200	480	
3 66	GA	600	240	
	NC	600	240	
	SC	600	240	
Greater Amberjack	FL	1200	480	1200
	GA	600	240	600
	NC	600	240	600
	SC	600	240	600
11 Cl.	ITI.		1200	7
Hogfish	FL		1200	7
	GA	26		
	NC	36		
	SC	241		

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>STATE</u>	Lengths	<u>Otoliths</u>	Gonads
Jolthead Porgy	FL	600	240	600
	GA			
	NC	6		
	SC			
King Mackerel	FL	1800	804	
	GA	15		
	NC	900		
	SC	900	204	
Spanish Mackerel	FL	1404	1080	
	GA	60		
	NC	696		
	SC	1	60	
Lane Snapper	FL	1200	960	
	GA			
	NC			
	SC	2		
Lesser Amberjack	FL	960		
	GA	480		
	NC	480		
	SC	480		
Littlehead Porgy	FL	600	240	600
	GA			
	NC			
	SC			
Margate	FL	600	240	600
	GA			
	NC	6		
	SC			
Mutton Snapper	FL	1800	1440	1800
	GA	7		
	NC	6		
	SC	18		
Red Porgy	FL	600	52	
	GA	600	240	
	NC	600	240	
	SC	600	240	
Red Snapper	FL	600	240	
	GA	600	240	
	NC	600	240	
	SC	600	240	

<u>SPECIES</u>	STATE	Lengths	<b>Otoliths</b>	Gonads
Scamp	FL	600	43	600
•	GA	600	240	600
	NC	600	240	600
	SC	600	240	600
Snowy Grouper	FL	600	240	
J 1	GA	600	240	
	NC	600	240	
	SC	600	240	
Vermilion Snapper	FL	600	240	
, emmon snapper	GA	600	240	
	NC	600	240	
	SC	600	240	
White Grunt	FL	600	240	
	GA	600	240	
	NC	600	240	
	SC	600	240	
Wreckfish	FL	1200	480	
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	GA	1200	480	
	NC			
	SC	1200	480	
Yellowtail Snapper	FL	2400	960	
* *	GA	13		
	NC	4		
	SC	10		

#### NO TARGETS IDENTIFIED FOR THESE SPECIES - 2000-2001

Tautog

Atlantic sturgeon Atlantic croaker

Red drum

American eel

Horseshoe crab

Northern shrimp

Atlantic menhaden

River herring/Hickory shad

Spot

Spotted seatrout Winter flounder

Spiny dogfish

**Table 8.D.** Overview of the ACCSP qualitative release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program.

Program Activity	Description / Criteria		
Stranding/Entanglement Programs	<ul> <li>Use existing infrastructure and framework, including standard forms.</li> <li>Provide funding to implement procedures for a coordinated coastwide stranding/entanglement network.</li> <li>Provide stranding/entanglement data to the ACCSP.</li> <li>Gear taken from stranding/entanglement programs should be retained and stored for future analysis.</li> </ul>		
Add-on to Existing Recreational and for- hire Telephone and Intercept Surveys	<ul> <li>Continue collection of release/discard data through existing catch surveys for recreational and for-hire fisheries.</li> <li>Increase sample size in areas of high incidence of releases and discards.</li> <li>Add additional questions to the telephone and intercept surveys for protected species interactions.</li> </ul>		
Commercial Reporting System	<ul> <li>Evaluate release/discard data collected through commercial catch/effort data collection programs for trend information to identify release/discard problem areas.</li> <li>If for-hire logbooks are implemented through the ACCSP, evaluate release/discard data for trend information.</li> </ul>		
Port Interviewing	<ul> <li>Use of interview data from port interviewing programs to verify information collected through real-time reporting and other anecdotal information.</li> <li>Use port interviewing programs for dissemination of ACCSP information and materials.</li> <li>Data elements should include time, area, date, fishery type, release/discard information.</li> </ul>		
Real-Time Reporting	<ul> <li>1-800 call-in system for real-time reporting of rescue needs or unusual event taking of protected species and possible finfish species. The system should accept anonymous information.</li> <li>Data to be collected should include area, date, time, fishery type (if applicable), releases, and discards.</li> <li>One number should be provided and maintained by one ACCSP program partner.</li> <li>All relevant information should be forwarded in a timely manner to the appropriate organization/office for action.</li> <li>Verification of reports should be made through port interviewing, the commercial fishermen logbook reporting system, U.S. Coast Guard boardings, and the at-sea observer program.</li> </ul>		

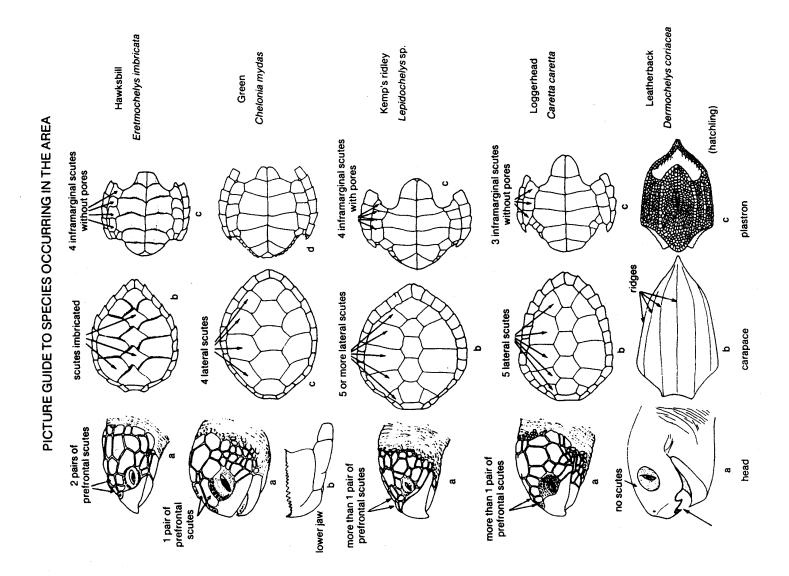
**Table 8.E.** Minimum standard data elements to be collected through the sea turtle strandings and salvage network for providing information to the ACCSP qualitative release, discard, and protected species interactions data collection program.

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Observer Name	Initials of the person who handled the turtle in the field.	3 digit character
Stranding Date	The date the turtle was first reported or encountered.	MM:DD:YYYY
Observer Address/Affiliation	Address where observer can be reached.	50 digit character
Observer Phone Number	Phone number, including area code, where observer can be reached.	10 digit numeric
Species	The species of sea turtle observed. (NOTE: Committee recommends addition of an ITIS Unknown Turtle Species code and delete Reliability of ID field below)	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8 Program Design)
Turtle Number By Day	Sequential number indicating the number of turtles observed during each day. This data element will default to one when only one turtle was observed.	2 digit numeric
Indication of Verification of Identification	Indication of whether the species identification was verified by a state coordinator (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Sex	Sex of the sea turtle (1=male, 2=female, 9=undetermined).	1 digit character
Sex Determined	Indication of how sex was determined (1=necropsy; 2=tail length beyond carapace in adults)	1 digit numeric
State	The state in which the sea turtle was stranded.	2 digit character postal alpha abbreviation (Table A.3, Program Design)
County	The county in which the sea turtle was stranded.	3 digit character FIPS code (Table A.9 Program Design)
Latitude	The specific latitude of the stranding. If latitude cannot be provided specific reference information should be provided on the stranding location in the Notes field.	6 digit numeric, 2 decimal minutes

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Longitude	The specific longitude of the stranding. If longitude cannot be provided specific reference information should be provided on the stranding location in the Notes field.	7 digit numeric, 2 decimal minutes
Condition	An indication of the general condition of the turtle (0=alive, 1=fresh dead, 2=moderately decomposed, 3=severely decomposed, 4=dried carcass, 5=skeletons/bones only).	1 digit numeric
Final Disposition	The final disposition in which the observer left the turtle (1=painted, left on beach; 2= buried, on beach/off beach; 3=salvaged specimen, all/part; 4=pulled up on beach or dune; 5=unpainted, left on beach; 6=released alive, 7=taken alive to holding facility, 9=unknown).	1 digit numeric
Tag Numbers	List of tag numbers and indication of location of tag.	12 digit character
Carapace Length	Length of the carapace over curve.	5 digit numeric
Length Type	Straight length - SCL Curve length - CLL	3 digit character
Units of Measurement (Carapace Length and Width)	Units of length measurement (CM=centimeters, IN=inches).	2 digit character (Table A.3 Program Design)
Carapace Width	Width of the carapace over curve (curved length).	5 digit numeric
Width Method	Straight width - SCW Curve width - CLW	3 digit character
Weight	Weight of turtle	5 digit numeric
Units of Measurement (Weight)	Units of weight measurement (KG=kilograms, LB=pounds).	2 digit character (Table A.3 Program Design)
Notes	General remarks of the observer (i.e., whether turtle was involved with tar or oil, gear or debris entanglement, wounds or mutilations, propeller damage, papillomas, epizoa).	See Table A.12 Program Design, for note codes.

### SEA TURTLE STRANDING AND SALVAGE NETWORK – STRANDING REPORT

#### SEA TURTLE STRANDING AND SALVAGE NETWORK – STRANDING REPORT



#### **BACK OF FORM**

**Table 8.F.** Minimum standard data elements to be collected through the marine mammal stranding network providing information to the ACCSP qualitative release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring program.

