

Public Comments Regarding Proposed Mandatory Harvest Reporting Temporary Rules



June 6, 2024 Special Meeting

NC Marine Fisheries Commission

Written Public Comment

May 2024 Business Meeting

Document

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Online Public Comment

Mandatory Harvest Reporting Temporary Rules

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
1	Arthur Noyes	Atlantic	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Need more info to support. This will put an unnecessary load on the recreational fishermen and I'm afraid that it will encourage gross misrepresentation. How are we supposed to report the catch, method, forms and etc. Just making it harder to enjoy the sport. Also grossly unfair to the commercial folks.
2	Bernis Jones	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Really? Just sell tags like hunting. The charters with sonar are the new nets in the creek.
3	Brian Brumbaugh	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>My comments related to NC Session Law 2023-137 .</p> <p>What, exactly, are you expecting to accomplish with this rule? Do you expect fisherman to pull out their cell phones to report catches, how soon after the fish is caught? Does this apply to pier fishermen? In the almost two years I have lived in OIB, I have yet to see any Marine Fisheries or WRC officers on the water or at the ramps - and I'm on the water 3-4 days every week. This rule is totally unenforceable and a complete waste of time and resources.</p> <p>If I fish several days and catch nothing, then fish an additional day and catch one speckled trout, what good does reporting this one fish do?</p> <p>Stop commercial netting in the ICW and it's rivers/estuaries and the fish population will explode in a few years. I cannot count how many times I have seen small, local netters pulling up nets full of trout and drum (both red and black)! Or how many times I have had to navigate around their illegally set equipment that is blocking a waterway! But there is ZERO enforcement - at least none anywhere near OIB.</p> <p>Implement this reporting rule and you'll get nothing out of it. No one will abide by it because they know it's unenforceable.</p>
4	Clint Stevenson	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	

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5	Tim Trakas	Stanley	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You have not given any information on how to report a harvest or to which agency the harvest is going to be reported to. When I fish for these fish that I have to report I am in both waters. How is it going to be defined if I report in one and get stopped in the other. This is another way for the state of North Carolina to reduce the amount of fishing for recreational anglers and give more to the commercial industry. In my opinion most recreational fishermen are not going to know the rule even exists until they get a ticket.
6	Luis Rivera	Rocky Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
7	charles robert sims	Advance	North Carolina	Both rules	For	i used to flounder gig and may again someday. i thnk any information the ncwrc gets will be helpfull to them. i think any harvest reporting will be helpfull to manage quantities for all to enjoy.
8	Joshua Hikade	wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I cannot imagine getting off the boat after a long day out on the water and thinking, OH i have to submit my catch to the state. This rule would be setting the fishing public up for failure. At some point, someone has to stop this over reach. Your two agencies couldn't even create a flounder season in peace last year. Adding more regulations is not going to help. Enjoying the outdoors should be stress free, not complicated.
9	Evan R Hewett	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am opposed to this legislation and rulemaking. There is no good reason for recreational or commercial fishermen to have to jump through all these hoops or face being fined by the State. It's just another layer of bureaucracy added to the already over regulated fishing regulations in North Carolina. We have to report our income to the government, now we have report the even the fish we catch. How about we try making laws that limit government power.
10	Leslie Harrell	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are enough restrictions on these species of fish. This is another government over reach. The organization should implement other resources to ensure the viability of the target fish.
11	Christian Byrd	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	For	There should be no issues with transparent reporting for commercial fishermen, they are profiting from the fisheries sector. Reporting should be simple and easy to submit with minimal paperwork. The recreational fisherman should report only to control and project the population of specific species. Non-Commercial reporting should be anonymous, and for population management only. The specific purpose of this data needs to be defined exactly, and if this information is shared with other agencies and used for anything other than manage the number of fish in NC waters, it should be unlawful. If you punish people for telling the truth, they will never

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						accurately report. Just be truthful about the absolute agenda for this Session Law, and share all ulterior motives.
12	Marc Boettger	Zebulon	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>While I think this is a good idea in theory I do not see it working in reality for the recreational sector. Many people will refuse to report and the data will be worthless. Unless there is some practical way to enforce this (which I doubt). It seems to be a waste of resources.</p> <p>On the commercial side i think it could be enforced much easier. There needs to be some sort of penalty or other enforcement based on license holders who do not report. Which is currently a large chick of them. Either they're license is revoked and out back into the pool or they pay much to larger renewal fees which are then allocated to other areas.</p> <p>In summary I think it is something that while good intentioned is not feasible for recs, but could really help the comm non reporting issues as long as the right incentives were put in place.</p>
13	Michael Cross	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	For the last several years NC recreational fishermen have been limited to one flounder 15 inches or greater. While in SC the daily catch limit is much greater. Do the bureaucrats think the fish can observe the state line? This is the most asinine rule yet and one that places a ridiculous burden not only on recreational fishermen but also enforcement personnel. This rule should be rescinded and those proposing it should shuck oyster's for one year. The state should make it more reasonable and enjoyable for residents to enjoy our resources.
14	JOHN BARRY YASKIEWICZ	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There is no way everyone who catches a fish is gonna report it thru online , USPS or via phone .Enough with this big goverment harassment
15	John McQuaid	Raleigh	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	<p>Though it will be burdensome, I will comply with the new rule and submit all my catches and releases of gamefish. If the data is used to support, conserve, and increase the fish stocks, it will be worth the reporting burden. But the responsibility and burden of using the data to good purpose is upon the State. If we have good data on the fishery but do not stop destructive fishing practices, the data is for naught.</p> <p>Please, please, please find a way to create an easy to use app for reporting. The citizen science app developed by SAFMC would be a good model. The iAngler app supposedly will allow state agencies to use the app for free and is another option.</p>
16	Michael Edmundson	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I think this is a great step forward. People whose livelihoods are based on fishing obviously should have primary access to resources, but they also should be held more accountable for

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						reporting of how much of that resource they take since it is a shared resource and has impact on everyone. I believe these rules will create more accountability for those who want that primary access to our shared resources, and better care for it.
17	Jeff Gaskill	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	As a lifelong carteret county resident this erea has been considered Fisherman's Paradise/ not anymore. I'm all for conservation limits,quota's but these agencies are going to kill the local economy with regulations on top of regulations . People are not going to come here to fish and spend money to fish .An example bluefish are beyond plentiful,so why reduce the limit of 15 fish PPPD to 4 why not 8.Spanish so plentiful I can see that an kings being greatly reduced in the near future.In a roughly 2 week period 1 flounder pp I'm not seeing the decline as all charters are proof there's adequate fish of all these species,Please people don't close an restrict the entire inshore species.Most people just want a fresh catch to feed their family's.I'm assuming the offshore species are on the table next.Don't turn good honest people into being criminal.Will we every see the flounder limit rebound to say 6 fish as everybody want to catch the unicorn of this coast.I respect all laws but please ease up on the Neverending restrictions.Other states have less restrictions but NC in general is becoming a NO fish zone.In closing in my 59 yrs in this county fishing has been constant ,some years better than others but that's natures cycles. I grew up in a Commercial fishing family an Everyone has quite because of over regulations.Bottom line we just want to enjoy this beautiful erea an enjoy a fresh meal of seafood And I hope this doesn't fall on deaf ears I'm always available to discuss my knowledge of this fishery that has made living here a Blessing, Thank you Jeff Gaskill
18	Patrick Hefner	Leicester	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is another law that can't be effectively enforced. Our wildlife enforcement officers are over worked as it is, but yet, the management will expect them to attempt to enforce this silly law. And \$5M for a reporting system that tells you if I caught a fish?? Clearly, something needs to change in Raleigh.
19	James Massengill	Grantsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Another pipe dream by NCDMF Why dot y'all let nc wildlife take over. Y'all can't manage a 10 gallon aquarium
20	Jason Jones	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Very vague information at this time. Need more information on how reporting will be made convenient if required and time frame in which reporting will be required after fishing.
21	Keith Fulcher	Merritt	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	If the commercial fisherman sells to a fish house the dealer already reports it, Unless things have changed if you're a commercial fisherman with a dealer/peddler license you have to, report. And

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						further more you'll never get a accurate account for what the are landing, I'm pretty sure if you could you'd really be surprised at how much seafood the Recs actually land and keep.
22	John Thomas Williams Jr	Leland	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I support this. As a Rec. Fisherman maybe this will finally shed better light on our fisheries, with actual totals being recored.
23	Tad Castellow	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	How will the fish harvest be reported and how long after harvest must they be reported?
24	Robert Winston	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	This should be the norm going forward so we can get better data on fisheries. The only way to make this work is with an app on you phone since it would be so easy. We need to do this for all harvesting of fish including offshore.
25	Chris Hudnall	High point	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This creates another burdensome requirement for Comercial fisherman , who are already stretched to the limit.
26	Alton Glenn Holland	Raleigh/New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	None of the states' business what I take home and eat.
27	Bruce Galbraith	Manteo	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The requirement is un-enforceable and a burden to wildlife officers who are already understaffed. The data will be incomplete and useless for fisheries management. Recreational anglers will not report their catches. Stop trawling and gillnetting in the Pamlico and watch our stocks improve. I am against the proposed rulemaking.
28	Jerry M Houston	Charlotte	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Another added burden on small business.
29	Justin Akins	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Would catch and release be required to be logged and reported? This law is going to take what was an enjoyable, relaxing day, and turn it into what is essentially a business outing; adding undo and unnecessary stresses to what could be some people's only non-destructive or harmful means of "getting away" and "letting go" of whatever their daily lives may bring.
30	Josh Coltrain	Manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is totally insane. No recreational angler should be required to report fish harvests. Are we going to be issued tags next like big game?! Totally nuts and not even possible to enforce. NCDMF should inform the legislature as such. How will you possibly manage all the tourists who fish our waters? What about charter boats? Absolute nonsense.

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31	Jake Eubanks	CLAYTON	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>1: How is this reporting structured?</p> <p>2: question concerning by catch by commercial harvest: what about fish of noted species that are bycatch and not harvested but thrown back? it is known that when gill netting and other methods that this is common. does this have to be reported? 3: in regard to rec harvest if passed: "if a vessel is used, when fish reach the shore, or a structure connected to the shore". What if there is no signal at the location that the vessel is docked, or reporting is unable to be completed? should there be a time frame on it for rec as well as commercial? (24 hours)??</p> <p>This, to me seems like another step anglers will have to deal with in an already overwhelming regulated and still declining fishery. I do not see how this reporting is going to fix the long-term problems with our fishery. I agree that additional regulations on commercial harvest are needed but other than an increase in citations given out to both rec and commercial, I do not see how this will have a positive impact? Gill netting needs to be removed from a means of take for all anglers. I do not understand why we are so unable to take action on things that will actually make a difference? I think there are better ways to spend the \$5mil allocation other than a reporting system that will take years to get up and running and will most likely fail in its purpose (of which has not been clearly explained).</p>
32	Mike O'Connell	Frisco	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	What a joke!!
33	Chance Norman	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Everyone should report their harvest. You have no data without it. Commercial sector is a joke.
34	William smith	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>We already have enough regulations. Sc and other states do not do ridiculous regulations like this. Recreational fisherman are not harvesting large numbers and alot are releasing their harvest. The numbers are from commercial side and need more control. Don't pubish regulations. If the state needs more money for fisheries. Implement a tax to do more studies. Don't punish and make recreational fun and fishing ridiculous. Better have one h*** of a a easy app for reporting if the taxpayer is involved with this. Sometimes govt forgets that we own the govt and it's there because of the people who work and pay. Without the fisherman and hunters there is no wildlife organization. Don't make it ridiculous because of what a few people think vs the ones who do it. Need to follow suit in a common sense manner like sc or other states. Also don't forget commercial fisherman make a living. If you are so worried about the d*** fish then limit how much seafood we eat and waste. All people want to do is fish and if they can't catch fish recreational to eat. Why the h*** do we want to fish period. Ridiculous bulls***. Thanks</p>
35	Michael Daniels	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	For	I feel that we recreational fishermen should also be issued tags that have to be put into fish when caught & kept because not all the older fishermen have smart phones and once they get home with the fish they are not like to report those fish if they were not already checked that day! If we