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Field Number	Assigned by responding organization - used to identify individual stranded animals.	Character
NMFS Registration Number	Assigned by NMFS. Used to identify individual stranded animals.	Character
National Database Number	Assigned by NMFS. Used to identify individual stranded animals.	Character
Common Name	The common name of the marine mammal observed.	25 digit character
Species	The species of the marine mammal observed.	ITIS11 digit character (Table A.8 Program Design)
Observer Name	Initials of the person who handled the marine mammal in the field.	3 digit character
Observer Affiliation	Agency/group observer is associated with.	50 digit character
Observer Address	Address where observer can be reached.	50 digit character
Observer Phone Number	Phone number, including area code, where observer can be reached.	10 digit numeric
Sighting Only	0 = No $1 = Yes$ - note if a sighting only	1 digit character
Location Found	1 = beach 2 = floating 3 - swimming 4 = other	1 digit character
State	The state in which the marine mammal was observed.	2 digit character FIPS (postal code) (Table A.9, Program Design)
County	The county in which the marine mammal was observed.	3 digit character FIPS (Table A.9, Program Design)
City	The city in which the marine mammal was observed.	10 digit character
Locality Details	Details on the specific locality where the marine mammal was observed.	50 digit character
Latitude	The specific latitude of the marine mammal observation.	6 digit numeric, 2 decimal minutes
Longitude	The specific longitude of the marine mammal observation.	7 digit numeric, 2 decimal minutes
Mass Stranding	Indication of whether the observation was a mass stranding of marine mammals (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit numeric

Table 8.F. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Number of Animals	# of animals involved in the stranding event	3 digit numeric
Human Interaction	Indication of whether a human interaction occurred (0=no, 1=yes, 2= cannot be determined).	1 digit numeric
Type of Human Interaction	Type of human interaction, if applicable (1=boat collision, 2=shot, 3=fishery interaction, 4=other).	1 digit numeric
Determination of Human Interaction	1 = external exam, 2 = internal exam, 3 = not examined	3 digit character
Other Causes	0 = no, 1 = yes, 2 = CTBD	1 digit character
Description of Other Causes	Circumstances surrounding the stranding other than, or in addition to, evidence of human interaction.	50 digit character
Date of Initial Observation	Initial observation date of the marine mammal.	MM:DD:YYYY
Condition at Initial Observation	An indication of the general condition of the marine mammal at the initial observation (1=alive, 2=fresh dead, 3=moderately decomposed, 4=advanced decomposition, 5=mummified, 9=unknown).	1 digit numeric
Date of Examination	Date of examination of the marine mammal.	MM:DD:YYYY
Status	1 = alive, 2 = dead, 3 = unknown	1 digit character
Condition at Examination	An indication of the general condition of the marine mammal at the time of examination (1=alive, 2=fresh dead, 3=moderately decomposed, 4=advanced decomposition, 5=mummified/skeletal, 9=dead/unknown).	1 digit numeric
Live Animal Condition/Disposition	The final disposition of the marine mammal (1=left at site, 2=immediate release at site, 3=relocated, 4=euthanized at site, 5=died at site, 6=transferred to rehabilitation, 7=died during transport).	1 digit numeric
Transport	Information on where the marine mammal was transported to.	25 digit character

Table 8.F. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Final Disposition After Transport	Indication of whether the mammal died or was released during or after transport (0=died, 1=released)	1 digit numeric
Date of Final Disposition	Date that marine mammal died or was released on or after transport.	MM:DD:YYYY
Tag(s) Applied	Were tags applied/attached to marine mammal, for identification (0=no, 1=yes)	1 digit character
Tag(s) Present	Were tags present on the marine mammal upon initial identification (0=no, 1=yes)	1 digit character
Tag Number(s) and Description	List tag number(s), description of tag type(s), and tag location(s).	50 digit character
Tag Placement	Location where tag was placed (1=front, 2-rear).	1 digit numeric
Carcass Disposition	The disposition of the carcass (1=left at site, 2=buried, 3=towed, 4=scientific collection, 5=educational collection, 6=other, 9=unknown).	1 digit numeric
Necropsy	Indication of whether the marine mammal was necropsied (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit numeric
Sex	Sex of the marine mammal (1=male, 2=female, 9=unknown).	1 digit numeric
Length	Straight length of the marine mammal, per standard protocols.	10 digit numeric
Reliability of Length	Indication of whether length was measured or estimated (ME=measured, ES=estimate).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)
Units of Length Measurement	Units of length measurement (CM=centimeters, IN=inches).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)
Weight	Weight of marine mammal.	10 digit numeric
Reliability of Weight	Indication of whether weight was measured or estimated (ME=measured, ES=estimate).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)
Units of Weight Measurement	Units of weight measurement (KG=kilograms, LB=pounds)	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)
Remarks	General remarks.	50 digit character
Tissue/Skeletal Material Taken	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Disposition of Tissue/Skeletal Material	List of any samples collected and their disposition.	50 digit character

#### MARINE MAMMAL STRANDING REPORT - LEVEL A DATA

#### MARINE MAMMAL, SEA TURTLE, AND DEBRIS SIGHTING LOG

The purpose of this log is to record all marine mammal, sea turtle, and debris sightings. Also, the observer records sighting effort (time spent looking) for transit watches, including time when no sightings are made. his information is critical in determining the temporal and spatial distribution of these animals and debris, and the relative abundance and behavior of animals in the vicinity of fishing operations. Sea bird sightings are not recorded here.

The types of sightings and watches, and the proper procedures for conducting each type of watch are described in the Marine Mammal, Sea Turtle and Debris Watches section of the NEFSC Observer Program Training Manual.

Each time a transit watch is conducted, this effort must be recorded on the log with a "begin" watch and "end" watch record (see EVENT TYPE codes, #3). Begin and end watch times must be at least one minute apart. A sighting of a marine mammal, sea turtle or debris may NOT be recorded in the same record as a "begin" or "end" watch record. For gillnet fisheries, do not record begin and end haul watch information as this information is already recorded on the Gillnet Haul Log.

An animal must not be recorded on both the Marine Mammal, Sea Turtle, and Debris Sighting Log and the Marine Mammal, Sea Turtle, and Sea Bird Incidental Take Log. See the Marine Mammal, Sea Turtle, and Sea Bird <u>Incidental Take Log</u> in the <u>NEFSC Observer Program Manual</u> for more detailed instructions on deciding when an animal is a sighting versus an incidental take. An animal determined to be an incidental take is recorded on the Marine Mammal, Sea Turtle, and Sea Bird Incidental Take Log.

Any debris caught during a haul is recorded on the Haul Log (or the Individual Animal Log in pelagic fisheries) and not on this log.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

For instructions on completing fields A-C refer to the Common Haul Data section of the NEFSC Observer Program Manual.

1. TODAY'S DATE: Record the month, day, and year that the event being described occurred.

Example: 03/20/01.

#### **EVENT INFORMATION**

TIME: 2. Record the local time using the 24 hour clock (0000-2359) that the event being described occurred. Example: 20:32.

3. **TYPE CODE:** Indicate the type of event that occurred by recording the most appropriate two digit code: For Watches Only - When a marine mammal, sea turtle, and debris watch is conducted, record one of the following begin/end watch event type codes:

Begin transit watch. 02 = End transit watch. 01= 03 = Begin set watch. 04 = End set

watch.

05= 06 = End haul watch. Begin haul watch.

NOTE: For gill net fisheries, do not record begin and end haul watch information as this information is already recorded on the Gillnet Haul Log.

For Sightings Only - When a marine mammal, sea turtle, or debris sighting is made, record one of the following sighting event type codes to indicate whether the observer is on- or off-effort, and to best describe the vessel activity at the time the sighting was made:

**08** = On-effort, during dedicated watch. 10 = Off-effort, vessel activity unknown.

Off-effort, vessel stop/anchor/drift. 12 = Off-effort, sitting on gear. 11 = 14 = Off-effort, towing gear. 13 = Off-effort, transiting or searching.

15 = Off-effort, hauling in gear. 16 = Off-effort, setting out gear.

17 = Off-effort, waiting for J/V transfer. 18 = Off-effort, taking J/V transfer.

00 =Unknown. 99 = Other, describe the event type in COMMENTS.

NOTE: If the sighting is made during a watch, the sighting event code is always "On-effort, during dedicated watch" (80).

NOTE: Use code 99 to describe dedicated sighting activity outside of the specified watches.

**4. POSITION CODE:** Indicate the location and position of the observer on the vessel at the time of this event by recording the most appropriate one digit code:

00 = Unknown. 01 = Bow, facing forward.

02 =Wheelhouse, facing forward.03 = Wheelhouse, facing backward.04 =Work deck, facing backward.05 = Work deck, facing sideways.

06 = Starboard side, facing net. 07 = Port side, facing net.

99 = Other, describe the position in COMMENTS.

NOTE: If the sighting is not seen by the observer, record "Other" (99), and describe in COMMENTS.

**5. HAUL NUMBER:** Record the haul number assigned to the haul in which any on-effort events or off-effort sightings occurred between the beginning and end of a haul. This number must agree with the number recorded for this haul on the corresponding <u>Haul Log</u>.

NOTE: If the event does not occur during a haul, record a dash (-).

**6. LATITUDE/LONGITUDE OR LORAN:** Record the latitude and longitude location, to the tenth of a minute, where the event occurred. If the latitude and longitude location is given in seconds, convert them to tenths of minutes. If latitude and longitude positions are not available, record the LORAN stations and bearings.

NOTE: See Appendix Q. Conversion Tables for a list of second ranges and corresponding conversions to tenths of minutes.

NOTE: If neither latitude/longitude or LORAN positions are available, record the statistical area as listed in <u>Appendix E.1. Map of Statistical Areas of the Northeast U.S.</u> or <u>Appendix E.2. Map of Statistical Areas of the Southeast U.S.</u>

## ACCSP STATISTICAL AREA MAPS ARE IN DEVELOPMENT.

Example: 35 23.4 75 16.7 or 9960X 27054 9960Y 41824

NOTE: While 9960- loran chains are the most frequently used chains within this program's jurisdiction, in extreme northern and southern areas other chains may be used, such as:

Southern North Carolina: 7980- Canadian: 5930-

**7. WEATHER CODE:** Indicate the weather at the time the event occurred by recording the appropriate two digit code:

00 = Unknown 01 = Clear 02 = Partly Cloudy

03 = Layers of Clouds 04 = Drizzle 05 = Rain

06 = Showers 07 = Thunderstorms 08 = Rain and Fog

09 = Fog/thick haze 10 = Snow, or rain/snow mix

11 = Blowing snow 99 = other (describe in Comments)

- **8. WAVE HEIGHT:** Record, in whole feet, the wave height at the time the event occurred. If the wave height is less than six inches, record "0". NOTE: This is not a range.
- **9. COMMENTS?:** Indicate whether there is a comment associated with this event by recording the appropriate code:

0 = No. 1 = Yes.

IF THE EVENT RECORDED IS A MARINE MAMMAL, SEA TURTLE, OR DEBRIS SIGHTING, COMMENTS MUST BE INCLUDED. COMMENTS are recorded on the <u>Marine Mammal</u>, <u>Sea Turtle</u>, <u>and Debris Sighting Comments</u> <u>Log</u>. Each event has an unique EVENT TIME per day. Care should be taken to correctly record the matching EVENT TIME on both logs.

Sighting comments should include all field characteristics actually seen by the observer and used to make an identification of the animal. Any unusual marks, scars or coloration on the animal(s) should be noted. Size of animal(s) should be included if an estimation is possible. Record ranges of the number of animals sighted, including the number of calves. Behaviors of the animal(s) sighted should be included, such as swim speed and direction and any other activities noted while the animal(s) was (were) observed.

Observed associations with other vessels, marine life or oceanographic phenomena (i.e. wind rows, current

lines, flotsam, jetsam or a dramatic change of water color in the immediate area) should also be included. If photographs were taken, record the ROLL NUMBER and FRAME NUMBERS.

It is important to document any marine debris, whether in the area of animals or not. The debris and its approximate size(s) should be described in general terms, e.g., plastic sheeting 1 meter square, trawl webbing 0.5(m) X 3.0(m), etc. If derelict gear is picked up on purpose to be disposed of properly, take photographs and record in COMMENTS any marine life that may be entangled. Debris entanglement and ingestion have been documented as sources of mortality for marine mammals, sea turtles, sea birds, fish, and shellfish (Shomura and Yoshida 1985). Sea turtles often utilize large pieces of debris for shelter.

## SIGHTING INFORMATION

NOTE: If the record or event being recorded is not a sighting, leave the following fields (#10-#15) blank.

**10. SPECIES NAME:** Record the complete common name of each marine mammal, sea turtle, or debris sighted, as listed in **ACCSP Table A.8, Program Design**.

NOTE: If it is not possible to make a positive species identification, identify the animal to the most specific generic group of which you are positive, i.e. baleen whale, unidentified dolphin, seal, sea turtle, etc. DO NOT GUESS AT SPECIES IDENTIFICATION.

Examples: Unidentified Whale Harbor Porpoise.

- **11. SPECIES CODE:** Leave this field blank.
- **12. NUMBER OF ANIMALS:** Record the number of animals sighted. Do not record a range.

NOTE: If the sighting is debris, record a dash (-) in this field.

- **13. SIGHT CUE CODE:** Indicate how the sighting was first detected by recording the appropriate code:
- 0 = Unknown.
- 1 = Sighted with naked eye.
- 2 = Sighted with binoculars.
- 3 = First sighted by captain or crew, then by observer.
- 4 = Sighted by captain or crew ONLY.
- 9 = Other, describe the sight cue in COMMENTS.
- **14. ANIMAL CONDITION CODE:** Indicate the condition of the animal(s) sighted by recording the appropriate two digit code:
- 00 = Unknown, explain why you can not identify the animal condition in COMMENTS.
- 01 = Alive, condition unknown.
- 02 = Alive, not injured.
- 03 = Alive, injured, describe how the animal is injured in COMMENTS.
- 04 = Alive, hook/gear in/around mouth, attempt to determine where in the mouth the hook is, etc. and describe in COMMENTS.
- 05 = Alive, hook/gear in/around flipper, i.e. hook in the flipper or gear around the flipper.
- O6 = Alive, hook/gear in/around another single body part, i.e. hook in the neck or plastron; specify which in COMMENTS.
- 07 = Alive, hook/gear in/around several body parts, describe more fully in COMMENTS.
- 08 = Alive, seen by captain and/or crew ONLY.
- 10 = Dead, condition unknown.
- 11 = Dead, fresh.
- 12 = Dead, moderately decomposed.
- 13 = Dead, severely decomposed.
- 14 = Dead, seen by captain and/or crew ONLY.
- NOTE: Codes 04-07 exist primarily to improve descriptions of sea turtles. However, these codes may be used, as appropriate, for other animals.

NOTE: If the sighting is debris, leave this field blank.

- ANIMAL BEHAVIOR CODE: Indicate the initial behavior of the animal(s) when first sighted by 15. recording the most appropriate two digit code: 00 = Unknown. 01 = Near gear, physical contact.
  - 02 = Near gear, within 50 meters.
  - 03 = Near gear, within 51 to 150 meters.
  - 04 = Feeding on catch.
  - 05 = Porpoising: the animal(s) is (are) splashing along at the surface, breaking the surface regularly, showing most of the body.
  - 06 = Bow riding: the animal(s) is (are) observed keeping pace with vessel on the bow wave.
  - 07 = Breaching: the animal(s) emerge(s) from the water and crash(es) down on a flank, back or belly.
  - = 80 Swimming at surface: the animal(s) is (are) observed several times surfacing 'normally', each surfacing at some irregular distance from the previous one; it (they) appear(s) to be just moving along.
  - 09 = Milling: the animal(s) is (are) rolling at the surface with no direction, making short dives without moving along. Often a group activity.
  - 10 = Motionless at surface (or dead).
  - 11 = Vessel avoidance: the animal(s) abruptly change(s) its (their) swimming direction or behavior to avoid the vessel; a startling, alarming, fleeing reaction.
  - 12 = Vessel attraction: the animal(s) change(s) its (their) swimming direction to approach the vessel, such as a pod of dolphins purposefully heading toward the vessel to bowride.
  - 99 = Other, describe the animal behavior in COMMENTS.
  - NOTE: If the animal(s) exhibit(s) multiple behaviors, record the code for the initial behavior only, and describe all subsequent behaviors in COMMENTS. If multiple initial animal behaviors exist for one sighting, record the lowest numerical code which applies, and record the other behaviors in COMMENTS.
  - NOTE: If the sighting is debris, leave this field blank.

**Table 8.G.** Overview of the ACCSP at-sea observer program for collection of quantitative release, discard, and protected species interactions data.

Reporting Requirement	Description / Criteria		
Sampling Strategies	All release/discard data should be collected at the haul level for commercial fisheries and at the drop level (each time gear is wet) for the for-hire fisheries.		
	All release, discard, and protected species interactions monitoring programs should develop stratified random sampling procedures and a target sampling frame. Sampling strata should be determined on an issue-specific basis, as determined by the release/discard prioritization process (see Table 34). The generated sampling frame should include additional vessels to replace vessels that are not utilized. The general criteria to be used for not selecting a vessel should be when that particular vessel has participated in the program at least four times in one month or once per quarter for longer trips. All programs should indicate in the database the procedure used to select vessels, including reasoning for non-random selection.		
	All ACCSP at-sea observer programs should provide documentation for those vessels that are not included in the sampling frame.		
	Pilot surveys will be conducted to determine the appropriate level of observer coverage on a fishery-by-fishery basis to meet relevant management objectives of all fisheries based upon days at sea or fishing days (trip level for headboats) until such time as data are available for estimation of PSE (percent standard error) values.		
	Recommended PSE values for both protected species and finfish is 20-30		
	Use of proportional sampling across all gear types and fisheries, recognizing some prioritization as need (statutory requirements) and data (high release/discard areas) dictate.		
Data Management and Submission	Data submission should be on a trip basis.		
Suomission	All release/discard data from commercial fisheries should be linked by the unique identifier to data collected through the commercial fishermen reporting system (Section 5.a.).		
	Non-verified observer data should be made available for data entry 1-7 days after the trip return date, while finalized data should be provided 45 days after the last day of the month for which data was collected.		
Subsampling Protocols	Subsampling priorities are as follows: 1) collect complete data on every haul; 2) collect partial data on every haul; and 3) collect partial data as often as possible. Specific subsampling procedures should be developed and documented by each collecting agency on a fisheries-specific basis (see the ACCSP Quality Control/Assurance Document and general subsampling guidance).		
	Basic data elements to be collected on all unobserved hauls include: vessel/trip header information, haul number, time set, time retrieved, estimated kept catch, gear number, lat/long begin, and lat/long end.		

**Table 8.H.** Minimum standard data elements to be collected through the ACCSP at-sea observer program for collection of quantitative release, discard, and protected species interactions data for commercial fisheries.

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Vessel Information			
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number) These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character	
Vessel Name	Name of vessel (if applicable)	20 digit character	
Individual Identifier	An identifier unique to an individual (i.e. operator license number), traceable through time and space	11 digit character	
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To Be Developed	
Trip Information			
Reporting Form Series Number	Individual number for each reporting form, to be assigned by the collecting agency (i.e., trip ticket number). This data element may be blank in the dual reporting system.	12 digit alphanumeric	
Form Type/Version Number	Version identification number for the ACCSP reporting form.	12 digit alphanumeric	
Trip start	Date the trip started (this is unique to each trip and can be used to tie multiple unloadings into a trip record). A trip is shore to shore by gear/area combination, or in the case of transfers at sea, an off-loading at sea is a trip. This information should include trips with effort but no catch.	MM/DD/YYYY	
Target Species or Species Group 1	The first target species or species group for that trip/haul.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8 Program Design)	
Target Species or Species Group 2	The second target species or species group for that trip.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8 Program Design)	
Target Species or Species Group 3	The third target species or species group for that trip.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8 Program Design)	
State Landed	The state where the product was landed or unloaded.	2 digit character postal code (Table A.9 Program Design)	
Port Landed	The location within a state where the product was landed/unloaded.	5-digit FIPS code (Table A.9 Program Design)	

Table 8.H. (cont'd)

Table 6.11. (cont u)	Ţ	T	
Trip Number	Sequential number representing the number of trips taken in a single day by either a vessel or individual. The trip number will default to "one" when only a single trip is conducted.	2 digit numeric	
Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Primary Gear	The primary gear used to catch the landed species.	3-digit numeric (Table A.4 Program Design)	
Primary Area Fished	Statistical area and distance from shore where most hauls occurred. The distance from shore where fishing occurred [inland (less than 0 nautical milesnm), nearshore (0-3 nm on Atlantic coast, 0-9 nm on Florida and Texas Gulf coast), EEZ (3-200 nm on Atlantic coast, 9-200 nm on Florida and Texas Gulf coast), territorial seas (in the USVI and Puerto Rico (12 nm), and international (>200 nm)] is embedded in this code.	3-digit numeric plus 2 decimals (Table A.3 and Tables A1 - A.10 Program Design) and area figures when revised	
Number of Hauls	Total number of hauls of gear during a trip.	3 digit numeric (Table A.2, Program Design)	
Haul Information			
Trip Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier and trip number (see vessel and trip information)	21 digit character	
Gear(s)	The type(s) of gear used to catch the landed species.  3 digit charact (Table A.4, Program		
Quantity of Gear	The amount of gear employed.	4-digit numeric (Table 22, Program Design)	
Haul Number	Sequential number for unique locations where gear was hauled, representing the number of hauls taken in a single trip by either a vessel or individual.	3 digit numeric	
Haul Observed	Indication of whether the haul was actually observed (0=haul not observed,, 1=complete catch data collected, 2=complete release/discard data only, 3=partial release/discard data, 4=observed kept portion, not release/discard data).	1 digit character	
Target Species or Species Group 1	The first target species or species group for that haul.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)	
Target Species or Species Group 2	The second target species or species group for that haul.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)	

Table 8.H. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Target Species or Species Group 3	The third target species or species group for that haul.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)	
Lat Begin	The latitude at the beginning of the haul.	6 digit numeric plus 1 character (2 decimal minutes)	
Long Begin	The longitude at the beginning of the haul.	7digit numeric plus 1 character (2 decimal minutes)	
Lat End	The latitude at the end of the haul.	6 digit numeric plus 1 character (2 decimal minutes)	
Long End	The longitude at the end of the haul.	7digit numeric plus 1 character (2 decimal minutes)	
Time Set	The time the gear was set. Used with time hauled to derive fishing time	MO:DD:HH:MM	
Time Retrieved	The time the gear was hauled. Used with time set to derive fishing time	MO:DD:HH:MM	
Depth Fished	Depth in fathom at which the gear is fished.	4 digit numeric plus 1 decimal	
Minimum Bottom Depth	Minimum depth of bottom in fathoms.	4 digit numeric plus 1 decimal	
Maximum Bottom Depth	Maximum depth of bottom in fathoms.	4 digit numeric plus 1 decimal	
Deterrent Devices Operational	Indication of whether deterrent devices were operational during the haul	1 digit character (Y/N)	
Deterrent Device	Indication of whether deterrent devices were used during the haul (0= pinger, 1= tory lines, 2 = deflectors, 3= other).	1 digit character	
Deterrent Device 2	Indication of whether deterrent devices were used during the haul (0= pinger, 1= tory lines, 2 = deflectors, 3= other).	1 digit character	
Deterrent Device 3	Indication of whether deterrent devices were used during the haul (0= pinger, 1= tory lines, 2 = deflectors, 3= other).	1 digit character	
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit numeric	