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				Harvest Reporting		got a set number of tags for each species for the year and we could use them whenever we wanted throughout the year up to the daily creel limit and once the tags are gone for each species there's no more keeping that species the rest of that year. (aka: 14 Flounder tags to be used anytime during the year, but once your tags are used you can not keep anymore Flounder regardless of season) This will keep people from going home with fish and not reporting them!
36	Jonathan Boone	Holly Springs	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Enough with the government intrusion into citizens' lives.
37	Brett Coleman	MEBANE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>So I'm gonna have to report to you every fish I catch. Talk about overstepping your bounds. The fact that you're gonna crack the whip on us like this is insulting, and an undue burden. This law is extremely burdensome for NC anglers. And to the tune of 5 million. A waste of taxpayer dollars. Looks like your creating laws just to keep yourself in business, although "business" may be to generous a word. More like a regulatory money grab. This is right up there with paying for a hunt permit that you don't receive.</p> <p>Brett Coleman Mebane NC Lifetime license holder</p>
38	Ben Bynum	Ayden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The fact that the average weekend fisherman has to report his catch or be limited to four fish in the first place is absolutely ridiculous considering that gill netting is still allowed in our creeks and rivers. This absolutely ridiculous. We already have to pay for the license and pay for the boat on the water. Yall are taxing and limiting the little man to the point that no one will be able to fish and enjoy the beautiful wildlife of North Carolina, without having to pay an arm and leg to go fishing. STOP regulating the weekend fisherman and get rid of the gill nets and you won't have the overfishing yall claim to have proof of.
39	Debra Fox	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>First, your data is absolutely incorrect for both groups. Those that care will report their catch honestly. Those that don't want you to know will not tell the truth. It may help you to see numbers for many rec fisherman is lower. For ex, I caught zero flounder last year during the two indoor I was allowed to keep them.</p> <p>Commercial. The problem I see with commercial fishing is the bycatch by far. Nothing like throwing back dead or dying fish and no accountability. Randomly put inspectors on boats and do it frequently. This entire proposal is a waste of time, resources and accomplishes nothing when the problem is obvious.</p>

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40	Pete Sanderson	Kinston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
41	Rick Scarborough	Buxton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I see no need for these rules. Also, If someone does not want to report their catch, how will there be proof to give that person a ticket or a warning? As long as they don't post it on social media. That fish can be caught in secret and no one would have to know. Therefore, the data collected is not going to be correct. I feel this is just more undo pressure on people trying to use a god-given resource.
42	Nicholas Wells	Chinquapin	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Take the nets out of North Carolina waters !!!
43	Roy Phillips Jr	Manteo	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Section 6 of Session law 2023-173:If the law has already passed, what is the point in public comment? This has been very low-key in my opinion, for a reason. I wasn't even aware this was proposed. Was there a public comment period prior to, that I missed? I would be surprised if you had public comment before AND after.</p> <p>This is governmental over-reach at it's finest. It's clear that this is an attempt to make it illegal to legally catch a fish. In a free country, you shouldn't have to submit papers to the government disclosing that you have participated in a legal activity.</p> <p>I don't see anyone having to report catching a fish in Raleigh....</p>
44	Bob Canupp	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Exactly what do you believe that you will get from this rule. Increased resources, I highly doubt it. In fact the data that you do get is unlikely to be appropriately used. Also, on the commercial side, what about the fish that are killed from their harvesting activities but are not reported because they are discarded. You guys do know that those dead fish are not reported, they are just thrown into the marsh because they are under-sized or wrong species. Get nets out of inland waters and the problems will be solved, look at the efforts of surrounding states and the success. This entire effort is just a joke and meaningless. The stupidity of DMF in NC is amazing. I talked to some folks in Florida at their marine fisheries and they laughed about our issues, just said NCDMF were some of the worst they had ever seen. Session Law 2023-137 is the rule I am fussing about.
45	Shawn A Leonard	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	Isn't this better done at the boat ramps versus having the recreational fishermen report their catches? Wouldn't that be more accurate? This way the boat is out of the water and the wildlife

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				Harvest Reporting		officer can look in the boat to check. It is very difficult to provide this information while fishing. Some of us don't have smart phones. It would make fishing more like a job rather than relaxing as it is intended to be. The fishermen will now have to report their catches and ensure everyone on boat does or do it for them. We go outdoors to get away from electronic devices such as smart phones, computers, etc... Now we are going to need to use them to report catches? Sometimes I go fishing and place a caught fish in the livewell just to be released later as I didn't catch enough fish to take the time to clean, so that fish gets released but I could get a ticket for not reporting? We don't need the extra burden of having to report a fish just as soon as we catch it. We are on the water to enjoy being outdoors away from electronic devices. How do you enforce this for tourist and out of state fishermen? After a long day on the water and having to clean the boat, yourself, fish caught the very last thing anyone will want to do is log onto a computer to report the catch. Very few folks will take the time to do it. This is just red tape and will be very unreliable at best, so it needs to be avoided.
46	wayne peaden	Bellarthur	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't understand how you will be able to get people to report their catches when they don't even go by the limits of the daily creel! You do not have enough staff to monitor this law/rule! To be fair and honest, you will make outlaws out of the honest people that do go by the rules because of the way the rules are written!
47	David isbrecht	Buxton nc	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If this goes into effect numerous boats in North Carolina are permitted in the northeast and southeast Atlantic fisheries. These vessels are called dual permitted vessels so each fishing trip I take, if this passes, I will have to submit 4 trip reports each day. 1 to the south Atlantic 1 to northeast Atlantic, at the North Carolina fish dealer I sell to, he fills out a North Carolina marine fisheries state trip report. Now you say I have to fill out another state report under this new rule. 🙄 This just seems crazy, and I hope you consider another alternative. For commercial fishing. Also, I'm all for trip reports for recreational. Not sure they fill out anything yet. And there's millions of them in North Carolina. You guys don't have a clue what's actually being caught recreationally. I think you use an estimated type system for that.
48	David Buda	Grimesland	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We, the people of NC, already cannot keep most of the species of fish listed above due to the restrictions of marine fisheries and others. This will just be one more tiny bit of control from a government branch. It is my God-given right to fish and be able to feed my family from the land/sea that the Almighty has provided his people. Who are you to charge or restrict me from what God has provided. God's creations were given to us, not so government institutions could profit from and restrict, but to be food for us. I choose to eat meat and food that I grow, hunt, or fish for. I am fed up with government infringing in our rights to do just that.

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49	Lisa Propst	bolivia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It is time for this division to MIND THEIR ON BUSINESS AND QUIT TRYING TO censor the general public as to what they can or cannot catch. The people who are over this need to QUIT and now. You are NOT wanted to be the keeper of this kind of unnecessary overreach.
50	Matt wirt	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	No one will care to report this. The people on vacation will laugh at this. It's a waste of time. You're just trying to do log books again in a different way. Revisit how that ended up. Any board with Tom roller is not an accurate representation of recreational fisherman. We will not comply. Or even buy a fishing license for that matter. Embarrassing yet again. WRC should have taken this over years ago. Thank you for the laugh. The recs are ready to manipulate your data. And commercial guys can get a rec license and do the same. lol. Think much?? Get ready.
51	Marklan Meadows	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Session Law 2023-137 Good idea but I see no way for it to work. People who have a catch to report are not going to bother reporting if no one checks them to even know that had the fish. If someone checks them if they are like me, I don't even own a smart phone or carry a phone when fishing. I'd have to report my catch at the end of the day once I returned back to my motel room over my computer. So if I am check during the day any fish I have will not be reported at the time I am checked. I shouldn't receive warnings and fines if I planned to report my catch at the end of each fishing day. The idea would work but only with the few honest people. I've seen people take a Flounder, put it in a plastic bag and stuff it under the seat of their vehicle on the beach before. There is no way for you to ever get an accurate count of how many fish are harvested just like there is no way for you to get an accurate count of how many fish are left in the ocean that covers 3/4 of the earth.
52	Jimmie Stokes	Burgaw	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
53	Jon Welborn	Winston-Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	i don't understand the reasoning at all and find this to be authoritarian and unenforceable.
54	Matthew King	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop punishing the recreational fishermen!!!! Stop netting in our coastal waters!!! Netters are killing our fisheries! Stop letting the big money fish markets control you!! Stop padding your pockets with their money! We are the only state that still allows netters, they come from out of state to net on our waters!!! Use common sense, recreational fisher do no where near the harm the commercial netters do. Stop netting for a few years and see what happens to our fisheries!
55	MICHAEL EDWARD ALBERTSON	Camden NC	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I believe this law to be an overreach of the government's power. You already have more laws on the books for catching seafood and for hunting that a person has to be a lawyer just to participate in either one. You also have officers and survey takers out in the field. Let them continue to

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56	Bill Morris	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't understand any benefits to the resource of imposing mandatory reporting when there's a well-established survey methodology already in place. Unless it is to lay off all of your field survey agents. In which case the value of any new mandatory data going forward would be essentially worthless for indicating stock trends - which is the whole point of the exercise in the first place. Where was the public comment process when this piece of nonsense slipped through the legislature and apparently became law without any notification to the fishing public.
57	Cody Starling	Princeton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I understand wanting to preserve the habitat, and the quality of fish. But I do not understand why I would need to send a harvest report. I am already limited to 1 red drum. And 1 flounder in such a short season. It cost over \$100 between the fuel, bait,etc to go fishing for the one thing I love to do. To just only keep that small of a limit! Adding another unnecessary step into someone wanting to enjoy time with their family or friends. Are causing people to not want to go spend money at the local store and pay "sales tax" on every purchase. Which hurts the states pocket! Also when you keep making it so complicated to fish. People will stop buying license which will also HURT THE STATES POCKET! STOP TRYING TO TAKE AWAY A HOBBY THATS BEEN AROUND FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS SO YOU CAN CATER TO THE TOURIST, THE NEW HOME OWNERS IN THE COASTAL REGION AND THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN RALEIGH AND OWN A BEACH HOME! If you want to really do something to make a major impact. Put it on the ballot in November! All this does is make people do more illegal things to enjoy there hobby. You work for the people in the state of NC not the people working for you.
58	Cory page	Kinston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
59	Michael McLamb	Hickory	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
60	Robert Laskowski	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The average recreational fisherman should not have a burden placed on them in order to keep one fish! The over fishing of species has been commercial operators especially those of foreign registry that resonate the fisheries just offshore!

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61	Travis Old	Moyock	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Yes. Responsible fishing is good fishing. Plus, harvest numbers provide an insight into fish populations.
62	John Walczyk	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Make it easy to do and we'll increase adoption to protect species, similar to dove hunting reporting.
63	Tanja Davidson	Clayton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Have you people lost your fricking minds? First you've failed for years to address the real issue...over fishing by commercial fisherman and they fish too close inland with gill nets... But now you've decided you have the right to force us to self report? Blow it out your ears!
64	Angelo Baio	Southern Pines	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
65	Parker Wood	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	The number of flounder allowed per person and the length of the season should be increased. The one founder per day per person for a 2 week period for recreational fishers is too short and not enough for a bag limit.
66	Doug Hines	Nags Head	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You have cut the number of fish you can keep to almost nothing. Now you going to add the burden of reporting this to you. What next!
67	Sandy Lewis	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I don't have a problem with mandatory harvest reporting, however I would like the catch reports to be easily accessible via an app or website so there is no undue cost and hassle passed on to the rec/commercial fishermen by having to submit catch reports via USPS.
68	tom fish	winston salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Fishing is a time of relaxation, family bonding and much more. A continued over lay of rules and regulations almost take to recreation out of fishing. I feel money and resources used to enforce and manage these rules could be utilized else where
69	J.H. Miller, Jr.	Ocracoke	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Very bad unenforceable idea. What's next observers riding along with a family fishing trip?
70	James Bell	Kenansville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We are the only state being pounder by regulations. Are you trying to get rid of recreational fishing in n.c.? That seems to be exactly what your doing? We pay for a fishing license that means we want to go catch our on fish not buy it from that commercial guy that is lining your pockets! How about thinking of the small guys for once and stop all this nonsense!!!!

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71	bill myrick	Knightdale	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There is enough rules on recreational fishermen already. We just want to catch a few fish to have a fresh fish dinner with our families. Stick to the ones making money off of their catches. And the flounder season is ridiculous!
72	Gregory G Manning	Broadway	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Come on.....end the good ole boy management of our fisheries. The problem is poorly regulated commercial sector. Always has been with the tainted members of the fisheries ruling body. We are the only state on the E coast with inshore trawling raping our estuaries and breeding nurseries. We are the only state on the E coast with wink and a grin inshore netting regulations. We could easily have the fishery of Fla, Texas, LA....even SC but for our disgraceful waste of the people owned resource by the state of NC.
73	Brandon Moody	Pink Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is our right to fish being the high price of fuel,license,boat registration and all the taxes associated with fishing, we shouldn't have to report what we catch when the limits of harvest is ridiculous. Anyway there's plenty of fish everywhere you go. I personally fish for speckled trout and you can only keep four per person per day when I was young. I remember we could keep 10 or more per day, when the netters can keep a lot the hook and line man doesn't get allowed much at all so I'm against reporting the harvest and there should be a vote for upping the limits per day for the hook and line man thanks for allowing us to speak
74	Neal Collie	Nashville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is one more overreaching tactic by our state to force sportsmen to not engage in a legal right! The more rules and regulations you create, the worse our outdoors becomes. You need to tighten restrictions on the people that are actually causing harm to our fisheries...commercial netting is what is wiping out our fisheries, not recreational fishermen. Our surrounding states do not have the limits or regulations that we have here in NC and they're doing great. Do you actually think our fish stay in state lines? You are making it where people like myself won't make a trip down east because it isn't worth the trip anymore. 1 flounder, 1 red fish, etc is just STUPID and your logic is flawed. If it wasn't, the numbers would have rebounded by now. Striped bass numbers is all you have to look at to prove it. Stop screwing with recreational anglers. I know you won't because you're tyrants.
75	Philip Midkiff	ELIZABETH CITY	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
76	Kari Lynn Worrell	WINTERVILLE	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Commercial trawling in inland waters is harming our state fishery populations. This practice should be banned. Commercial reporting of harvest is a step in the right direction to verify the damage this is doing to fish populations. Proper enforcement is key to the success of this rule.
77	Donald Frost	SalterPath	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Both rules are foolish. More BS that can't be enforced. Do you just have too much free time? Is there a contest to see who can come up with the most ignorant rule?

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78	Chris Chiras	Hubert	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	They need to stop use of gill netting and make sure if they continue to gill net they need to count short fish and wrong fish to there quota.
79	Kurt Harrington Bland	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I support required harvest reporting through a smartphone app, and/or by calling a harvest reporting hotline the same way we report big game harvest and harvest of migratory birds. Post trip reporting or end of season reporting should both qualify.
80	Leon Revels Jr	Pembroke	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You are making it more and more difficult for us to enjoy the simple act of fishing. It causes people to not even want to go anymore. You have to have a law degree just to interpret and know all the rules.
81	Thomas Coppedge	Mount Holly	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why in the world should recreational fisherman be obligated to report their catch to the government. This rule is a massive intrusion into recreational fishing.
82	Clayton Ludwick	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Marine fisheries is too politically corrupt. It will never be fair. Fisheries has made it so the public would rather buy fish than have people enjoy a recreational activity. Sham on you...
83	Tim Markey	Swannanoa	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Commercial should have been reporting all along. The rec fishing report is bulls***. I wont do it!!!!
84	Edward	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There are plenty of fish for everyone. We are a free people and government regulating us to call when we catch a fish is absolutely absurd. I am vehemently against this policy and will continue to stand against government regulation regarding our fishing waters.
85	Graig Zurn	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Another step taken by the NC Fisheries and Wildlife commission in an effort to control or overcontrol our resources. An absolutely uncalled for and unnecessary requirement that will only provide these commissions with more inaccurate data to use against both the recreational and commercial fishing communities in our state.
86	Marc Lineberger	Selma	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I agree with the mandatory reporting for non-commercial harvest as long as the reporting method is simple and easy to perform. Preferably this would be something that can be done via app on a smartphone.
87	Bradley Frazier	Burlington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	

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88	Brian Horsley	Nags Head	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I don't have a problem with the report of fish taken but I see some big problems I am a for hire guide and 90% of my clients in the summer do not have a coastal fishing license. They fish under my blanket license. I can not imagine them looking up a app/website for something they are not Licensed for. Also how are the headboats going to get their clients to report when most are Fishing under the headboats blanket license not to mention the fishing piers.
89	James Bell	Kenansville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	One more thing why don't you guys get all the net trawlers out of the sounds and waterways so we can have some fish in this state. All other states they have to be 3 miles offshore. There regulations on residential is no where as harsh as this state. You are killing the fishing in this state!!!!
90	Dennis McDermott	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting on only a few species is very difficult. I believe many recreational fisherman are unable to identify the fish they catch with some obvious exceptions. You might ask the recreational fisherman to just submit a picture of their catch. Your team could then get the information they need from the pictures. I suspect reporting incidents will be incomplete and sketchy. I realize the department is working to protect fish populations. Much tighter regulations on shrimpers and commercial fishermen would afford fish populations better protection.
91	Lawrence L. Murray Jr.	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It bothers me that a commercial fisherman can come into Pages Creek in Wilmington, NC, Net over 1100 pounds of speckled trout and drum, using two boats and two nets, while the fish are spawning in the mud flats, and I can't take my grandchildren fishing without worrying about rules. It seems to be skewed to the commercial side of the rules and not towards the pleasure side. Marine fisheries was contacted by a resident living on Pages Creek and was told there was NOTHING they could do. SHAMEFUL! Thank you for your time.
92	Brett F Patton	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Adding administrative tasks to a relaxing recreational endeavor is not only a micromanaged overreach but also not a good use of North Carolinian's tax dollars.
93	Norris Yoder	Hickory	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is my opinion that this places an undue burden on sport fishermen, which is already heavily regulated. Sport fishermen only harvest a fraction of the fish ,mentioned in this requirement, compared to commercial fishing. I believe that harvest made by sport fishermen should be voluntary with no fines for non compliance.
94	David Gaskill	Cedar Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	For	I think it's about time you see just how many fish the recreational sector is catching. The problem is getting them to report and be truthful, therefore I think it will be a waste of time and money.

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				Harvest Reporting		
95	Mike Keadle	Cedar Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It would be virtually impossible to immediately report harvest of specific gamefish based upon cellular signals and availability of said cell devices. The enforcement of the reporting would also increase the strain on officers sworn to uphold these unnecessary regulations.
96	John D Marchisin	WILMINGTON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a ridiculous bureaucratic request for non-commercial fisherman to report catch. We already adhere to limit regulations. You have the math required to calculate estimates of our catch. The only purpose for this request is to further restrict keep limits for us. And on top of it, to fine for not reporting. 100% percent against.
97	John Seivers	Advance	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have recreationally fished for the past 40 years. In that time, I have never seen shortages of red drum, flounder, or trout. If I am targeting those species, and the water temp, clarity, etc. is correct, I have no issues catching them. This is the same for any avid fisherman or woman. This would lead most people with a brain to the conclusion that there are not shortages, and if there were shortages, it would not be from the mom and pop people fishing. It is already ridiculous that one must pay to acquire a license to catch a fish recreationally. We all know it is nothing more than revenue generation for the State or what some of us call a "money grab." I am 100% against the reporting of the harvest. One, because it will be impossible for some folks, and two, it will be cumbersome and time consuming for the rangers to enforce.
98	Matthew Frazier	Cherryville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We should not have to report our catch. A long as we are staying inside the creek and size limits, recreational anglers should not have to report. Commercially, reporting should be required as they are on the water daily and there is also higher volumes of bycatch by the means in which they are harvesting.
99	Ted Williams	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The state has too many rules for regular people just trying to catch enough fish to eat once a week or so. Y'all have me worried about getting a ticket every time I take my grandkids. I didn't take them at all last year. You all should be ashamed of your communist policies.
100	Lee Ward	Gastonia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I can see mandating the commercial fisherman but for anyone, I think it is carrying it a bit too far. It's taking the fun out of it for the average person. I believe it would make the average person lose interest

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101	Steve Weat	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Waste of tax money. This illogical regulation will create a population of law-breakers . This seems like a passive-aggressive gesture aimed at both sides...a childish way to dodge creation and enforcement of reasonable laws.
102	Lynn Jourden	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Commercial harvesting is killing the fishing for recreational fishermen. Recreational fishermen put a lot more money in the economy thann commercial. Just look at what florida has done. The net boats have devastated the industry not the recreational fisherman.
103	David Reed	Kernersville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	When I purchased that expensive lifetime license in 1985, the catch limits were reasonable. Today I can only keep 1/10 of what it was when I purchased that lifetime license. In my opinion that is simply bait and switch and it's due to poor commercial harvest management over the last 35 years. Now, not only do I rarely catch anything worth keeping, you want me to spend my time reporting everything I'm lucky enough to catch when I get back from dodging all those d*** nets and pens and luck into something they missed. NC fisheries management is a joke controlled by commercial interests. Thanks for their scraps.
104	Edward Kearney	Maple Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Enough of the regulations already. So many now you've taken away the fun part of fishing.
105	Carl Chapman	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I fully agree that commercial harvest should require a reporting. As far as requirements for Non-Commercial reporting I am not in agreement with that aspect. If Non - Commercial harvest is not being be followed as current law, then punishment for offenders should be the focus. Do not implement rules that punish a majority of Non Commercial Harvesting by having another rule. You guys are taking the fun out of recreational fishing
106	Michael	Mullop	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I fail to see the logic for this rule. Why is recreational fishing being punished all the time. First it was Flounder and if you have your way, there will be five more fish you will outlaw us having. When I lived in Texas, they had a tag you attached to any Redfish over 28 inches and then they would allow you to get an extra tag for a total of two fish a redfish over 28 inches. How will you possibly enforce this. All it's gonna do is create more deaths to the population.
107	W. Baum	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just when you think bureaucratic nonsense can't get any worse, here we go. Looks like kingdom building to me. You want to improve the quantity and quality of recreational fishing in North Carolina, get the shrimpers and gill netters out of the sounds and rivers.
108	Justin Henshaw	Chesapeake	Virginia	Non-Commercial	Against	Having to report every fish I catch when I vacation to North Carolina is going to be a difficult task. I rarely have any service where I fish in NC, so I'll likely continue to fish and vacation in

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				Harvest Reporting		North Carolina for the next year or until I get caught. Let recreational fishers buy a permit and fish. Why does everything have to get more complicated for people who enjoy a hobby. Commercial fishing is one thing (population control) but to track every fish caught by recreational fisherman is ridiculous.
109	BRETT RYDER	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's unbelievable how ridiculous the rules you're coming up with are. Recreational by definition is "relating to or denoting activity done for enjoyment when one is not working". You're now trying to make people who are fishing recreationally do work while fishing. That is the exact opposite of what recreational fishing should be. It's hard enough to have a good day on the water where everything lines up, weather, work schedule, money, fishing license, finding fish, ensuring fish meets size & bag limits, etc. and now, in addition to all the above, you plan to mandate that recreational anglers go on some website or submit a paper form and tell you exactly how many and maybe what size fish were harvested. Yall sure know how to take all the f'ing fun out of fishing. Keep up the good work dumba*****.
110	Joseph Scott Sr	GRIFTON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	As a retired/disabled sportsman it's hard enough to keep up with all the new rules and regulations. We are being regulated out of a sport. I am a catch and release fisherman. Due to the high levels of mercury I will not eat anything out of the rivers, my health is more important.
111	Cortney Carter	Chinquapin	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	As a Florida native, I am very familiar with the need to regulate the local fishery both commercially and recreationally. Florida enacted a similar policy to report reef fish species. The process became very complicated and cumbersome. I can attest to the fact a good bit of the men who fish recreationally are elderly or not technologically savvy (ie my husband). A regulation like this would be pretty earthshattering for him. I can almost guarantee each time he goes fishing I will have to be the one to report the information of his catch that day. Your articles do not describe the details of what needs to be reported or with in what time frame of the catch. For someone like my husband, relay this information will be difficult in its self, depending on the details requested. I feel having a program that people can volunteer to report the information may go further in the community versus a mandatory reporting requirement. That also depends on what information you are trying to gather and for what purpose. So many recreation fishing regulations have been put into place over the last few years with limits on different species and season dates, this would be another step in the wrong direction. Implement the process in waves. Roll it out to the commercial industry as that is your larger harvesting population to begin with. See what results you get from that. If needed as the recreational fishermen to volunteer for the program, possibly earn a reward for doing so. We pay for licenses each year (or a large chunk for lifetime), yet each year we get less and less abilities to harvest. For many of us that catch is a tool in helping to feed our families. Think about the end

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						users before the roll out of programs like this. Also, think of who those people actually are and the skillset/abilities they have to perform the tasks you are asking of them.
112	Matthew Frost	Havelock	North Carolina	Both rules	For	This will provide a more accurate harvest report.
113	Lee Howell	New Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>My understanding is whether the fish is caught and released or harvested reporting will be mandatory for those listed species?</p> <p>I recommend removing seasonal harvest dates for the species that currently have seasons for the duration of the temporary rules in order to remove any confusion regarding reporting and to gain a more accurate number of those that are harvested.</p>
114	Kevin Brock	Mint Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just don't understand what this accomplishes? There is no reason given. Red Drum have made a great comeback and there are more then ever in the waters off NC. This is just more control that isn't needed. If anything the limit of slot drum should be raised not given more restrictions. We need to as fishermen and women use our rights as NC residents to vote out all the elected officials that are in favor of this. At the start of this comment page it said our comments are public record and will be shown publicly, ok I am fine with that. But now all the politicians i favor of this rule come out publicly and show yourself so we can get you out of office and positions of authority to even support such a Law.
115	Will Anders	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is very clear that there needs to be meaningful changes in NC's fisheries management programs, but I don't see how this moves the issue forward. My reasoning for this is two-fold: (i) commercial fishing creates a much larger negative impact, driven most acutely but definitely not exclusively by inshore shrimp trawling and (ii) compared to historical policy, there are already some pretty strict rules on the proposed fish and I don't expect that this new rule will have the intended impact given both the very minor penalties and the fact that the bad actors (who are the bulk of the problem) just won't report or will falsely report (basically why would we expect the criminals to start reporting all of the bad they do).
116	James Wallis	hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>You must know what co.mercial fishermen are doing. My thought are you need to get reporting from licieced commercial Fishman and supply chain.</p> <p>Regarding sports fisherman this is not a practical idea. I catch and eat about 5 to 6 fish a year and the amount of resources needed to find out what a simple survey wod give you would be resources better spent. ALSO, THIS TIME WOULD BE BETTER SPENT AND FINDING FISH, CLAM AND Oster meat quality considering Gen X pollution. I have not seen anything done to print to present our loss claim to Dupont and Chemora . Best regards, Jim</p>