Table 8.H. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Subsample Log - SEE TABLE 20 FOR PRIORITIES			
Trip Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier and trip number (see vessel and trip information)	21 digit character	
Haul Number	Sequential number for unique locations where gear was hauled, representing the number of hauls taken in a single trip by either a vessel or individual.	3 digit numeric	
Subsample Amount or Weight	The total amount, in whole pounds, numbers, or other appropriate unit of measurement of each marine species that is landed, sold, released, discarded, etc. Quantity of protected species should be measured in numbers. This data element is linked to the units of measurement and disposition code for exact characterization of the quantity. For some species, especially protected species, these data are needed on a set basis.	8 digit numeric plus two decimals	
Units of Measurement for Subsample Weight	Units of measurement for subsample weight (i.e., each, pounds, numbers, etc.)	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)	
Species	The species for each species of marine resources landed, sold, released, discarded, etc. Each species is to be identified separately. Use of market or generalized categories is to be avoided within species code fields or variables.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)	
Disposition	Fate of the product (i.e. releases, discards, bait, industrial use, personal consumption, marine mammal interactions, etc.). Disposition of releases and discards should be recorded (i.e. regulatory versus other releases and discards, dead or alive).	3 digit character (Table A.5, Program Design)	
Grade	Any grade categories that affect price, usually size related.	2 digit numeric (Table A.7, Program Design)	
Subsample Quantity	The amount, in whole pounds, numbers, or some other appropriate unit of measurement of each marine species that is landed, sold, released, discarded, etc. Quantity of protected species should be measured in numbers. This data element is linked to the units of measurement and disposition code for exact characterization of the quantity. For some species, especially protected species, these data are needed on a set basis.	8 digit numeric plus two decimals	
Units of Measurement	Units of measurement for quantity (i.e. each, pounds, bushels, etc).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)	
Estimated or Actual	How was quantity collected (0=actual, 1=estimated).	1 digit character	

Table 8.H. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format				
Biological Sample Weight	Weight of subsample for biological sampling	8 digit numeric plus two decimals				
Minimum Data Required	for Observed Entanglements					
Field Number Assigned by responding organization. Used to identify individual stranded animals.						
Haul Number	Sequential number for unique locations where gear was hauled, representing the number of hauls taken in a single trip by a vessel or individual.	3 digit numeric				
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit numeric				
Entanglement Situation Code	MUST BE ADDED TO APPENDIX A.5, ACCSP PROGRAM DESIGN  00 - unknown  01 - fell from gear, point unknown  02 - fell from gear before exiting water  03 - fell from gear once out of water  04 - fell from gear due to force of roller  05 - removal requires cutting gear or animal  06 - removal does not require cutting gear/animal  99 - other  Longline Gear Only  07 - foul hooked, cut from gear  08 - foul hooked, removed from gear  10 - bird caught - gangion attached to line  11 - bird caught - gangion not attached to line	2 digit character				
Net Number (gillnet only)	Number (gillnet only) Consecutive number assigned to that net where the animal is entangled.					
Number of Floats (gillnet only)	Number of floats counted from where the animal is entangled to the nearest endline	3 digit numeric				
Meters Below Floatline	Indication of where in the gear the animal was a digit nu captured.					
Taken on Set or Retrieval	1 digit character					

Table 8.H. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Condition of Animal	Indication of the condition of the animal when released; record most appropriate code (0=unknown; 1=alive, condition unknown; 2=alive, not injured; 3=alive, injured; 4=alive, gear in/around mouth; 5=alive, gear in/around flipper; 6=alive, gear in/around another single body part; 7=alive, gear in/around multiple body parts; 8=alive, seen by captain/crew only; 10=dead, condition unknown; 11=dead, fresh; 12=dead, moderately decomposed; 13=dead, severely decomposed; 14=dead, seen by captain/crew; 99=other	2 digit numeric	
Comments	Include information on where gear is on the animal and what part of the gear entangled the animal	50 digit character	
Biological Information			
Trip Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier and trip number (see vessel and trip information)	21 digit character	
Haul Number	Sequential number for unique locations where gear was hauled representing the number of hauls taken in a single trip by either a vessel or individual.	3 digit numeric	
Species	The species for each species of marine resources landed, sold, released, discarded, etc. Each species is to be identified separately. Use of market or generalized categories is to be avoided within species code fields or variables.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)	
Disposition	Fate of the product (i.e. releases, discards, bait, industrial use, personal consumption, marine mammal interactions, etc.). Disposition of releases and discards should be recorded (i.e. regulatory versus other releases and discards, dead or alive).	3 digit character (Table A.5, Program Design)	
	Minimum Data for Marine Mammals		
Species	Species of each marine mammal observed	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)	
Photo(s)	Were photos taken? (0=no; 1=yes) - Photo should include the tag number and trip identifier, where applicable.		
Tag Code(s)	Indication of whether the tag is pre-existing or newly applied. (0=unknown; 1=taken without tag, then tagged; 2=taken without tag, and not tagged; 3=taken with a tag, and retagged; 4=taken with a tag, and not retagged).	1 digit character	

Table 8.H. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Length	Straight measurement as per protocols.	10 digit numeric	
Units of Measurement	Units of length (i.e., feet, meters, etc.).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)	
Length Type	Indicate whether length was measured or estimated (0=actual; 1=estimated)	1 digit character	
Gender	1=male, 2=female, 3=unknown	1 digit character	
Biological samples taken?	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character	
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text	
Tag ID Number(s)	Tag number from pre-existing or newly applied tags.	12 digit character	
	Minimum Data for Sea Turtles		
Species	Species of each sea turtle observed	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)	
Photo(s)	Were photos taken? (0=no; 1=yes) - Photo should include the tag number and trip identifier, where applicable.	1 digit character	
Tag ID Number(s)	All letters and numbers on pre-existing or newly applied tags.	12 digit character	
Tag Code(s)	Indication of whether the tag is pre-existing or newly applied. (0=unknown; 1=taken without tag, then tagged; 2=taken without tag, and not tagged; 3=taken with a tag, and re-tagged; 4=taken with a tag, and not re-tagged).	1 digit character	
Units of Measurement	Units of length (i.e., feet, meters, etc.).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)	
Length Type Indicate whether length was measured or estim (0=actual; 1=estimated)		1 digit numeric	
Straight Carapace Length	Straight Carapace Length Straight length of carapace from notch to notch (requires use of calipers)		
Curved Carapace Length	Curved length of carapace from notch to notch (requires use of flexible measuring tape).	5 digit numeric	

Table 8.H. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Straight Carapace Width	Straight width of carapace from notch to notch (requires use of calipers)	5 digit numeric	
Curved Carapace Width	Curved width of carapace from notch to notch (requires use of flexible measuring tape)	5 digit numeric	
Width Type	Indicate whether width was measured or estimated (0=actual; 1=estimated)	1 digit numeric	
Were biological samples taken?	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit numeric	
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text Field	
	Minimum Data for Fish and Crustaceans		
Species	Species of fishes and crustaceans observed	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8,Program Design)	
Photo	Were photos taken? (0=no; 1=yes) - Photo should include the tag number and trip identifier, where applicable.	1 digit character	
Length	Length measurement as per protocols.	10 digit numeric	
Units of Measurement	Units of length (i.e., feet, meters, etc.).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)	
Length Type	Type of length measurement (centerline, standard, total, etc).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)	
Gender	1=male, 2=female, 3=unknown.	1 digit character	
Were biological samples taken?	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character	
	Minimum Data for Birds		
Species	Species of observed birds	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)	
Photo	Were photos taken? (0=no; 1=yes) - Photo should include the tag number and trip identifier, where applicable.	1 digit character	
Tag ID Number(s)	All letters and numbers on pre-existing or newly applied tags.	12 digit character	
Tag Code(s)	Indication of whether the tag is pre-existing or newly applied.		

## Table 8.H. (cont'd)

Gender	1=male, 2=female, 3=unknown.	1 digit character
Age Class	Age Class Indication of age class (1=immature, 2=mature, 3=unknown).	
Were biological samples taken?	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text Field

Gear Log	See Tables 8.I 8.R. for specific data elements to be collected on each gear type
	and linked back to the haul log.

**Table 22.** Standard measurements of quantity of gear, fishing time, number of sets, time set and retrieved, and depth fished for specific gear types. These measurements must be used in the at-sea observer release/discard monitoring program to ensure consistency between programs.

Type of Gear	Quantity	Fishing Time	Number of Sets	Time Set/retrieved	Depth Fished (REVIEW)
Traps and Pots	Number traps pulled	Mean soak time		Set: when first pot goes over Retrieved: from the moment buoy line is retrieved	Bottom depth
Trawls	Number of nets towed	Total tow time	Number of tows	Set: when winch stops Retrieved: when winch starts	Bottom of net
Gill Nets Entanglement	Total Net Length, number of sets to number of hauls	Soak time	Number of string (net) hauls	Set: when first buoy goes over Retrieved: when last buoy comes on board	Depth of floatline
Longlines	Number gangions/hooks	Soak time	Number of hauls	Set: start of set Retrieved: retrieval of set	Depth of set
Dredges	Number pulled	Total tow time	Number of tows	Set: when winch stops Retrieved: when winch starts	Bottom depth
Nets	Number of pieces of apparatus	Soak time		Set: when first net goes over Retrieved: from the moment buoy line is retrieved	Bottom of net
Hook and Line	Number of lines (Number of hooks is secondary)	Soak time (not including transit time)	N/A	Set: when first lines are lowered Retrieved: when last lines are pulled up	Bottom fishing - bottom depth Trolling - average depth fished between set and retrieval
Purse Seines	Length of floatline	Soak time	Number of sets	Search Start: When nets placed in Search Stop: nets removed	Bottom depth
By Hand	N/A	Actively Fishing	N/A	N/A	Bottom depth
Spear and Gig	Number	Search time	N/A	N/A	N/A
Haul Seines	Length of net	Soak Time		Set: seine in Retrieved: seine out	

NOTE: Quantifiers must be assigned for each specific gear

**Table 8.I.** Specific gear data elements for gill net fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H.).

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Header Information		
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY
Gear Information		
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit numeric (Table A.4 Program Design)
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit numeric
Gear Characteristics		
Number of Net Panels	Total number of net panels used in the gear.	2 digit numeric
Length of Net Panels	Average horizontal distance in feet of the net panel on the gear as measured along the floatline.	3 digit numeric
Mesh Count, Vertical	Average number of vertical meshes for this gear type.	2 digit numeric
Net Height	Average height of net measured in feet at the endline.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Net Color	Color or combination of colors that best describe individual net panels (00=unknown, 01=clear, 02=white, 03=pink, 04=black, 05=green, 06=blue, 07=multicolor, 08=red, 09=orange, 10=purple, 98=combination, 99=other)	2 digit character