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117	James Allen	Zebulon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You've already put commercial harvesting before recreational fisherman and taken flounder from the tables of hundreds of families. Now you want to make recreational fishing even more inaccessible. Regulations listing size limits, creel limits, and season dates already are clearly written and need no further complication!
118	Mike Eubanks	Oak Island, NC	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>Before I can decide whether this is good or bad, I need to know how the authorities intend to enforce compliance. If it is voluntary, and has no penalties or minor ones (\$35.00) involved, my thoughts are that the recreational fisherman will not see it as important enough to participate. They may see it as just another attempt to make it harder for the recreational fisherman. I understand that the commercial fishermen have (apparently) been reporting via a web application for years. How is compliance enforced to this group?</p> <p>I understand that having good data makes the decision process easier and more reliable. But I'm skeptical that the penalties won't be strict enough to guarantee compliance. And as someone who has fished NC salt water for over 50 years, I think current recreational regulations are way too strict. The inflationary costs of EVERYTHING is going to drive many recreational fishermen out of the game. This is exacerbated by only being able to catch and keep 1 flounder, 1 red fish, etc. There are way more flounder and redfish now that there has been in years. I vote for taking your foot off the gas pedal.</p>
119	Ben McDowell	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	this wont stop poacher also how will this be enforceable? where i fish we are in low to no phone service, what if i catch a fish and then get stopped by game warden? do i get a ticket for having no service? i may cancel my nc and just start only fishing and supporting south Carolina, they seem to have a better grasp on the fisheries than nc
120	Jeremy Dover	Oak Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I understand the department's hands are tied as the language in the law seems fairly clear, but this is an insane law. Disregarding what I expect will be mass underreporting of the data, based on either ignorance or malicious noncompliance, why impose such a burden on both the fisherman (be it commercial, recreational, or tourist) and the department itself (massive effort for what will ultimately be untrustworthy data)?
121	Ben McDowell	Shallotte	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
122	Bob Batson	Cape Carteret	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More radical Gov. Reg, this is ridiculous. Leave fisherman alone!

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123	Steve Bolding	BEAUFORT	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't think you are using common sense when you make these rules! Why would a recreational fisherman report a trip when they catch 1 or 2 fish. I think you would be better off with an end of year estimate for each species. Also if you just eliminate or reduce size of gear for inshore trawlers the juvenile stocks will increase year over year. You could even alternate years for inshore trawling. I'm not trying to punish commercial fishermen trying to make a living. You have to manage the fishery or it's going to hurt both commercial and recreational fishing. Look a Louisiana as an example.
124	JOHN L FINELLI	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I see no value in the data unless all catches are reported, and that's not going to happen. Conclusions will end up being based on an unknown percentage of persons reporting an unknown percentage of fish.
125	Michael Mascianica	Hillsborough	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	My only request would be to utilize the already existing reporting system that hunters and fishermen/women use in NC (Go Outdoors NC). This would eliminate the need to download multiple applications, plus the system is already utilized for the purchases of licenses. I think this proposal makes sense especially with the lack of fishing success for flounder and red drum. As a recreational angler I haven't been able to keep a flounder in years, and this reporting data will hold everyone accountable and allow for biologists to keep track of both commercial and recreational harvest data.
126	Jerry A Jackson	Havelock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Our fishing for trout is decent each year in the fall until the strike netters start harvesting. They wipe out nearly all fish. Between the strike netters and the trawling, I don't see how there are any fish left to catch.
127	Edward "Mick" Rankin	Stantonsburg	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	While the intent is to get accurate reporting of catches and health of the fisheries, this constitutes government overreach. The first problem is enforcement. There are not enough resources to receive all reports in a timely manner. A system similar to the big game harvest could work, but the number of recreational fishermen far outnumber the big game hunters so there is no confidence that such a system would not crash during reporting. That brings up the question if someone tries to report but is unable are they then liable for penalties for failure to report? What about those individuals who intentionally fail to report, but claim inability? What would be the grace period to make a report if the system was unavailable? Many persons travel hours to reach fisheries for a day of fishing. To add additional requirement for reporting catches adds to their time commitment. It could discourage people from participating in fishing or travel to fishery sites and that would negatively impact the local economies. Fuel prices are already having such an impact. Also, if a person goes out on a boat, what is the policy for reporting catches, by angler or by boat owner/operator? This has implications because if boat owner is required to report the

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						catches, does that reduce the overall catch limit to the boat or the number of anglers on the boat? What would be reporting for catch and release? That would make sense to get an accurate count of fishery health, but could create a question if total catches would then be regulated. Finally, the typical answer is to punish anyone found not to have properly reported their catch. Rather implementing a policy of punishment, why not develop a reward program to inspire the public to report catches. Awards for number of consecutive reports, number of limit catches, number of catch and release, etc. People respond to rewards by participating (knowing than not all will), but they also respond to punishment by finding ways to avoid reporting. We can do better for the public.
128	Dan K McNeill	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Reporting seems to be a reasonable effort to contribute to the health and sustainment of the species.
129	Dale Taylor	Lenoir	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I oppose the State constantly passing new rules and regulations for citizens to deal with, and try to keep up with. Government needs to limit its intrusion in citizens private lives.
130	Joseph Sowers	Midlothian	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I, and nearly every other recreational angler, am firmly against harvest reporting in the form proposed by the MRC and WRC. This comment period is the first we are hearing of this new reporting law. Although I am unfamiliar with the particular law requiring this reporting, it seems as though this was thrust through the legislative system and I question the scientific results behind the need for this reporting system. It is being implemented for species of no concern (other than flounder, but that's a whole different can of worms), especially drum, speckled trout, and weakfish. This must not be allowed to proceed but if it does, there needs to be some way to report the harvest through the Go Outdoors NC mobile application and should be done on an annual basis just like the Harvest Information Program. Implementing this would increase participation by making it as convenient as possible for those who are being forced to comply with this overreaching legislation. This is a very disappointing and this angler hopes that the MRC and WRC can find a way to help the anglers of North Carolina where the legislators have failed.
131	Robert Byrd	Roanoke	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	If harvest reporting helps maintain the species, I am in support of it. I don't see this as an "inconvenience" or intrusion, which it's bound to be received as. The last fishing survey I received was on the beach in 2000. I would imagine better data will be collected this way.
132	Brian Howard	Snow Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Harvest limits are in place. Laws are already in place to protect our wildlife resources. Requiring licensed individuals who participate in recreational fishing to report their harvest is adding yet another burden to a sport that is already over-regulated and over-taxed. How are the harvests to

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						be reported? How soon after harvesting the fish? How convenient will it be to report the harvest? How many additional personnel will need to be hired to deal with all the information that results from reporting all these harvests? What funds will be used to pay those personnel? Funds from fishing and hunting licenses should be used to protect habitat, finance the stocking of fish, and paying the game wardens who actually enforce the laws in the field. These funds should not be used to support the bureaucracies that will inevitably form in order to create more rules, regulations and requirements for reporting fish harvests, then processing the information that may or may not be used in a fashion that adds actual value to the well-being of our state's fisheries. It is getting to the point where you need a field biologist, a GPS system and a lawyer before you can hunt or fish in NC. I am completely against the idea of requiring a recreational fisherman to report the harvest of any legally acquired game fish.
133	Steve Witherspoon	Jefferson	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There are too many 'administrative' requirements from the government in general. Please do not add another.
134	Jason Naumuk	Middlesex	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It would be nice if the rules would come with an explanation on what they are meant to accomplish. Is it to track harvest numbers to see how it's affecting populations, just because you want the information, or rules enforcement? Is there any evidence that reporting will be effective for any of those. Not a fan of the state collecting information about it citizens for no reason, we have enough privacy issues already without me having to tell the state I caught 2 flounder on Saturday. Before I forget, maybe ask for public opinion before you pass a law. I think that's how government is supposed to work, "government of the people, by the people, for the people".
135	Ryan Guthrie	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel like the last thing any recreational fisherman needs is more regulations. I'm all for voluntary reporting but mandatory is ridiculous. You people are sucking the fun out of an outdoor hobby for so many people. Why make it so complicated?
136	Norton Baker	Wallace	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I am for reporting so we have more accurate data about fish harvest.
137	Edward Heins	Havr	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This appears a complete overreach when it is related to recreational fishing. There are already catch limits and game wardens often inspect and verify catches. It is not only a burden placed on recreational fisherman to report a speckled trout or redbfish, caught within limits of size and quantity but an intrusion on individual rights. Historically, regulations imposed are rarely if ever removed and freedoms lost are rarely if ever regained. I can envision an environment where a fully licensed citizen falls afoul of the powers that be, solely due to his failure to report a couple

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						of fish taken well within the limits that those same powers stipulated. This reeks of a further expansion of an already bloated bureaucracy. I see little advantage to the individual fisherman, and little advantage to the fishery.
138	Kelly Gray Gray	Hope Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>It is my understanding that under the current proposed legislation even children, (or the adult with them- who may as well leave their pole at home), will also be held to this ridiculous set of rules.</p> <p>I remember a time when you pulled up at the dock excited to share with others about the catch of the day, now it will be sharpen those pencils, pull out your phone, or get ready to pay up \$\$\$!</p> <p>No way they will be able to keep track of all these guidelines. This is not enforceable and takes the joy out of fishing.</p>
139	Thomas Drew Bowden	Sparta	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Once again, the nanny state is overreaching into NC recreation fishing. Our state doesn't need to spend more of our tax money or tax funded resources to have the state's fat finger micromanaging every time a game fish is harvested. We already have some of the strictest regulations on sport fishing in the region. This smells of a World Economic Forum global 2030 agenda goal. I strongly oppose this new mandatory reporting. It just gives state regulators more latitude to fine, charge, and add more restrictions and in the end cost us more money in an already over regulated industry.
140	DANNY P CLODFELTER	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is total BS. You are creating lawbreakers. Total overreach. You better hire thousands of new agents to enforce. You do not have the constitutional authority to enact this law
141	William D. Blair	Hamlet	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am opposed to both of these. They will place an undue burden on both recreational and commercial fishermen and is unenforceable. To put it bluntly, this proposed rule is idiotic.
142	John Iobdell	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This would significantly impact recreational fishing by presenting a burden to people who are simply enjoying time on the water. Don't criminalize catching fish without your cell phone in hand or a pre planned piece of paper that must be printed... This would disproportionately impact elderly and young people who don't have access to the internet or a home computer and printer. These are not the people you are trying to find info on...
143	William Spearman	Beaufort	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	A rule requiring a non-commercial fisherman to report their catch is time consuming and onerous! Such a rule would change a pleasant day of fishing where I might catch one or two fish into an administrative nightmare. Would this rule require that I report my catch immediately, at the end of the day, or cumulative each month. If I must report on the day of catch, then I must load my boat (assuming a pleasant day of boating and fishing), clean my catch, clean my boat, put

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						away my gear, and then find a computer with internet connection to report that my day of fishing only resulted in 1 flounder, 2 Pinfish, and croaker. Yes, I know the rule is only for RedFish and Flounder (at this time!), but mission creep occurs and some administrator will eventually require we report every fish landed and what bait we used. Next you will be asking how many shrimp and how many mud minnows were used for how many strikes and how many misses. So, NO to reporting RedFish and Flounder catches from the recreational fisherman!!
144	Louis Mallia	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am opposed to harvest reporting requirements for recreational anglers. I DO support harvest reporting for commercial fishermen, as it is obvious that their harvests are significantly larger.
145	Jason Mauldin	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Without proper enforcement these rules are only punishing the law abiding fishermen. I can watch fishermen come in, unload their catch and then catch a second, third and fourth limit. This is particularly common during the limited flounder season. If you provide funding for proper enforcement including the ability for citizens to report violations and have action taken, then I support this regulation. Without enforcement it's just a waste of time and money.
146	Eric Roddewig	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	If mandatory reporting does become law, I would request that the method of reporting be designed to have value to the fisherman as well. I will comply with the law regardless, but it would be nice if reporting could act as a fishing log.
147	River Curlee	Salisbury	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Just another dumb thing you idiots keep doing! 98% of the average recreational fishermen are not going to take the time to report there catch or care to share that information with the DNR witch the DNR will chose to use the eschewed data to make less fishing opportunities Now for the commercial harvest everything gets reported that's gets sold so basically all this will do is add another layer of paper work on top of everything we have to go through now
148	Ioannis Tsoulos	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is a horrible idea. We already have too many regulations on recreational fishing, please don't punish us anymore with pointless rules that will be hard to comply with. I already travel across the state to go fishing, I don't want to have to waste my time to do accounting on fish, or worry about having an "unregistered" fish in my cooler because I didn't report it in time. This is ridiculous.
149	Brian Prevatte	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I believe the root cause of a so-called shortage of different species of fish is not caused by the recreational fisherman, rather the senseless trawling in our coastal nursery waters. All inland waters including Pamlico Sound, Albemarle Sound, and others are the nursery ground of the

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						Atlantic. You are about to make a law that cannot be enforced other than just by chance an officer stumbles onto an illegal catch. These laws are doing nothing but making criminals out of once legal and honorable fisherman.
150	Steven Birchfield	Waxhaw	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	NO, non-commercial reporting should not be required. The fishing license requirement exposes my contact info to fisheries bureaucrats, they can contact me if need further data.
151	Thomas Francisco	Grandy	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>I have no problem reporting my catch, as long as the process is easy, user friendly, and has a reasonable time frame.</p> <p>I would like to have the ability to report it by an electronic form. Possibly something like a QR code on the fishing license you can scan that directs you to an online form that you can fill out, and we should have a week to report.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
152	anthony stone	wilson,n.c.	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	this is stupid a** government over reach. h*** the limits are so tight it aint worth fishing , making outlaws out of good citizens.
153	Joel tucker	Holly ridge	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>What kind of stupid law is this? Have all of you lost your minds? So everyone who rents a beach house and catches a fish is gonna have to go to some app or website and let you know about it???</p> <p>What about all these older retired guys? They can barely send a text message even if they do at all. Unbelievable! I would like to know who came up with this. I guarantee you they dont fish. Some pencil pushing college graduate or a group of them who plays fishing games on his phone probably did. NC wildlife you have once again thrown common sense out of the window and screwed over all NC anglers. Why dont you focus on shutting down drag nets and gill nets for commercial guys like every other state has if you want to see the fish numbers come back up? You guys are truly ridiculous.</p>
154	John High	Battleboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	No need for reporting, the limits are enough regulation.
155	Parker Watkins	Wagram	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	

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				Harvest Reporting		
156	Dalton E Majors	Elon	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
157	RYAN MYERS	MONCURE	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
158	Neill Belk	Mooreaville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This nothing more than government over reach. If rule passes, then if we recreational users have to report, then the limits on keeping should be lifted.
159	Lyle Tostenson	Clayton	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
160	Wesley Jordan	Creedmoor	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	What is the end game here? We need more transparency in why this is being done. That said, I think this rule makes sense for commercial anglers who are harvesting large quantities of fish in order to make a living. However, it is silly to require recreational anglers to report the few fish they are even allowed to harvest recreationally. I'm generally someone who is in favor of limits and protecting our fisheries at all costs, but this is getting ridiculous. It is really starting to feel like DMF is doing everything in their power to push people away from the sport of recreational fishing. It is truly heartbreaking to think that I may not be able to pass my favorite past time on to my children and grandchildren.
161	John collins	Clemmons	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	These proposed harvest reporting changes for recreational catch are onerous and an over reach. The casual recreational fisherman or woman should NOT be subject to such laws beyond already existing creel limits. Thank you.
162	Steven M. Sherman	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	To count and report all fish caught is just crazy. Let me guess.. Some software company has software that can collect all the data via cell phone. The commerical guy will need to seperate and count each fish by type, not by weight. Many people catch fish and have no idea what it is, nor do they care.
163	FADY ATTIA	WINSTON SALEM	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	

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164	David Rhodes	Concord	North Carolina	Both rules	For	These rules are long overdue. I would support much stiffer fines for non reporting with a differential between commercial and recreational fines or a per fish fine which could accomplish the same effect. I would also support some type of positive incentives for accurate and timely reporting.
165	David Williams	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The intent of these additional regulations is to grow government and the funding to support the growth. As a sport fisherman my vote is my way to someday join the marine fisheries commission and vote a second time to dissolve this failed part of gov.
166	Eric Fenstermaker	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	How will this be enforced? How fast must you report, cell phones are a non-player in many rural areas? Or is this a "gotcha rule". I understand the intent, but I doubt it can be enforced. As a recreational fishman, I think this should be voluntary.
167	Kelly Gray Gray	Hope Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is my understanding that under the current proposed legislation even children, (or the adult with them- who may as well leave their pole at home), will also be held to this ridiculous set of rules. I remember a time when you pulled up at the dock excited to share with others about the catch of the day, now it will be sharpen those pencils, pull out your phone, or get ready to pay up \$\$\$! No way they will be able to keep track of all these guidelines. This is not enforceable and takes the joy out of fishing.
168	Dennis Jewett	Enosburg Falls	Vermont	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We go on vacation in NC often. I love fishing while we are there. In fact , that's one of the reasons we vacation there. Here in VT, they have messed with so many new rules and regulations for fishing and hunting, they are losing interest because it's just such a hassle. License sale have gone way down over the years. You go fishing and hunting to enjoy the outdoors and relax. Now that you've spent the day fishing, you have to take even more time out of the day to report your catch. This is so foolish. You are going to lose interest and income. You already pay people to keep track of this stuff. Are you going to dismiss them, now that you have the public doing their jobs? I think you're shooing yourself in the foot here. Good luck. I won't bother buying a fishing license there anymore.
169	Doug Wells	Hickory	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
170	Phillip Harrington	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not support the additional reporting requirements proposed.

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171	Nicholas Koren	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Ban ICW Gill netting and drag net trolling. Creating this new regulation for recreational fishing is going to cost way more in resources than it's worth, meanwhile we're opening allowing the destruction of the largest fish nursery in the US.
172	Eric Barde	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Recreational should not need to record each fish they catch. Commercial fishermen should and should also not be allowed to gill nets. The use of gill nets is destroying harvests and hurting recreational fishermen.
173	Michael Agejew	Advance	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Seems like another administrative add on to no real end. I understand the want to track approximately how many of these fish are harvested, but anyone can say any amount they want, so what is the point? Most will not remember. I feel bad for those who fish a lot who will have no real way to keep track. What do we have to do, take a form with the date on it and record every time we catch something?
174	Josh	Hickory	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	North Carolina politicians and commissions have ruined fishing in NC. Rules and bills like this one , flounder season , let it spawn bill. When fisherman can take there money and go one state over and not have the restrictions hurts tourism for the coastal communities and the state. Not only is the limit so strict already your gonna make another rule that a recreation fish man has to report it. I think the commercial fisherman should have to report it but even if it passed they wouldn't. Can u imagine having to call in hundreds of fish a day. let's be realistic here. Less recreation fisherman = More fish for the commercial fisherman. The only people this helps is the commercial fishermen, politicians and commissioners lining there pockets at the coastal communities expense. I'm disgusted with how recreational saltwater fisherman have been treated in North Carolina.
175	Gary McIntyre	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I applaud the rule to have ALL catches reported to the N.C. Marine Fisheries as well as the N.C. Wildlife Commission. I think it will be a real eye opener. Thank you. Gary McIntyre/ Kinston N.C./ Recreational Angler
176	Stephen Wagner	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Yes, we need to do whatever we can to protect our natural resources and the rules must be enforced.
177	Steven McLendon	Monroe	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	As long as it can be submitted online in the app., and must be submitted by the end of the day, I am in agreement. However, you should not have to report every fish. You should be allowed to wait until the end of the day (or trip) and record all caught fish.

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178	Young Kim	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against the proposed rule for non-commercial reporting. As an avid and life time fishing license holder in NC, I do not understand the need for this law for recreational fishers! It is one more "red-tape" that does nothing to protect any of the species listed. The issues are with the commercial fishing and allowing them to over fish the flounder, etc. We already have plenty of laws on hand to control recreational fishing, and our wildlife officers are already over worked and can barely enforce the laws we have now!
179	Charles Ward	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just another stupid law to make the State more money at our expense! How will this even be enforced?
180	alfred n. pagnotta	kill devil hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am opposed to the collection of data for recreational purposes. I am for the collection of data on all commercial harvesting.
181	James Watkins	Wagram	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is will not be possible to do in a timely or efficient way. This is government overreach.
182	Philip Maginnes	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It is evident by the restrictions that continue that our fishery is being mismanaged. Our neighboring coastal states have eliminated gill netting and inshore trawling without eliminating their commercial fishing industries. Reporting recreational harvests does nothing to solve the big problem. I will fish under whatever rules are imposed but this is a numbers crunch not a solution. Eliminate nets and subsidize the commercial fishermen for a period of up to four years based on proven income from netting and trawling. This is ample time to retrain and refocus. I am opposed to the shortened flounder season and having to report all harvested fish seems like an effort to increase restrictions. This is a proposed band aid on a much bigger wound.
183	jeffrey mann	Candor	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The noncommercial fisheries that are discussed in this proposal are not in danger by recreational fisherman of depleting this aquatic resource. no solid evidence has been provided to Support that fact. this is just another step of government monitoring and impeding, as well as charging and punishing through fines the public for doing what God intended. This is simply overreach and a way to generate revenue from those individuals who inadvertently forget to report. no overfishing has been done in any of the literature that I've read. I am totally against this proposal reporting other than voluntarily, and any fines. commercial fishing is a different issue. This should be regulated do to the amount that they can potentially harvest. A guy and his son on the weekend keeping a couple fish to eat is not the problem. GOVERNMENT OVEREACH!

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184	Jack Martin	Lexington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I am for the commercial reporting requirements. I am not for the recreational requirements. Have a recreational fisherman report all the species caught is an unneeded burden on someone fishing for fun and/or a meal. The impacts between commercial and recreational fishing are quite different.
185	Clem Bolton Holding Boney	Raleigh, NC	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I fish for red drum, flounder, and speckled trout both form Oriental and Ocracoke. I can't imagine having to report every fish I harvest.
186	Scott Sage	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I'd rather report what I catch than to not be able to KEEP what I catch subject to harvest restrictions. Hopefully the reporting will be easy (like a phone app or something). It seems a better way to monitor fish populations rather than arbitrary no-harvest dates (or years...flounder!). Also - you'll see from reporting that the problem with overfishing is NOT the individual angler, but commercial netting.
187	Dennis Dzendzel	Sunset Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I have never read such a poorly written regulation that does not include a reasonable explanation of it's intended purpose outside of the legislature passed this, so golly, we have to implement. If the purpose is to capture the amount harvested, would suggest simply utilizing a statistical firm that would randomly sample commercial and recreational users at docks, piers and landings to extrapolate harvest amounts. I fish regularly with friends and only catch and release, so would have zero reporting required, but we catch a lot of fish and that information should also be of interest. Not only for what, where and size of catch, but also because all fish released don't always survive.
188	Joel	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel this is a waste of tax payer money, no one is going to follow this rule and it cant be enforced. I feel with the amount of counts that you already do at boat ramps you should have sufficient data. I gave fish counts five times last year at the ramp as well as other data. NC is the only state that still allows commercial seatrout netting, start here.
189	Kelly Gray Gray	Hope Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	To what purpose or benefit is it of anyone that it be disclosed the type of hook, line, and/or gig one chooses to use? Besides the obvious of course. Reference below from requirements- Recreational fishers will be required to report: Fishing license number, or first and last name and zip code of residence. Date of harvest.