Table 8.I. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Hanging Ratio	Average ratio of the number of meshes to the length of the floatline they are attached to.	1 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Minimum Mesh Size	Minimum mesh size of the net panels. To be collected only if panel mesh size is not recorded.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Maximum Mesh Size	Maximum mesh size of the net panels. To be collected only if panel mesh size is not recorded.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Minimum Twine Size	Minimum twine size of the net panels. To be collected only if panel twine size is not recorded.	2 digit numeric (Table A.11 Program Design for conversions)
Maximum Twine Size	Maximum twine size the net panels. To be collected only if panel twine size is not recorded.	2 digit numeric (Table A.11 Program Design for conversions)
Net Material	Type of material used to construct the majority of the net (0=unknown, 1=mono, 2=multimono, 3=multistrand, 9=other)	1 digit character
Floatline Material	Type of material used to construct the majority of the floatline (0=unknown, 1=floating with foam core, 2=twisted poly, 9=other)	1 digit character
Float Distance	Average distance in inches between floats; measured from center to center.	2 digit numeric
Float Type	The material used to construct the majority of floats (0=unknown, 1=plastic, 2=styrofoam, 9=other)	1 digit character
Float Diameter	Average float diameter measured in centimeters.	2 digit numeric
Leadline Weight	Weight of leadline measured in pounds per 100 fathoms.	3 digit numeric
Additional Leadline Weight	Total weight in pounds of additional weights added to leadline, not including the leadline weight.	3 digit numeric
Length of Tiedowns	Average length of tiedown measured in feet	1 digit numeric plus 1 decimal

Table 8.I. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Distance Between Tiedowns	Average distance between tiedowns measured in feet	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal	
Length of Buoyline	Average length of buoyline in feet, measured from the floats at the water surface	2 digit numeric	
Anchor Weight	Total weight of anchor(s) in pounds holding gear in place	3 digit numeric	
# Nets at each Mesh Size	Number of nets and corresponding mesh size (next element), to the nearest 1/10 inch	2 digit numeric	
Mesh Size	Mesh size corresponding to # nets element	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal	
Floatline Length	Length of floatline, in feet	5 digit numeric	
# Floats	Number of floats used	5 digit numeric	
Leadline Length	Length of leadline, in feet	5 digit numeric	
Space between Net Panels	Number of spaces used between nets	3 digit numeric	
Weighted Width of Spaces between Net Panels	To the nearest foot, the weighted average width of space(s) used between nets	2 digit numeric	
Number of Spaces	Total number of spaces between nets	3 digit numeric	
Anchor Method	Type of method used to anchor the gear (0=unknown, 1=tied to vessel only, 2=anchored only, 3=tied to vessel and anchored, 9=other).	1 digit character	
	Net Information		
Mesh Size	The distance between knot to knot of stretched mesh.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals	
Twine Size	Twine size derived from the diameter of the net webbing.	2 digit numeric (Table A.11 Program Design for conversions)	
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text	

Specific gear data elements for trawl fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H). Table 8.J.

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Header Information			
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed	
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character	
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character	
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character	
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY	
Gear Information			
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit numeric (Table A.4 Program Design)	
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit numeric	
Gear Characteristics	Gear Characteristics		
Net Name	Common name for net - if no common name, indicate net manufacturer and other relevant information.	25 digit character	
Net Position	Net position relative to vessel and other nets (1=out/port, 2=in/port, 3=in/stbd, 4=out/stbd, 5=trytrawl (comments on gear config sheet where fished), 6=stern trawl).	1 digit numeric	
Door Type	Common name of door type, include construction material	25 digit character	
Door Length	Length of the sled edge in feet	4 digit numeric plus 2 decimals	
Door Height	Height of door in feet.	4 digit numeric plus 2 decimals	
Door Weight	Weight of door in pounds.	4 digit numeric	
Net Construction Material Type	Primary construction material of net body (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 99=other).	2 digit character	

Table 8.J. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Headrope Length	Length of headrope in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Footrope/Sweep Length	Length of footrope/sweep in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Ground Cable Length	Length of ground cable in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Top Bridle Length	Length of top bridle in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Bottom Bridle Length	Length of bottom bridle in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Number of Meshes in the Fishing Circle	Number of meshes at the area of largest opening in the net	4 digit numeric
Mesh Size in the Fishing Circle	Size of mesh opening	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Mesh Type in the Fishing Circle	Type of mesh used in fishing circle (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Measurement Type in the Fishing Circle	Type of mesh measure (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar).	1 digit character
Codend Hung	Hanging configuration of codend (1=diamond, 2=square, 3= square wrapped, 4=combination, 5=other, 6=unknown).	1 digit character
Codend Twine Type	Twine type (number of strands) in codend of net (1=single, 2=double).	1 digit character
Codend Twine Material	Material used to construct codend (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 99=other).	2 digit character
Codend Twine Diameter	Diameter of twine used in codend in millimeters.	2 digit numeric
Codend Mesh Size	Size of mesh opening in codend.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Liner Used	Is a liner used in codend? (0=no, 1=yes)	1 digit character
Liner Mesh Size	Size of liner mesh opening.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Liner Mesh Type	Mesh type used in liner (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Codend Strengthener Used	Is a strengthener used on codend? (0=no, 1=yes)	1 digit character

Table 8.J (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Codend Chaffing Gear Used	Is chaffing gear used on codend? (0=none, 1=bottom half, 2=all the way around)	1 digit character
Codend Length	Number of meshes in length of codend.	3 digit numeric
Codend Circumference	Number of meshes in widest circumference in codend.	3 digit numeric
Codend Mesh Size	Size of mesh opening in the codend.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Codend Mesh Type	Mesh type used in codend (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Codend Measurement Type	Type of mesh measure (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar). This should be consistent for all mesh measurements.	1 digit character
Graduated Mesh in Net Body	Is the mesh size used in the body of the net the same size throughout? (0=no, 1=yes)	1 digit character
Minimum Mesh Size in Net Body	Size of opening of smallest mesh.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Maximum Mesh in Net Body	Size of opening of largest mesh.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Net Body Mesh Type	Mesh type used in net body (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Net Body Mesh Measurement Type	Type of mesh measure (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar). This should be consistent for all mesh measurements.	1 digit character
Cable Type	Type of ground gear used on ground cable (0=none, 1=chain, 2=cable, 3=wrapped cable, 4=rock hopper, 5=roller, 6=rubber cookie, 7=bobbin, 9=other, 10=unknown).	2 digit character
Cable Diameter	Maximum diameter in centimeters of ground gear.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Leg/Bridle Type	Type of ground gear used on leg/bridle (0=none, 1=chain, 2=cable, 3=wrapped cable, 4=rock hopper, 5=roller, 6=rubber cookie, 7=bobbin, 9=other, 10=unknown).	2 digit character
Leg/Bridle Diameter	Maximum diameter of leg/bridle in millimeters.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Footrope Type	Type of ground gear used on footrope (0=none, 1=chain, 2=cable, 3=wrapped cable, 4=rock hopper, 5=roller, 6=rubber cookie, 7=bobbin, 9=other, 10=unknown).	2 digit character

Table 8.J (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Footrope Diameter	Maximum diameter of footrope in millimeters.	3 digit numeric plus 2
1 conope Diameter		decimals
Trawl Extension Mesh Size	Size of mesh opening in the trawl extension.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Trawl Extension Mesh Type	Mesh type used in the trawl extension (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Trawl Extension Mesh Measurement Type	Type of mesh measure (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar). This should be consistent for all mesh measurements.	1 digit character
Tickler Chain Length	Length of chain in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals (0.0 = not used)
Tickler Chain Size	Stock size of the chain.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Number of Floats on Headrope	Number of floats on headrope.	2 digit numeric
Floatation Diameter	Maximum diameter of most common float size in centimeters.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Loop Chain Length	Length of chain in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals (0.0=not used)
Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
# of Links Per Loop	Number of chain links between two attachments to the footrope.	2 digit numeric
# of Loops Per Net	Number of chain links between two attachments to the footrope.	2 digit numeric
Type of Release/discard Reduction Device	The type of release/discard reduction device used in the trawl (0=none, 1=TED, 2=finfish excluder 3=finfish deflector, 4=combination 5=other, 6=unknown).	1 digit character
Additional Gear Characteristics	for Skimmer Trawls	
Frame Material	Primary construction material of frame (1=aluminum, 2=steel, 9=unknown).	1 digit character
Frame Width	Width of frame in feet.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Shoe Length	Length of shoe in inches, which is attached to the outer, lower part of the frame.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Loop Chain Size	Stock size of chain.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimal points

Table 8.J. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Weight of Bullet	Weight of bullet in pounds, which is attached to the inner, lower part o the frame and acts as a counterweight.	3 digit numeric
Attachment Point of Tickler Chain	Distance from the footrope to the point of attachment of the tickler chain in inches.	3 digit numeric
Net Body Material	Primary construction material of net body (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 03=Kevlar, 04=Spectra, 05=Tenex, 06=Nomex, 98=combination, 99=other).	1 digit character
Codend Material	Primary construction material of codend (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 03=Kevlar, 04=Spectra, 05=Tenex, 06=Nomex, 98=combination, 99=other).	1 digit character
Codend Twine Size	Twine size of codend in millimeters.	2 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Additio	onal Gear Characteristics for Raised Footrope Trawl	s
Dropper Chain Size	Stock size of dropper chain.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Dropper Chain Sweep Length	Sweep length of dropper chain in feet.	3 digit numeric
Number of Vertical Dropper Chains	Number of vertical dropper chains.	2 digit numeric
Length of Vertical Dropper Chains	Length of vertical dropper chains in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
	Gear Characteristics of Beam Trawls	
Construction Material of Fishing Circle	Primary construction material of fishing circle (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 99=other).	1 digit character
Number of Meshes in the Fishing Circle	Number of meshes at the area of largest opening in the net	4 digit numeric
Mesh Size in the Fishing Circle	Size of mesh opening	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Mesh Type in the Fishing Circle	Type of mesh used in fishing circle (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Measurement Type in the Fishing Circle	Type of mesh measure (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar).	1 digit character

Table 8.J. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Codend Material	Primary construction material of codend (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 03=Kevlar, 04=Spectra, 05=Tenex, 06=Nomex, 98=combination, 99=other).	1 digit character
Codend Chaffing Gear Used	Is chaffing gear used on codend? (0=none, 1=bottom half, 2=all the way around)	1 digit character
Codend Length	Number of meshes in length of codend.	3 digit numeric
Codend Circumference	Number of meshes in widest circumference in codend.	3 digit numeric
Codend Mesh Size	Size of mesh opening in the codend.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Codend Mesh Type	Mesh type used in codend (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Codend Measurement Type	Type of mesh measure (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar). This should be consistent for all mesh measurements.	1 digit character
Codend Twine Material	Material used to construct codend (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 03=Kevlar, 04=Spectra, 05=Tenex, 06=Nomex, 98=combination, 99=other).	2 digit character
Codend Twine Diameter	Diameter of twine used in codend in millimeters.	2 digit numeric
Codend Liner Mesh Size	Size of mesh opening in codend (0=none used).	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Codend Liner Mesh Type	Mesh type used in codend (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Codend Liner Measurement Type	Type of mesh measure (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar). This should be consistent for all mesh measurements.	1 digit character
Footrope Length	Length of footrope in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Footrope Type	Type of ground gear used on footrope (0=none, 1=chain, 2=cable, 3=wrapped cable, 4=rock hopper, 5=roller, 6=rubber cookie, 7=bobbin, 9=other, 10=unknown).	2 digit character
Footrope Diameter	Maximum diameter of footrope in millimeters.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals

Table 8.J. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Headrope Length	Length of headrope in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Headrope Attachment Points	Points of attachment of headrope (1=all along length of beam, 2=outside edges of beam, 3=other, 9=unknown).	1 digit character
Number of Floats on Headrope	Number of floats on headrope.	2 digit numeric
Number of Bridles	Number of bridles per beam.	2 digit numeric
Bridle Length	Length of bridle in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Bridle Attachment Points	Points of attachment of bridle (1=all along length of beam, 2=outside edges of beam, 3=other, 9=unknown).	1 digit character
Location of Additional Weights	Location of additional weights.	1 digit character
Weight of Additional Weights	Total weight of additional weights in pounds.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Loop Chain Length	Length of chain in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals (0.0=not used)
Loop Chain Size	Stock size of chain.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
# of Links Per Loop	Number of chain links between two attachments to the footrope.	2 digit numeric
# of Loops Per Net	Number of chain links between two attachments to the footrope.	2 digit numeric
Type of Release/discard Reduction Device	The type of release/discard reduction device used in the trawl (0=none, 1=TED, 2=finfish excluder 3=finfish deflector, 4=combination 5=other, 6=unknown).	1 digit character
Beam Weight	Weight of beam in pounds.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Beam Shoe Width	Width of beam shoe in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Beam Width	Width of beam in feet.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Beam Maximum Diameter	Maximum diameter of beam in centimeters.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Beam Height	Height of beam in feet.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal

Table 8.J. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Beam Fishing Opening Height	Height of beam fishing opening in feet.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Beam Fishing Opening Width	Width of beam fishing opening in feet.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Beam Material	Primary construction material of beam (0=unknown, 1=steel, 2=wood, 3=fiberglass, 9=other).	1 digit character
Number of Rock Chains	Number of rock chains used (0=none used).	2 digit numeric
Number of Tickler Chains	Number of tickler chains (0=none used).	2 digit numeric
Chain Bag Used	Indication of whether a chain bag was used (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Chaffing Gear Used on Chain	Indication of whether chaffing gear was used (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Average Number of Links Between Rings in Chain	Number of links between rings.	1 digit numeric
Inside Chain Ring Size (top of bag)	Inside diameter of rings in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimal points
Inside Chain Ring Size (bottom of bag)	Inside diameter of rings in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimal points
Chain Length	Number of rings from club, stick or terminal end of dredge to dredge frame.	3 digit numeric
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text

**Table 8.K.** Specific gear data elements for longline fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H.).

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Header Information			
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed	
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character	
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character	
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character	
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY	
Gear Information			
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit numeric (Table A.4 Program Design)	
Gear Characteristics			
Number of Hooks	Average hooks per set (round to nearest whole number) over the entire trip.	4 digit numeric	
Mainline Diameter	Diameter of mainline in millimeters.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal	
Mainline Test	Strength of line in pound strength.	4 digit numeric	
Mainline Material	Primary construction material of mainline (1=nylon, 2=cotton, 3=steel wire, 9=other).	1 digit character	
Number of Strands in Mainline	Number of strands in mainline.	2 digit numeric	
Mainline Color	Predominant colors used in the mainline (1=clear, 2=white, 3=pink, 4=black, 5=green, 6=blue, 7=multi-color, 8=red, 9=other).	2 digit character	
Dropline Minimum Length	Shortest dropline length in feet (rounded to nearest whole number).	3 digit numeric	
Dropline Maximum Length	Longest dropline length in feet (rounded to nearest whole number).	3 digit numeric	
Gangions Diameter	Diameter of gangions in millimeters.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal	
Gangions Test	Strength of line in pound strength.	3 digit numeric	

Table 8.K. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Gangions Material	Primary construction material of gangions (1=nylon, 2=cotton, 3=steel wire, 9=other).	1 digit character
Distance Between Gangions	Distance between hooks (round in whole feet).	4 digit numeric
Gangions Color	Predominant colors of gangions (1=clear, 2=white, 3=pink, 4=black, 5=green, 6=blue, 7=multi-color, 8=red, 9=other).	2 digit character
Gangion Minimum Length	Shortest dropline length used in feet (rounded to nearest whole number).	3 digit numeric
Gangion Maximum Length	Longest dropline length used in feet (rounded to nearest whole number).	3 digit numeric
Leader Length	Average total length of leader (rounded to whole inches) (0=none used).	4 digit numeric
Leader Test	Strength of line in pound strength.	3 digit numeric
Leader Material	Type of leader material (1=nylon, 2=cotton, 3=steel wire, 9=other).	1 digit character
Hook Brand	Manufacturer brand name.	10 digit character
Hook Model/Pattern Number	Hook number assigned by manufacturer.	10 digit character
Hook Size	Manufacturer hook size with slash included.	4 digit character
Number of Light Sticks	Average total count of light sticks, calculated based on light sticks per set during trip (0=none used).	4 digit numeric
Light Stick Color(s)	Predominant color of light sticks (1=clear, 2=white, 3=pink, 4=black, 5=green, 6=blue, 7=multi-color, 8=red, 9=other, 10=yellow, 11=purple).	2 digit character
Number of Floats	Average total count of polyballs and/or dobs used per set for the trip (0=none used)	3 digit numeric
Number of Hooks Between Floats	Total count of hooks (round to whole numbers) between floats.	4 digit numeric
Anchor Weight	Total anchor weight in whole pounds (0=none used).	3 digit numeric
Anchor Weight/Actual or Estimated	Indication of how weight was measured (1=actual, 2=estimated).	1 digit numeric
Bait	Predominant species used as bait.	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8 Program Design)
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Limited to Text

**Table 8.L.** Specific gear data elements for dredge fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H.).

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Header Information		
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY
Gear Information		
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit character (Table A.4 Program Design)
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit character
Gear Characteristics		
Dredge weight	Estimated weight of dredge frame and bag in pounds.	5 digit numeric
Width of dredge shoe	Width of dredge shoe in inches at widest point.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Number of Digby/Rock Buckets per dredge	Number of buckets on Digby dredge.	2 digit numeric
Bucket Width	Width of bucket opening in inches.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Bucket Height	Height of bucket opening in inches.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Frame Height	Height of dredge frame in inches - bottom of cutting bar to top of pressure plate or top of frame.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimal points
Frame Width	Width of frame at the widest point in inches.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimal points
Fishing Opening Height	Height of fishing opening from bottom of cutting bar or shoe to bottom of upper frame in inches.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimal points

Table 8.L. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Fishing Opening Width	Inside measure of the widest point in dredge frame in feet.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Cutting Bar Used	Type of cutting bar used (0=none, 1= bar only, 2 = bar with teeth, 8 = other, 9 = unknown).	1 digit character
Angle of cutting bar/teeth	Angle of teeth or cutting bar in relation to horizontal in degrees.	2 digit numeric
Depth of cutting bar/teeth	Maximum depth bar/teeth cut into sediment in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Teeth spacing	Space between teeth in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Pressure Plate Used	Indication of whether a pressure plate was used (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Club Stick Used	Indication of whether a club stick was used (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Twine Top Mesh Size	Size of mesh opening (0=no twine top used).	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Twine Top Mesh Type	Type of mesh used in the twine top (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Twine Top Measurement Type	Type of mesh measurement (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar).	1 digit character
Twine Top Height in Meshes	Number of meshes in length.	2 digit numeric
Twine Top Width in Meshes	Number of meshes in width.	2 digit numeric
Twine Top Height in Rings	Number of rings in length.	2 digit numeric
Twine Top Width in Rings	Number of rings in width	2 digit numeric
Number of Rock Chains	Number of rock chains used (0=none used).	2 digit numeric
Number of Tickler Chains	Number of tickler chains (0=none used).	2 digit numeric
Chain Bag Used	Indication of whether a chain bag was used (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Chaffing Gear Used on Chain	Indication of whether chaffing gear was used (0 = no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Average Number of Links Between Rings in Chain	Number of links between rings.	1 digit numeric
Inside Chain Ring Size (top of bag)	Inside diameter of rings in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals

Table 8.L. (cont'd)

Incide Chain Dine Sine (bettern of		
Inside Chain Ring Size (bottom of bag)	Inside diameter of rings in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Chain Length	Number of rings from clubstick or terminal end of dredge to dredge frame.	3 digit numeric
Mesh Bag Chaffing gear used	Indication of whether chaffing gear was used (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Mesh Bag Mesh Size	Size of mesh (0=no mesh bag used).	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Mesh Bag Mesh Type	Type of mesh used in the mesh bag (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Mesh Bag Measurement Type	Type of mesh measurement (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar).	1 digit character
Mesh Bag Length	Number of meshes in length.	2 digit numeric
Mesh Bag Circumference	Number of meshes in fishing circle.	3 digit numeric
Gea	r Characteristics for Hydraulic Escalator Dredge	e
Pump Capacity	Horsepower of pump.	3 digit numeric
Intake or Suction Hose	Inside diameter of intake or suction hose in millimeters.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Pressure Hose	Inside diameter of pressure hose in millimeters.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Pressure Manifold or Head	Width between inside edge of sled runners in inches.	3 digit numeric
Number of Nozzles on Manifold	Number of nozzles on manifold.	2 digit numeric
Diameter of Nozzles	Inside diameter of nozzles in millimeters.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Length of Nozzles	Length of nozzles in feet from point of attachment on manifold to opening of nozzle.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Angle of Nozzle Attachment	Angle of nozzle measured from horizontal.	2 digit numeric
Overall Length of Conveyor	Overall length of conveyor in feet measured from manifold to other end of conveyor belt where it reverses direction.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text

**Table 8.M.** Specific gear data elements for cast net fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H.).

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Header Information	·	
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY
Gear Information		
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit character (Table A.4, Program Design)
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit character
Gear Characteristics		
Mesh size	Size of opening of largest mesh.	4 digit numeric
Mesh Type	Type of mesh used in net (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Mesh Measurement Type	Type of mesh measure (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar).	1 digit character
Number of weights	Number of weights on the net.	2 digit numeric
Individual Weight	Individual weight of lead line weights in ounces.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals

Table 8.M. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Twine material	Type of twine material (1=mono, 2=multi).	1 digit character
Breaking strength	Pound test of twine.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Radius of gear	Radius of gear in feet.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Modification	Are any modifications made to gear (strengtheners, etc) (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Description	Description of modifications.	50 character text
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text

**Table 8.N.** Specific gear data elements for fixed net (pound nets, weirs, etc.) fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H).