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						Number of each of the five species you caught and kept. Area where the fish were harvested. Type of gear used (e.g., hook and line or gig). You will not need to report fish you did not keep.
190	Jack Martin	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am for the commercial rules but not for the recreational rules. The commercial fisherman deal in large quantities that could impact populations while the recreational fisherman is just doing it for fun or to catch a few for dinner. Very different population impacts between the two and encumbering recreational fishermen with reporting requirements is impactful on the experience.
191	David Owen	Swansboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a ludicrous proposal for recreational fisherman. I can go to any local seafood place in Onslow and Carteret counties year-round and buy local inshore fish. Recreational fisherman are not the hazard to the population. Typical of government and bureaucracy, we are implementing measures that treat inshore fish like deer, turkeys, or swan. Waterfowl, which is a national and international resource, is not regulated in this manner. The commercial harvest of waterfowl, on the other hand, has been outlawed for decades. There should be no requirement for recreational fisherman and inshore netting should be banned as in other states.
192	Rick Clelan	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	What is the purpose of this? What needs to occur is to stop allowing shrimp harvesting boats so close to shore so that recreational, beach fishing can return to sustainable levels. These boats are indiscriminate killers of game fish and bait fish. Visit any beach or pier and ask fishermen how many fish they catch now versus 10 years ago. NC used to known as surf fishing capital of the East. Now it is just a place to wet a line and catch a ray.
193	John	Nags Head	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Mandatory fish reporting, while intending to enhance fisheries management, presents several drawbacks. Firstly, it imposes additional burdens on recreational anglers and potentially discouraging participation in fishing activities. The administrative costs and complexities associated with enforcing such regulations could outweigh the benefits, especially for overstretched regulatory agencies such as DMF. Moreover, mandatory reporting might not accurately capture the diverse range of fishing activities, leading to incomplete or biased data. In an already politically and emotionally charged arena (the current state of NC fisheries) this could undermine the effectiveness of fisheries management strategies based on flawed information. Instead, fostering voluntary reporting initiatives coupled with education and incentives may yield more reliable and sustainable outcomes while preserving recreational fishing experiences.
194	Adam Roper	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fishing is often seen as a fun leisurely activity, allowing individuals to unwind from daily stress and connect with nature as a way to reset their mental health and well being. However, mandating reporting of fish harvest to wildlife authorities for recreational fishing may pose an unneeded and unfair burden and hardship to hard working and tax paying citizens who

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
						<p>find joy in the world of fishing. Here are a few of my key issues with the law:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. **Burdensome Regulation:** Requiring recreational anglers to report their fish harvest adds an additional layer of regulation and bureaucracy to what is supposed to be a relaxing pastime. It could deter people from participating in recreational fishing altogether, especially those who engage in it casually or infrequently. If this is seen as a goal of the law then that is certainly something of concern and would likely become a voter issue for many. 2. **Privacy Concerns:** Requiring individuals to report their fish harvest data may raise concerns about privacy. What used to be an escape from the daily stresses of life for many law abiding nature loving citizens is quickly turning into a highly regulated and highly surveilled area where citizens of our state feel the pressure of government in an area where they should only feel the connection with nature. 3. **Resource Allocation:** The administrative burden of collecting and managing recreational fish harvest data could divert resources away from more pressing conservation efforts or monitoring commercial fishing activities, where the impact on fish stocks might be more significant. I know that there are funds allocated to the collection of harvest data but I can't help but feel that these funds would be better spent toward education than toward more government regulation. 4. **Enforcement Challenges:** Enforcing reporting requirements for recreational anglers can be challenging, especially in remote or less accessible fishing areas. It may require increased monitoring and surveillance, which could strain wildlife agencies' resources and budgets. In addition, those in minority communities may be more impacted than those of non marginalized communities due to their challenges of accessing the technology to report harvest. It's creating an additional hurdle for lower income families as well as failure to report harvest they are using for food could result in a monetary penalty taking even more food off their plates and into the hands of a ever growing government. 5. **Impact on Participation:** Fishing is often enjoyed as a way to connect with nature and unwind from the stresses of daily life. Introducing reporting requirements may diminish the recreational aspect of fishing, making it feel more like a regulated activity than a leisure pursuit. With the on going mental health crisis in this country we should be taking the opposite steps and encouraging people to connect with nature and to get outside more.

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						Instead of imposing reporting requirements on recreational anglers, wildlife authorities could explore alternative approaches to gather data on fish populations, such as utilizing voluntary angler surveys, employing modern technology for data collection, or focusing on education and outreach initiatives to promote sustainable fishing practices. These approaches could provide valuable insights into fish populations while preserving the enjoyment and freedom associated with recreational fishing.
195	james lynch	clemmons	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	for commercial , these guys struggle to make a season sometime. recreational. i always measure so if its too small i put it back and vice versa. but dont take the fun out of the sport. too much gov. is killing our country sports. 35.00 fine find another way . this is absurd. i dont get to fish much but when i do i dont want to be under a microscope. so no ,..
196	Samuel Norris	Pink Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	If this is what it's coming too, i will just stop buying license or supporting Nc. Its a shame that we are being forced to fish in Sc and Va because of a board.
197	peter benotti	Oak Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	SESSION LAW 2023-137 I do not support the idea of handling my phone and handling raw fish. While I understand the need to keep track of catch, I, for one, have ZERO intention of renewing my license this year. It feels like we are trying to take the fun out of fishing. You Win.
198	Elmo Hassell	Columbia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just when I thought there was enough rules for fishing ,you come up with something else. If this is enforced ----what will be next ? I'm almost to the point that I'm afraid to go fishing, not knowing if some how I may be breaking the law. My Dad was a commercial fisherman, and I fell in love with fishing, and raised my children with rod and reel in hand. And to this day it is still a passion with them. Please NO MORE REGULATIONS !!!!!
199	Michael George	Sophia	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Anything we can do to get a more accurate number on the harvest of these restricted species would be helpful. Maybe we could also start a tagging system where we as recreational fisherman could be issued and harvest a certain number of fish per year and we could tag them like we do deer, and if we are in possession of fish we better have a tag for it. Roanoke River Stripers are the main fish of these I fish for, though it could apply to all of them.
200	Matthew	LeCates	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am again mandatory reporting from recreational fishers. We buy fishing license just to have permission to fish. These mandatory reporting are only going to make fishing more difficult especially now when people are doing it to put food on their tables. People are tired of getting trampled over by the government and their constant oversight. Let us enjoy fishing.
201	John Jarvis	Fair Bluff	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I am fully against mandatory reporting.

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				Harvest Reporting		
202	James Hutchison	Midlothian	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I cannot agree with any rules to implement this because it just creating another government bureaucracy that is a waste of money and a burden on all fishermen. The 5 million allocated for enactment of the reporting system should be used to lobby for repeal.
203	Steven Fowler	Sugar Grove	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If we continue to over regulate these activities we will loose the interest of the provider.
204	COLIN JOHNSON MARTIN	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	NC is the ONLY state with ridiculous fishing laws. It's the ocean. What they need to be focused on is the commercial boats with the nets. Not the recreational people who follow the laws for their catch. I fish because I love it, I'm respectful to all of the laws when it comes to fishing, I am also a lifetime member. It's not fair that every time I catch any of the fish named that I have to stop fishing and report my catch. I don't own a boat so I walk alot to find a good fishing spot, piers, bridges, banks. I am not in favor of this law at all
205	Kyle van Althuis	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule will see a high level of noncompliance, the data will be shoddy at best and therefore unusable for decision making, and will turn many previously law abiding anglers into violators. Any one of these points is enough by itself to due away with this proposed legislation let alone all 3. Do not pass this.
206	William Neil Ridgeway	Hertford	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
207	Alan Spikes	Grifton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Im all for fish harvest reporting. The thing i would like to see is somehow having to keep up with how many you catch and can only catch a certain number in a year. That would cut down on boat traffic and boat ramp overcrowding. I know people that fish 3-4 times a week when i only fish maybe 12 times a year. Their greed of fishing and some dont even eat what they catch are the ones catching all the fish. I know one that catches his limit 3-4 times a week and gives them all away. If i couldnt keep any fish and eat them i would never go again. I enjoy my fried fish. The ones to lazy to anything but fish in my opinion are going to make some of quit. Let a man catch his yearly quota and have to stop like taking your two bucks during deer season and no more until next year.

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208	Randall Moore	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Remove nets from inland waters before anything else!
209	Andrew	Deep Run	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	While I understand the purpose behind these regulations I don't believe that it is possible to enforce these rules. I'm not aware of any other states that make non commercial fishermen report the fish they harvest. I think this is a waste of time and that it is only going to anger every inshore angler more so than they already are. It seems like the state is over-regulating inshore fishing. Especially with all the changes coming to the spotted sea trout fishery. I understand regulating the fishery from over fishing but too many regulation changes at once IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. Most anglers I have talked to about this say they just won't report or that they will lie about it. Dmf should have more law enforcement on the water checking fishermen. I know of many whom have kept over their limit or kept flounder out of season. I don't believe this self-regulating measure will do anything to help our fishery. Sorry for the long rant but my last statement: GET THE GILL NETS AND SHRIMPERS OUT OF THE ESTUARY!! ITS TIME OUR STATE CATCHES UP TO THE REST OF THE SOUTHERN STATES THAT HAVE ALREADY FIXED THIS PROBLEM!!!
210	Sam	Buxton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Just another thing the government getting involved in. Stay out of it.
211	Jeff Edwards	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The rules currently make it extremely difficult for a non-commercial fisher to catch and keep anything for themselves. I have had a lot of friends that sold their boats when you severely restricted flounder season. Requiring mandatory reports on any catches of the inshore species identified just adds additional stress to the recreation group that will result in less people fishing, or more people breaking the law. Let's exercise a little common sense and admit that gill netting is the biggest reason behind reductions in stock and address the real cause. Quit placing the blame on recreational fishing and quit adding additional Rules that will have zero effect on fishing stock levels.
212	Phillip Turner	Wilson	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Mandatory temporary reporting harvesting rules. Control is critical to prevent over harvesting and protection of fish listed.
213	Wallace Selby	Bath	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	ABSOLUTELY NO HARVEST REPORTING!!!!!!!!!!
214	Jeff Edwards	Ocean isle beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	The rules currently make it extremely difficult for a non-commercial fisher to catch and keep anything for themselves. I have had a lot of friends that sold their boats when you severely restricted flounder season. Requiring mandatory reports on any catches of the inshore species

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				Harvest Reporting		identified just adds additional stress to the recreation group that will result in less people fishing, or more people breaking the law. Let's exercise a little common sense and admit that gill netting is the biggest reason behind reductions in stock and address the real cause. Quit placing the blame on recreational fishing and quit adding additional Rules that will have zero effect on fishing stock levels.
215	Bruce Webb	Warsaw	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why would I as a recreational fisherman who rarely gets the chance be encumbered by yet another rule when commercial fisherman have their way with our fisheries? Is this just another money grab by our government? Enough is enough. The regulations in place now are well enforced.
216	John donovan	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a terrible idea
217	Pamela Thomas	Newport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is a ludicrous law for both sides. There is NO WAY to account and substantiate numbers for the reports OR to enforce compliance. this is a wasteful law that will cause unjustified spending and resources. This is a poorly proposed law that side steps the problems of commercially vessels dragging nets in the shallow waters of the sound and destroying estuaries. This is wasteful spending that makes all fisherman criminals. STOP IT!! The Government is destroying all of our lives and how humans can produce their own food. No wonder there are thousands homeless on the streets begging for food. can't catch, or grow anything. STOP IT
218	Logan	Durham	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	These rules don't go far enough to protect our fisheries, the commercial harvest rules are far to light in general and are at the expense of the recreational fishing. Look at what has happened with flounder and stripped bass, it's only a matter of time before sea trout, sheepshead and others will be impacted. Please save our fishery by cracking down on the commercial over harvest and stop making the recreational guys pay the price.
219	Tory Kidder	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are already limits set for recreational fishing. If there is going to be a requirement for anglers to report there catch, will you really get honest feedback? Not only does this add to what the Game Wardens already have to do, it will also call for a license price increase to either pay for more Wardens or overtime. Not only that, but the title says it all, "recreational." If recreational anglers are mandated to report their catch, 1) you might as well call it "commercial" and 2) it takes recreation out of the equation. Not a single "recreational angler" is going to want to take the time after a relaxing day out and submit paperwork. Might as well went to work!!!

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220	Todd Hughes	Florence	South Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Truly I must say, legislation should have been passed years ago regulating commercial harvest of gamefish. Individual residential(non-commercial) fisherman should NOT be mandated to report their catch. We are already bound by size and creel limits, of which, most abide by. Commercial fishermen, while important to both industry and commerce, have continued to keep, kill, and over the last few years even sell certain gamefish such as red and black drum. They have negatively impacted the fish population with nets for years while the State government sat idly by while the non-commercial fisherman have suffered with declining fish populations and most years having maybe a week to harvest flounder. Meanwhile, commercial fishermen continued to destroy the marine species population. I am a non-resident, North Carolina native but continue to fish the coastal waters of NC. I have seen a huge decline in the fish population and am 100% in support of mandatory reporting for commercial fishermen ONLY.
221	David Hosack	Oak Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	With no stated purpose or intended outcome as result for mandatory reporting there I cannot support the measure. To wit without any really purpose one is left with the impression the effort is punitive with the purpose of creating a new revenue stream for a fiscally irresponsible state.
222	Allen Keith Fields	Sunset Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think it's very important that we as sportsman conserve our wildlife and fisheries. We also should protect our rights to hunt and fish, however because of daily limits and slot regulations we are at the mercy of the regulators and some people making decisions based on their own agendas. The fish that this decision is trying to make us report on are already controlled by size and slot limits. If rules and regulations continue it's going to discourage people to the extent of not wanting to keep their catches at all and a lot of times the catch and release is detrimental to the fish for its survival.
223	Robert N Taylor	WASHINGTON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This has got to be the most idiotic thing I have ever read. The rule or law to report your catch to the fishery warden should never even have been considered. This rule will result in the demise of the recreational fishing community due to everchanging and increasing pressure to make money off of a mistake by an individual. If you want to know how many fish are out there go put on some snorkel gear and watch them swim by. I cannot believe the governing body thought this was a good use of my tax money. This just screams "we need to create a job for you". For the love of the outdoors please undo this mess you have created.
224	james wise	newton grove	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Remove those netting boats on the Bay river (Pamlico county).Reporting my few fish would be a pleasure . They are reducing our fish population drastically .
225	matt pelino	rocky point	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Why would the state make a mandatory reporting law for harvesting fish? What are we paying the biologists for to manage the fishery if we need everyone to stop what they are doing and send it pics or call in their catches.? Also, The commercial fisherman are monitored by the game