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Header Information			
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed	
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character	
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character	
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character	
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY	
Gear Information			
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit character (Table A.4, Program Design)	
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit character	
Gear Characteristics-Bottom Staked F	Gear Characteristics-Bottom Staked Pound/Fyke & Hoop Nets (including floating trap nets)		
Pound/Bowl Shape	Geometric shape of pound/bowl (0=unknown, 1=rectangular, 2=round/oval, 3=1/2 round, 4=cone, 5=trapezoid, 6=square, 7=diamond, 8=triangular, 9=other).	1 digit character	
Length/Diameter of Pound/Bowl	Length/diameter of gear in feet.	2 digit numeric	
Width	Width of gear in feet.	2 digit numeric	
Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal	
Twine Size	Predominant twine size.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)	

Table 8.N. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Pound/Bowl Material	Predominant construction material (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 03=Kevlar, 04=Spectra, 05=Tenex, 06=Nomex, 98=combination, 99=other).	1 digit character
Height of Pound	Height of pound in feet.	3 digit numeric
Number of Pounds	Number of pounds, hoops etc.	1 digit numeric
Bait Used (if applicable)	Bait used in the pound (i.e hoop nets used for shrimp).	ITIS11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)
Anchoring Method	Method of anchoring the net (1=stakes, 2=anchors).	1 digit character
Number of Pound Escape Vents	Total number of escape vents.	2 digit numeric
Geometric Shape of Pound Escape Vent	Geometric shape of pound escape vent (0=unknown, 1=rectangular, 2=round/oval, 3=1/2 round, 4=cone, 5=trapezoid, 6=square, 7=diamond, 8=triangular, 9=other).	1 digit character
Pound Escape Vent Length	Total length of pound escape vent in feet.	2 digit numeric
Pound Escape Vent Width	Total width of pound escape vent in feet.	2 digit numeric
Location of Pound Escape Vent	Location of pound escape vent.	2 digit character
Pound Biodegradable Panel Attachment Type	Predominant type of degradable material used (0=none used, 1=iron hogrings, 2=degradable plastic, 3=softwood lathe, 4=uncoated wire).	1 digit character
Leader Inshore Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size at nearshore end of net.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Leader Trap Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size at trap entrance.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Leader Inshore Twine Size	Predominant twine size at nearshore end.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Leader Trap Twine Size	Predominant twine size at trap entrance.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Leader Material	Predominant construction material of leader (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 03=Kevlar, 04=Spectra, 05=Tenex, 06=Nomex, 98=combination, 99=other).	1 digit character
Leader Length	Total length of leader in feet.	4 digit numeric

Table 8.N. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Leader Inshore Depth	Depth of leader at nearshore end, in feet.	2 digit numeric
Leader Trap Depth	Depth of leader at trap entrance in feet (also end of leader).	2 digit numeric
Leader Anchoring Material	Method of anchoring the net.	1 digit character
Heart Length/Diameter	Length/diameter of heart in feet.	2 digit numeric
Heart Width	Width of heart in feet.	2 digit numeric
Heart Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size in heart.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Heart Twine Size	Predominant twine size in heart.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Heart Material	Predominant construction material of heart.	1 digit character
Heart Anchoring Method	Method of anchoring heart.	2 digit character
Wing Inshore Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size at nearshore end of net.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Wing Trap Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size at trap entrance.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Wing Inshore Twine Size	Predominant twine size at nearshore end.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Wing Trap Twine Size	Predominant twine size at trap entrance.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Wing Material	Predominant construction material of leader (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 03=Kevlar, 04=Spectra, 05=Tenex, 06=Nomex, 98=combination, 99=other).	1 digit character
Wing Length	Total length of wing in feet.	4 digit numeric
Wing Inshore Depth	Depth of leader at nearshore end of net in feet.	2 digit numeric
Wing Trap Depth	Depth of leader at trap entrance in feet (also end of leader).	2 digit numeric
Number of Wings	Total number of wings in the net.	2 digit numeric
Wing Anchoring Material	Method of anchoring the wings.	1 digit character
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text

**Table 8.O.** Specific gear data elements for haul seine fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H).

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Header Information		
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY
Gear Information		
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit character (Table A.4, Program Design)
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit character
Gear Characteristics- Haul nets		
Net Far End Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size at the far end of the net.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Net Pocket Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size at the pocket.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Net Far End Twine Size	Predominant twine size at the far end of the net.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Net Pocket Twine Size	Predominant twine size at the pocket.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)

Table 8.O. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Net Material	Predominant construction material of the net (00=unknown, 01=nylon, 02=poly, 03=Kevlar, 04=Spectra, 05=Tenex, 06=Nomex, 98=combination, 99=other).	1 digit character
Net Length	Total length of the leader in feet.	4 digit numeric
Net Depth	Depth at the ends of the wings in feet.	2 digit numeric
Pocket Shape	Geometric shape of pound/bowl (0=unknown, 1=rectangular, 2=round/oval, 3=1/2 round, 4=cone, 5=trapezoid, 6=square, 7=diamond, 8=triangular, 9=other).	1 digit character
Pocket Length/Diameter	Length/diameter of the pocket in feet.	4 digit numeric
Pocket Width	Width of the pocket in feet.	2 digit numeric
Pocket Depth	Depth of the pocket in feet.	2 digit numeric
Pocket Mesh Size	Predominant mesh size of the pocket.	3 digit numeric plus 1 decimal
Pocket Twine Size	Predominant twine size of the pocket.	3 digit numeric (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text

**Table 8.P.** Specific gear data elements for pot and trap fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H.).

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Header Information		
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY
Gear Information		
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit character (Table A.4, Program Design)
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit
Gear Characteristics		
Number of Pots	Number of pots per haul.	3 digit numeric
Geometric Shape	Geometric shape of pots (0=unknown, 1=rectangular, 2=round/oval, 3=1/2 round, 4=cone, 5=trapezoid, 6=square, 7=diamond, 8=triangular, 9=other).	2 digit character
Frame Primary Construction Material	Primary material (1=wood, 2=wire, 3=plastic, 9=other).	2 digit character
Mesh Size	Mesh size of the pot or trap.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Top Length	Length of the top of the predominant pot in whole inches.	2 digit numeric
Top Width	Width of the top of the predominant pots in whole inches.	2 digit numeric
Bottom Length	Length of the bottom of the predominant pot in whole inches.	2 digit numeric
Bottom Width	Width of the bottom of the predominant pots in whole inches.	2 digit numeric

Table 8.P. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Height	Height of the predominant pots in whole inches.	2 digit numeric
Distance Between Pots	Average distance between pots in feet.	2 digit numeric
Number of Entrances	Number of entrances to the pot or trap.	1 digit numeric
Geometric Shape of Entrance	Geometric shape of the entrance (0=unknown, 1=rectangular, 2=round/oval, 3=1/2 round, 4=cone, 5=trapezoid, 6=square, 7=diamond, 8=triangular, 9=other).	2 digit character
Length of Entrance	Length of the entrance in inches.	2 digit numeric
Width of Entrance	Width of the entrance in inches.	2 digit numeric
Location of Entrance	Location of the entrance.	2 digit character
Number of Escape Vents	Number of escape vents.	1 digit numeric
Geometric Shape of Escape Vents	Geometric shape of escape vents (0=unknown, 1=rectangular, 2=round/oval, 3=1/2 round, 4=cone, 5=trapezoid, 6=square, 7=diamond, 8=triangular, 9=other).	2 digit character
Length/Diameter of Escape Vents	Length of escape vents in inches.	2 digit numeric
Width of Escape Vents	Width of escape vents in inches.	2 digit numeric
Location of Escape Vents	Location of escape vents.	2 digit character
Use of Biodegradable Panel	Is a biodegradable panel used (0=no, 1=yes).	l digit character
Attachment Type	Type of attachment of biodegradable panel.	1 digit character
Bait	Predominant type of bait used.	ITIS11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)
Buoy Line Material	Predominant type of line material (need to develop list of materials).	2 digit numeric
Buoy Line Diameter	Predominant line diameter in millimeters.	1 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Trot Line Material	Predominant type of line material (need to develop list of materials).	2 digit character
Trot Line Diameter	Predominant line diameter in millimeters.	1 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text

**Table 8.Q.** Specific gear data elements for purse seine fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H.)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Header Information			
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed	
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character	
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character	
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character	
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY	
Gear Information	Gear Information		
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit character (Table A.4, Program Design)	
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit character	
Gear Characteristics			
Float Line Length	Length of floatline in feet.	4 digit numeric	
Float Line Diameter	Diameter of floatline in millimeters.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals	
Lead Line Length	Length of lead line in feet.	4 digit numeric	
Lead Line Diameter	Diameter of lead line in millimeters.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals	
Lead Line Weight	Total estimated weight of lead line in pounds.	4 digit numeric plus 2 decimals	
Type of Hauling Device	Device used to haul the net in (1=power block, 2=triplex, 3=drum, 9=other, 8-unknown).	1 digit numeric	

Table 8.Q. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Ring type	Type of ring used to hold purse line (1=round, 2=snap, 3=combo, 9=other).	1 digit character
Ring Material	Material from which rings are constructed (1=steel, 2=iron, 3=alloy, 4=stainless, 5=combo, 9=other).	1 digit character
Net Material	Material used in net, excluding bunt (1=nylon, 2=poly, 3=Kevlar, 4=Spectra, 9=other).	1 digit character
Net Length	Total length of net in feet.	4 digit numeric
Net Depth	Depth of net in feet.	3 digit numeric
Net Twine Size	Diameter of twine in millimeters.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Tom Weight	Additional total weight on the purse line in pounds used to control the depth of the purse line.	4 digit numeric (0=none)
Net Mesh Size	Size of mesh in the net.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Net Mesh Type	Type of mesh used in the net (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character
Net Mesh Measurement Type	Type of mesh measurement (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar).	1 digit character
Sack/Bunt Material	Material used in net, excluding bunt (1=nylon, 2=poly, 3=Kevlar, 4=Spectra, 9=other).	1 digit character
Sack/Bunt Length	Total length of sack/bunt in feet.	4 digit numeric
Sack/Bunt Depth	Depth of sack/bunt in feet.	3 digit numeric
Sack/Bunt Mesh Size	Size of mesh in the sack/bunt.	3 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Sack/Bunt Mesh Type	Type of mesh used in the sack/bunt (1=square, 2=diamond).	1 digit character

Table 8.Q. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Sack/Bunt Mesh Measurement Type	Type of mesh measurement (1=stretched center knot to center knot, 2=stretched inside measure, 3=bar).	1 digit character
Sack/Bunt Twine Size	Diameter of twine in sack/bunt in millimeters.	2 digit numeric plus 1 decimal (Table A.11, Program Design for conversions)
Chase Boat Horsepower	Total horsepower of the boat.	3 digit numeric
Chase Boat Gross Tonnage	Gross tonnage of the boat.	3 digit numeric
Chase Boat Length	Total length of the chase boat in feet.	2 digit numeric
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text

**Table 8.R.** Specific gear data elements for rake/hoe/tong fisheries (to be collected through a gear log and linked to the haul log - Table 8.H.).