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						wardens? or they have receipts of what they sell after catch? This seems like another way to screw the private citizen. . Way too much overreach. The next thing that will come down is RFID tags and go pros implanted on our fishing poles or in our coolers? What is the necessity for this? Commercial fisherman are definitely causing the decline in the fishery if this is what the state of NC is concerned with.
226	Justin Bachansingh	Raleigh	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
227	Rick Scott	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Concerning the reports of harvesting the mentioned fish for both commercial and non-commercial fishing, I believe this is a proactive way to help manage populations in our rivers and ocean. However, we all know that many fishermen/women will not report their catch. So, the question remains how this is enforced. The tickets are a good idea, but there is so much area to cover. Is it not discriminating against the people who use more common fishing areas? People fish in back bay bays, residential waterfronts and beach accesses where I have never seen game wardens.
228	Zachary Brake	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
229	Kenny Adcock	Hayesville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't believe it to be in the power of our government to dictate every action of the people. You are to be a government FOR the people as opposed to oppressing us with more legislation that, in the big scheme of things, is so miniscule anyway. Please address greater issues as BALANCING a budget instead of raising taxes to offset your desire to play golf or travel on our dime.
230	Albert Shew	Asheville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting a recreational catch (within the authorized limits) erodes the amateur nature of sport angling. Some of us fish for an amazing outdoor experience whether we catch a fish or not. Let us continue that joy with out having to report to Big Brother that we caught one Bluefish for dinner. "There is a lot more to fishing than catching fish "
231	William Michael	Durham	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Striper fishing kon the Roanoke River has been declining for years and I think the significant factor is over harvest by commercial fishing and killing stripers in the netting process when netting for other species.
232	Bryan Minihan	Harkers Island	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I am an avid recreational fisherman and have been pursuing a degree to work in marine fisheries for the past several years, and wholeheartedly endorse mandatory reporting for pivotal species. I

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						<p>also completely understand that such a mandate will be VERY difficult to swallow for most North Carolinians, but I hope that the roughly three-year phase-in of fines from today will soften the blow and allow the reporting process to improve. I think the reporting tools will need to be extremely simple and usable for it to work, but have faith that the DMF can meet the reporting requirements.</p> <p>I also hope that DMF will attempt to socialize this policy with meetings with locals over the course of its implementation, starting before it takes effect in December. This kind of rule is sure to ruffle many feathers and agitate an already government-wary electorate.</p> <p>Thank you for treating North Carolina's shared public trust of our natural resources with the seriousness it deserves.</p>
233	Wm Blakemore	Manteo	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The estimated catches are more than adequate for maintaining the fish socks. Adding endless layers of compliance is a WASTE OF MONEY and benefits no one except fish and wildlife staff.
234	John Metzger	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Please make it easy to report harvested fish.
235	Melanie	Reidsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This places an undue burden and overreaching oversight on pleasure fisherman. I think it's absurd as those who follow the rules and regulations will have to take another additional step to make mandatory reports. It is punitive to apply additional "mandatory" regulations onto law abiding fishermen that may be punished if not followed to a "t." It's already a broken system that's difficult to navigate and seems to be understaffed. It seems to me that resources (our fees/payments) that fund this organization would be better allocated elsewhere.
236	Thomas Latham	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I think the proposed rules are fine except for item 7. There should be no need for the accumulation of this data
237	Douglas Alexander	Frisco	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are rules on harvest limits already. This is a un-necessary burden placed on an already over regulated government.
238	DOUG	CROSS	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	For	IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE REQUIRE UP TO THE DAY REPORTING ON RECREATIONAL HARVEST ON FISH. TOO LONG HAS THE BURDEN FELL ON

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				Harvest Reporting		SURVEYS THAT ARE NOT ACCURATE AS WELL AS LATE IN REPORTING HARVEST. THIS SYSTEM "SHOULD" AND I SAY SHOULD IN A SKEPTICAL MANNER BECAUSE THE RECREATIONAL INTEREST WILL CONSPIRE TO LIE ABOUT ACTUAL CAPTURE TO SKEW THE DATA IN THEIR FAVOR. My ONLY CAUSE AND EFFECT IS IF A PARTY IS CAUGHT NOT REPORTING ACCURATELY...TAKE THEIR LICENSE ON THE SPOT BEARING A HEARING LATER.
239	Paul Winstead	Cape Carteret	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think that it is another instance of Government over-reach on something that is NOT an issue. If it aint broke, dont fix it is always the best mentality.
240	Elwood Cooper	Winnabow	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Mandatory reporting of harvested species. I believe this is one way to accurately determine NC harvest records and make informed decisions. The current methods of making decisions on theoretical harvests is highly unscientific and is negatively impacting the NC fishery financial impact for NC.
241	David williams	Rock Hill	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Y'all are making recreation fishing way to expensive and troublesome. I've been fishing Hatteras since the early 80's (used to 4 weeks a year, then cut it back to two weeks with all the junk and fees you placed on the obx) . I can really tell y'all are a democratic state with all the laws, regulations, fees, taxes you have in place. Total government control is what you are wanting. I guess I'll start fishing Charleston SC more. Bad thing is, 95% of the time, I don't even keep the fish. It's just a enjoyment for me to catch and release. I guess with y'all's total domination, the people that work and pay your salaries is not supposed to enjoy life. Next thing y'all will want is to have all fishermen chipped so you'll know where we at all times.
242	Mark Goddard	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm a recreational fisherman. This sucks the life and fun out of fishing. I understand the potential need for commercial fishing but this seems unreasonable for recreational fisherman..
243	Tom Potter	belhaven	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The rule relays on good faith. Your data will be flawed. Just more useless rules applied to fishermen.
244	John Williams	Winnabow	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I'm in favor of this. Hopefully we'll get real numbers but like always there will away be outlaws. So will we see an increase in officer interaction with the public or will it be status quo.
245	Tory L waters	WINTERVILLE	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	What difference does it make. You all have already made it not worth while for most recreational fisherman to go fishing anyway and no matter what you make a rule same results. Commercial fisherman can do whatever they want with no accountability and recreational size limits get

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						bigger and bigger and number you can keep get smaller and smaller with huge fines. Just go ahead and make all fishing illegal like you want to do anyway.
246	Rodney Montana	Chesterfield	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
247	Justin Andrews	Snow hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This would do nothing to bolster the fisheries it is blatant government over reach.
248	Nicholas Savastano	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The Mandatory Harvest Rules for recreational fisherman makes absolutely no sense. How are you going to enforce this law? How are Marine Fisheries and Wildlife going to know who goes out fishing on any given day? Plus you are going to threaten recreational anglers with a \$35 fine and possible loss of license! This is another example of politicians over reacting and creating laws that are useless. Anglers would be more willing to participate in a voluntary reporting system that stresses conservation rather than threatening people with a law that emphasizes fines and other punitive actions. However I'm not surprised because the majority of our elected officials from the governor on down are absolutely clueless when it comes to matters of marine conservation. I can see this law being effective for commercial fisherman but not for members of the public who participate in recreational salt water fishing.
249	Douglas Hugh Clark	Pittsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Government overreach has stooped to a new low! I did not see a single item of evidence to support such a draconian rule. You have authority to limit catches by size and number which you have already done. You have authority to cite fishermen who break the size and number limits. You charge taxes on the gear that recreational fishermen use. You charge an access pass to vehicles driving on the beaches for fishing. You charge a tax for the privilege of fishing plus an extra tax if the fishing is in salt water. You are supposed to use those special privilege taxes to preserve the resource. You hire enforcement officers to seek out violations and cite offenders of the regulations. When I fish I do so for multiple reasons including the recreational benefit of relaxation and mental rest. Now, to interrupt that recreation with the very thought of capturing my moment of joy for a useless action that if done improperly could cost me money and court involvement is maddening! Without casting aspersions in the direction of the men and women who fish commercially, the cost of fresh seafood has increased dramatically due in part to your overbearing regulation. My choice to legally keep a portion of my catch for my consumption and for my family as a way of having healthy fresh seafood is a significant way of holding down my food cost.

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						A slippery slope of government excessive regulation continues. Will the next step be taxing me again for my harvest? Will you require me to buy a tag to affix to the fish I keep. Will these ludicrously concocted invasions progress to require tagging of released fish. What's next?
250	Sean Simpson	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This legislation seeks to criminalize the recreational fisherman. The rules for harvesting the selected fish are already strict, now the proposal is to further invade citizens' privacy under threat of extortion. If I go fishing it's not a government agency's business. I understand it's about tracking the fish population or whatever the bureaucrats may say, but it also tracks a fisherman, and I don't agree to being tracked. The invasion of personal privacy ought not be justified by "protecting fish populations".
251	John Olsen	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
252	Joe mcdowell	Aurora	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Waste of money. The same people who are now not paying attention to fishing rules will ignore this requirement. 3 years of bureaucratic reporting when you could make rules you could enforce. You do not have a fraction of the money it would cost to enforce this. Good way for you to dodge your jobs and pander to political interests. I am ashamed of the way we have done nothing to protect our fishery for future generations. Guess they will have to fish in another State. Shame on all of us!
253	James Barrow	FAYETTEVILLE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Stop placing ridiculous requirements on recreational fishermen. Commercial fishermen are depleting the resources, not hook and line fishermen. They fish for profit. We fish for sport and to enjoy a natural resource. NC was once a sportsman's paradise but now we are turning into a northern state with restrictions and rules we don't need. Even migratory birds only have an annual reporting requirement and that would be way less intrusive and burdensome. I am a lifetime license holder and I say no to this burdensome requirement. No, no, no.
254	Robert gahagan	Moyock	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It's gone too far, where will it end? Maybe commercially but a father and his son jigging for flounder? We would have to send it in? like big game?
255	Sam Petteway	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Stupid rules, which won't be followed well. How about stopping trawling and netting in the estuaries. NC gets an "F" in management of the Fisheries. It's all money and politics.

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256	Scott Dalgliesh	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have been a lifelong NC resident and fisherman and strongly oppose this rule. For years, loose commercial fishing regulations have led to the depletion of our waters. Inaction to curb harvests and stop use of unsustainable fishing practices has left the coastal fishing community of this state frustrated and angry. We as private citizens face the consequences with severely limited harvest periods and slot limits, now a requirement to report every single catch of major species? Non commercial harvest reporting truly is another example of the state getting it wrong when it comes to marine management.
257	Nicholas Odom	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
258	Paul Parm	Winterville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This has gone too far. This is just another way for you to suck money out of the citizens. There are already regulations in place. Which are also ridiculous. This is just crazy. I will stop buying a license and keep the fish I want. I will be the one not following the rules with many others. You are forcing us to not take you serious. Catch me if you can.
259	Jerry Beil	Littleton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How would the reporting work when fishing on the beach? While fishing? After leaving the beach? Before cleaning ? Would carrying a cell phone be a requirement if reporting from the beach is required. How would that requirement be fair if a person does not have a cell phone or chooses not to carry it on the beach. That's from just considering these req briefly. Enforcement will be a nightmare for fishermen and lawmen
260	Glenn E Peters	Richlands	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Mandatory reports for recreational fishing is absurd. This will deter many occasional/casual fisherman and the future of youth fishing will be much less. More government oversight, at tax payer expense, is not what we the people need.
261	Tim Stroud	KINSTON	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There are still many fishermen who do not use a computer or smartphone. How will they report their catch? How will the reporting be enforced? How about implementing a reporting requirement for bycatch dead loss that isn't considered in commercial landings? That alone would show where the true problem lies, especially with N.C. being the only state that allows mass gill netting.
262	Luther Gibson	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Great idea. I hope the funding will include more manpower to enforce this rule. The majority of fishermen will comply but the ones that are breaking the limit laws now will not report either. Even if reporting doesn't achieve 50% compliance data will be better than the WAGs being used now. I would also suggest some voluntary observation surveys on fish kills, sick fish, and releases of the targeted species as there are days when we fish and keep none.