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Header Information		
Observer Identification Number	Unique certification number provided by the ACCSP at-sea observer training program.	To be developed
Trip Unique Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character
Unloading Date	The date of unloading at the dealer (may be more than one unloading date per trip).	MM/DD/YYYY
Gear Information		
Gear Code	The type of gear used to catch the marine resource.	3 digit character (Table A.4, Program Design)
Gear Number	Consecutive number assigned to each uniquely configured gear hauled and for which characteristics are described.	2 digit character
Gear Characteristics- Rakes/Tongs/H	oes	
Operating Mechanism	Method of operation (1=mechanical, 2=hand, 3=hydraulic, 4 = sail).	2 digit character
Shaft Length	Length of shaft/handle in feet.	2 digit numeric
Width	Width of entire tongs, rakes, hoes in inches.	2 digit numeric
Length of Tines/Teeth	Length of tines/teeth in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Spacing of Tines/Teeth	Spacing of tines/teeth in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Bar Spacing	Bar spacing in inches.	2 digit numeric plus 2 decimals
Weight of Tongs	Total weight of tongs in pounds.	2 digit numeric
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text

**Table 8.S.** Minimum standard data elements to be collected through the ACCSP at-sea observer program for collection of quantitative release, discard, and protected species interactions data for the forhire fisheries.

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Vessel Information		
Vessel Identifier	Unique vessel identifier (Coast Guard or state registration number). These identifiers must be trackable through time and space.	11 digit character
Vessel Name	Name of vessel.	20 digit character
Fishing Party Size	Number of fishermen in the party.	3 digit numeric
Actual Number of Anglers Fishing	Number of anglers actually fishing on the vessel.	3 digit numeric
Individual Identifier	An identifier unique to an individual (i.e. operator license number) traceable through time and space.	11 digit character
Individual Operator	Name of vessel owner/operator	30 digit character
Trip Information		
Form Type/Version Number	Version identification number for the ACCSP reporting form.	12 digit alphanumeric
Trip start	Date the trip started (this is unique to each trip and can be used to tie multiple unloadings into a trip record). A trip is shore to shore by gear/area combination, or in the case of transfers at sea, an offloading at sea is a trip. This information should include trips with effort but no catch.	MM/DD/YYYY
Trip Number	Sequential number representing the number of trips taken in a single day by either a vessel or individual. The trip number will default to "one" when only a single trip is conducted.	2 digit character
Time left dock	The time the vessel left the dock	MO:DD:HH:MM
Time returned	The time the vessel returned to the dock.	MO:DD:HH:MM
Drop Information		
Trip Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier, and trip number (see vessel and trip information)	21 digit character
Drop Number	Sequential number for unique location / gear taken in a single trip.	3 digit character
Drop Observed	Indication of whether the drop was actually observed (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Lat Begin	The latitude at the beginning of the drop.	6 digit numeric plus 1 character (2 decimal minutes)

Table 8.S. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Long Begin	The longitude at the beginning of the drop.	7 digit numeric plus 1 character (2 decimal minutes)
Lat End	The latitude at the end of the drop.	6 digit numeric plus 1 character (2 decimal minutes)
Long End	The longitude at the end of the drop.	7 digit numeric plus 1 character (2 decimal minutes)
Fishing Method	Type of fishing method used (i.e., bottom, troll, surface, fly, drift, chumming, midwater).	3 digit character
Distance from Shore	The distance from shore where fishing occurred [inland (less than 0 nautical milesnm), nearshore (0-3 nm on Atlantic coast, 0-9 nm on Florida and Texas Gulf coast), EEZ (3-200 nm on Atlantic coast, 9-200 nm on Florida and Texas Gulf coast), territorial seas (in the USVI and Puerto Rico (12 nm), and international (>200 nm)] is embedded in this code. (See Table A.3. and area figures when revised).	1 digit character (Table A.3,Program Design.)
Start Time	The time the captain indicates that fishing can begin. Used with time gear retrieved to derive fishing time.	MO:DD:HH:MM
Stop Time	The time that the captain indicates to haul in fishing lines. Used with time set to derive fishing time.	MO:DD:HH:MM
Depth Fished	Depth at which the gear is fished (fathoms) (1 = surface, 2 = midwater, 3 = bottom).	1 digit character
Minimum Bottom Depth	Minimum depth of bottom in fathoms.	4 digit numeric plus 1 decimal point
Maximum Bottom Depth	Maximum depth of bottom in fathoms.	4 digit numeric plus 1 decimal point

Subsample Log		
Trip Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier and trip number (see vessel and trip information)	21 digit character

Table 8.S. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Drop Number	Sequential number for unique location / gear taken in a single trip.	3 digit character
Species	The species for each species of marine resources landed, sold, released, discarded, etc. Each species is to be identified separately. Use of market or generalized categories is to be avoided within species code fields or variables.	ITIS11 digit character (Table A.8,Program Design)
Disposition	Fate of the catch (i.e. releases, discards, bait, industrial use, personal consumption, protected species interactions, etc.). Disposition of releases and discards should be recorded (i.e. regulatory versus other releases and discards, dead or alive).	3 digit character (Table A.5, Program Design)
Quantity Observed (Replaces Quantity Kept)	The amount, in numbers, of each marine species recorded by a trained observer.	4-digit numeric
Quantity Reported (Replaces Quantity Kept)	The amount, in numbers, of each marine species reported by fishermen	4 digit numeric
Estimated or Actual	How was quantity collected (1=actual, 2=estimated).	1 digit character
	Biological Data Information	
Trip Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier and trip number (see vessel and trip information)	21 digit character
Drop Number	Sequential number for unique location / gear taken in a single trip.	3 digit character
Species	The species for each species of marine resources landed, sold, released, discarded, protected species, etc. Each species is to be identified separately. Use of market or generalized categories is to be avoided within species code fields or variables.	ITIS11 digit character (Table A.8,Program Design)
	Minimum Data for Marine Mammals	
Species	Species of marine mammals observed	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)
Photo(s)	Were photos taken? (0=no; 1=yes) Photo should include the tag number and trip identifier, where applicable.	1 character numeric

Table 8.S. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Tag ID Number(s)	All letters and numbers on pre-existing or newly applied tags.	12 digit character
Tag Code(s)	Indication of whether the tag is pre-existing or newly applied. (0=unknown; 1=taken without tag, then tagged; 2=taken without tag, and not tagged; 3=taken with a tag, and retagged; 4=taken with a tag, and not retagged).	1 digit character
Length	Straight measurement as per protocols.	10 digit numeric
Units of Measurement	Units of length (i.e., feet, meters, etc.).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program design)
Length Type	Indicate whether length was measured or estimated (0=actual; 1=estimated)	1 digit character
Gender	Gender of the species (1=male, 2=female, 3=unknown).	1 digit character
Were biological samples taken?	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text
	Minimum Data for Sea Turtles	
Species	Species of sea turtles observed	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)
Photo(s)	Were photos taken? (0=no; 1=yes) Photo should include the tag number and trip identifier, where applicable.	1 digit character
Tag ID Number(s)	All letters and numbers on pre-existing or newly applied tags.	12 digit character
Units of Measurement	Units of length (i.e., feet, meters, etc.).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)
Length Type	Indicate whether length was measured or estimated (0=actual; 1=estimated)	1 digit character
Width Type	Indicate whether width was measured or estimated (0=actual; 1=estimated)	1 digit character

Table 8.S. (cont'd)

Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format
Straight Carapace Length	Straight length of carapace from notch to notch (requires use of calipers)	5 digit numeric
Curved Carapace Length	Curved length of carapace from notch to notch (requires use of flexible measuring tape)	5 digit numeric
Straight Carapace Width	Straight width of carapace from notch to notch (requires use of calipers)	5 digit numeric
Curved Carapace Width	Curved width of carapace from notch to notch (requires use of flexible measuring tape)	5 digit numeric
Were biological samples taken?	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text
	Minimum Data for Fish and Crustaceans	
Species	Species of fish/crustaceans observed	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8, Program Design)
Trip Identifier	Trip start, vessel or individual identifier and trip number (see vessel and trip information).	21 digit character
Photo	Were photos taken? (0=no; 1=yes) Photo should include the tag number and trip identifier, where applicable.	1 digit character
Length	Length measurement in millimeters as per protocols.	10 digit numeric
Units of Measurement	Units of length (i.e., feet, meters, etc.).	2 digit character (Table A.3, Program Design)
Length Type	Type of length measurement (standard, total, etc).	2 digit character Table A.3, Program Design)
Gender	Gender of the species (1=male, 2=female, 3=unknown).	1 digit character
Were biological samples taken?	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character
Trip Identifier	Trip start, vessel, or individual identifier and trip number (see vessel and trip information)	21 digit character
Species	Bird species observed	ITIS 11 digit character (Table A.8,Program Design)
Photo	Were photos taken? (0=no; 1=yes) Photo should include the tag number and trip identifier, where applicable.	1 digit character
Tag ID Number(s)	All letters and numbers on pre-existing or newly applied tags.	12 digit character
Tag Code(s)	Indication of whether the tag is pre-existing or newly applied.	1 digit character

Table 8.S. (cont'd)

Minimum Data for Birds			
Data Element	Description / Criteria	Format	
Gender	Gender of the species (1=male, 2=female, 3=unknown).	1 digit character	
Age Class	Indication of age class (1=immature, 2=mature, 3=unknown).	1 digit character	
Were biological samples taken?	Indication of whether biological samples were taken (0=no, 1=yes).	1 digit character	
Text Field	Comments or uncoded data	Text	

**TABLE 8.T.** ACCSP release/discard prioritization process for identifying Atlantic coast commercial, recreational and for-hire fisheries requiring collection of more detailed gear configuration data or collection of release/discard data at a more detailed level of resolution.

Activity	Specific Task	
Characterize Atlantic coast fisheries	Compile information on commercial and fisheries, including release/discard activities. Annually update information.	
Annually review documentation	Fisheries characterization information  < qualitative and quantitative data obtained through the at-sea observer, strandings, entanglements, fishermen reporting, and port interviewing programs  < target sampling levels for biological sampling based on recommendations from the Biological Review Panel	
Identify problem areas and make recommendations	Based on annual data review, develop recommendations and modifications which may include:  < increase sampling levels < collection of more detailed gear configuration information < collection of data at a more detailed level of resolution (set/tow) < collection of intensive biological samples	
Implementation	Implement recommended modifications to existing at-sea observer programs and other quantitative release/discard monitoring programs.	