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263	Noah Blalock	Manteo	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This does not make sense. When do you report it, immediately after catch, after after returning to dock/ramp, or after cleaning said fish? As a young avid angler it is getting increasingly harder to keep up and follow new and unnecessary rules for fishing. Fishing should be fun and easy to follow rules. Not hard to know what's legal. As a community that survives around all aspects of fishing and water life it will make it harder to stay legal following this new law and the many others.
264	Richard Abernethy	Greenville	South Carolina	Both rules	For	Law 2023-137 I live in SC but also have a house in Mt Olive , NC where I hunt and fish. I think this is a good idea but believe the fine for commercial non reporting is way to small. \$35 fine for a business might be if they get caught might be cheaper than time required to report. Should increase commercial fine amount.
265	JOHN FARMER	AHOSKIE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	FIRST IT WAS ROCKFISH,THEN FLOUNDER,NOW ITS TROUT.WHEN WILL IT STOP?! FISH MORE THAN MOST AN ABIDE BY THE RULES,BUT WHEN WILL PEOPLE REALIZE THAT THE COMMERCIAL GUYS ARE THE ONES THAT CAUSE THE PROBLEMS.ONE COMMERCIAL GUY CATCHES MORE IN A YEAR THAN MYSELF AND ALL MY FRIENDS DO IN 10 YEARS.
266	Joe Smith	Swan Quartet	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We are so undated with rules that become more burdensome and reduce the catch by discouraging anglers and commercial fishermen alike. The already reduced catches do not legally allow the people to catch a legal limit of fish to eat. Then we reduce the time period and limits on catching flounder and no rock fish can be caught. Enough rules currently exist to save the fish populations. Please limit these new rules.
267	Brandon Virgil Jenkins	Kill devil hills	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is an absurd rule in controlling what people put on thier table. If better management was in place to help our fisheries we would not be going down this road. This rule is only making your job easier by making a fisherman do your work. Lawmakers at their finest doing what they have no clue about. I vote NO!
268	Ken Schafer	Sunset Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fishing must account for a small percentage of the harvest. I have witnessed commercial fishermen with a one night giging haul that would exceed my harvest for a lifetime! Why punish recreational fishermen? I sold my boat this month because you practically eliminated flounder season. I only wanted to catch one keeper when fishing but you allow those who gig to bring in a boat load. Because commercial fishing is harvesting the vast majority of the fish population it makes sense to track their harvesting numbers. But to require the recreational fishermen to report their meager catches is overkill and seems unnecessary.
269	Gene Evans	Nashville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Another dumb rule. I'm not much of a fisherman. Usually only on our annual vacation to Emerald Isle. I don't catch many of the fish listed. You want me to register the 1 flounder I can legally

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						keep. Micro management at its finest. I can't catch and keep herring or rock fish. Is it any wonder that people are not fishing anymore. I'm not driving 100+ miles to keep one flounder and one drum.
270	Jack Clark	Sims	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	If you want to help the fish population, restrict commercial fishing inside the outer banks. NO COMMERCIAL HARVEST in joint waters. I can't tell you how many times I've run into gill nets full of fish. Also, create a slot limit on Speckled Trout ie: 16 to 21 inches. Also, look at the guides. They keep everything they can on charters. All you need to do is look at Chasin Tails. One other thing. Offshore protection zones where fishing is prohibited. Zone off 50 mile by 50 mile areas distributed evenly down the coast of North Carolina.
271	John Jarosz	Denver	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
272	Anthony Stokes	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is totally ridiculous. How many more restrictions will the DMF place on recreational anglers. How about engaging in more meaningful rules like doing away with full nets and trawling in hatchery waters by commercial vessels
273	Samuel Raynor	Beulaville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
274	Ben McAlhany	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Harvest reports for daily limits of 1-3 fish! Are you kidding me? Another way to bow down to the commercial fishing industry. Ludicrous.
275	Johnny Ray	Yadkinville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why should a recreational fisherman have to report his fish. Remove the commercial boats and nets from the bays and move them 3 miles off shore like our neighboring states do. Please
276	Kevin Baker	Blounts Creek	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Non commercial harvest reporting comment: Stop asking the recreational angler to do one more thing until you regulate commercial fishing in the same manor. Creel surveys have been done forever and it makes no impact on the commercial law yet it further penalizes the recreational fisherman. Now you're asking for a creel survey each time we go fishing in another attempt to make the recreational fisherman punishable for

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						something you've failed to do and that's limit commercial rape of the resource in the estuaries. Why not benchmark other states that have successfully returned their populations to acceptable levels by limiting commercial harvest in the nurseries??? And just do that. Next thing you'll come up with is a ticket for failing to fill out a survey form. This is a freakin joke.
277	Charles Mabe	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Many fishermen and potential coastal recreational fishermen are already frustrated with all the fishing restrictions. This will only add to the problem.
278	Timothy E Drew	Penrose	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	New Mandatory Harvest Reporting: ANOTHER increase in cost to taxpayers that will far exceed the initial \$5 million. ANOTHER burden to everyone who enjoys recreationally fishing. NOT ONE reason given for why this law is so important that we need to increase taxes by MILLIONS and create more useless government jobs. Please STOP adding to the financial and recreational burdens of people who just want to enjoy the outdoors. There are so many ways the governing bodies could REDUCE the burdens that are already law, but instead there is a constant stream of new laws being passed. Elected officials ask for opinions AFTER the fact, whether or not we support the rule. Why not get a group of hunters and fishermen AHEAD of time? Because, you know that you would NOT have any support from the average sportsman. Y'ALL JUST DON'T CARE.
279	Joseph Hightower	Pine Knoll Shores	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have read the legislation and news releases but what I did not find is any mention of why this was needed or how it is supposed to improve management. At a minimum, statistically valid studies will be needed to establish the level of non-reporting. It would also be important to understand how this new system is supposed to mesh with the NOAA MRIP survey which has a statistical basis and is used in many stock assessments. This reporting system seems similar to the Wildlife Resources Commission's system for reporting harvest of deer, wild turkeys, etc. That system seems to work well and as far as I know is accepted by hunters. The difference as I see it is that, unlike catching a fish, harvesting a deer is a big deal so reporting the harvest does not seem too burdensome.
280	Charles Anderson	Pinetown	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	The concern I have is commercial reporting How do you monitor this? What is the penalty? The trawlers turn off their transponder

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						What is the penalty? Until the penalty really hurts the reasons to not report is diminished
281	Bruce Mears	Bath	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	This ruling only has a potential positive effect on the fish population if the commercial reporting aspect of the ruling remains in effect. Also, there should be a stiff penalty if it is found that the reported harvest is not accurate. Otherwise, the ruling is just another meaningless attempt for the state to appear to be concerned about our public fisheries resource. As a recreational fisherman, I would not be opposed to reporting my catch provided the commercial fishermen remain required to report their catch.
282	Nick Colatosti	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why burden recreational fishermen with a reporting their catch. Of course it also depends on how easy you make the reporting of the catch. Plus how accurate do you really think the reporting will be if there is a big disagreement with it
283	John Epps	Troy	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	My Lord , don't we sportsman of North Carolina have enough rules and regulations to try and keep up with. And we wonder why hunting and fishing license sells are in decline. Who would won't the hassle..
284	Kevin Baldwin	Southport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I don't fish much. This is the first of heard of these rules. For commercial, I get it. They are making money off a limited resource and should be held to a higher standard. But for the rest of us, this is ignorance at its political finest. I absolutely believe myself a conservationist, but this is too much. You are ruling, taxing, feeing, and restricting people out of the sport they love.
285	Jason	Robersonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Temporary reporting just like the temporary 5 year ban on herring. Nothing is temporary. We never had problems with numbers of fish of any species until wildlife and Marine Fisheries got involved .
286	Delbert Worth Rinehart	Edenton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The harvest reporting rule. I am against any additional rules. I do not feel like many of the recreational or commercial fishermen are going to abide by the rule. This will be another excuse to further reduce and restrict the recreational fishing in our state. These rules are already very restrictive and i believe have been made with flawed data and are catering to the commercial interests. I have purchased lifetime licenses for myself, my father and 7 grandchildren and due to current regulations imposed on the recreational fishermen the younger generations lose interest quickly, you cannot hardly keep enough to eat. I would like to see the trawl boats and gill nets out of the inland waters and feel this would benefit our fisheries. I have sent countless hours over the years on the water fishing and I do not believe that your data is correct. Thank you for your time. Worth Rinehart [REDACTED]

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287	Nathan Bullock	Greenville NC	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Sport fish men do not impact the fish that are listed. I think this is just a other way for N C to collet money.
288	Douglas H Matthews	Salisbury	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Fishing is no longer fun. All the rules and prohibitions confuse citizens to the point they fear inadvertently being in trouble. Now they must be sure to report what they catch. As a former NCSHP trooper, I found no issue enforcing the traffic laws as they were clear and plainly marked by signs. But your rules are based upon vague locations (Between BEAR WALLOW creek and STUMP HARBOR road, no shell fish may be harvested.)You tell me where this is! How does a person not raised in that area know? I was raised on the coast and I still don't know where every named area is. I can ID some fish in our waters but some I have no idea. Pictures don't always make it clear what you have. Your system is flawed in many ways. I know several judges that refuse to convict many of your rules as they have doubts even your people know what is or isn't . Many folks cannot afford a guide service and the fines are making gathering food dangerous financially. I challenge you to allow me to pick one of your officers and have him/her go to an area they are not familiar with to point out restricted areas on a boat without expensive electronics. My gheenoe has no such electronics, I do not own a smart phone, my cell phone is 20 years old and is just a phone not a computer. Being retired, this \$\$\$ investment is not in my budget. I have a lifetime disabled permit but the risk far exceeds the gains to fill my freezer. Dr. D.H. Matthews Phd, CPT, USARMY Retired, FAA Airline Transport Pilot retired.
289	Steve Fowler	Walkertown	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too broad. I do not see how to successfully implement reporting on every fish caught. Unfortunately, I think people will ignore it.
290	DAVID A RUSHING	Winterville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Really? Unenforceable!
291	Philip Dupree	ANGIER	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
292	Hubert E. Hamilton	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I don't mind reporting recreational harvesting as long as a simple and easy to use app is provided by the state.

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293	Richard Beckwith	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It's erroneous to submit harvest reports for hook and line recreational fisherman. I advocate for the commercial fisherman to report catch and by catch quantities as they could have a direct impact on sustainability.
294	Robert Schriber	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If enacted, are you going to issue ALL Saltwater license holders a cell phone with unlimited data? Otherwise, when in the process of harvesting are we to report?
295	Sean Mulligan	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I retired 2 years ago. I have paid a huge amount of money in taxes over the last 40 years.I get to keep 0 Striped Bass. 0 Flounder except for if we are lucky 1 per day for 2 weeks. 1 Red Drum 18 to 27. Now on top of buying a beach driving permit and a fishing license you want me to report my catch.I guess I will have to go to Florida or Louisiana to catch fish because they do a lot better job managing their fishery. NC DMF SUCKS Sean Mulligan Retired Airline Captain
296	Floydie Harris	Pikeville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am absolutely against more rules, less freedom, and more government. Enforce limits based on real population studies not what you think the catch may have affected. No one is going to compensate the commercial fisherman for the added time and burden these ignorant rules would require. Also, no one would report anything they didn't want you to know about so the data would be skewed.
297	Clarence Lipe	Iron Station	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I feel this will help manage our fishery. All these fish species are vital to NC and our recreational sport. The commercial fishing industry would also benefit.
298	Andy B Croley	Dunn	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
299	John Baker	Chapel Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I support the mandatory harvest reporting. This will provide better management data for the agencies as well as promote legal harvest by the users.
300	Richard Martin Winslow	Hertford	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Why don't you just outlaw fishing. A*****
301	John Thompson	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	As a recreational fisherman i only occasionally fish and dont have the vtime or inclination to report the fish i catch. This is government over reach.
302	John Thompson	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	As a recreational fisherman i only occasionally fish and dont have the vtime or inclination to report the fish i catch. This is government over reach.

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				Harvest Reporting		
303	Robert Lewis	Ash	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Fishing in S.C. is looking better and better !
304	Josh Hudson	Kannapolis	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an attack on the non commercial fisherman, I understand the idea but the limits put on us recreational fisherman is becoming to much. As I sit all day and try to catch 3 or 4 fish a day for one week out of the year 200 yards on the other side of my line is a commercial fisherman dragging a net and can catch 100x what I want. They kill and harm so many unnecessary fish and get slaps on the wrist anytime they are found of wrong doing. This is another step in the government over reaching their boundaries.
305	Stephen Adams	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I agree with the commercial harvest reporting. I feel the commercial sector has taken advantage of lax reporting requirements and consequently over harvested for years. Also bycatch should be included as all of it is essentially a dead fish. Recreational reporting should be for liscensed guides and voluntary reporting by individuals.
306	Scott Walker	Swansboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I take my entire family fishing, we have foster kids and no time for you to add silly requirements for us to use our resources. Only law abiding citizens like myself will be even doing it. You already charge us a fortune in fees and taxes quit taking my time too!!! Stop the insanity.
307	John Dyson	Oak Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel mandatory harvest reporting is onerous and an invasion of privacy. I also question the validity of any data gathered due to non-reporting either through ignorance or through intentional non-reporting. Data that has poor quality is often worse than no data at all. Especially when recreational catch limits have been so severely impacted often despite easily confirmed healthy populations of fish. I wish NC Marine fisheries spent more time actually fishing than using bad data to make decisions and then applauding themselves for basing decisions on said "data". Please focus your efforts on eliminating gill nets please.
308	Jonathan Borchert	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Ideally, it would be perfect for every recreational and commercial fishermen to report these catches. So much data could be gathered! But realistically, how many people will participate on either side? What motivation would promote or what deterrent would encourage participation?
309	Hugo Baker	Chapel Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I've been fishing for a few years and my dad talks of times when he could fill a cooler with flounder. It's not like that today. I support rules that ensures better management of our fishes.
310	KENNY LINVILLE	Oak Ridge,	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	Mandatory Harvest Reporting. I am a lifelong resident of North Carolina and have been fishing on our wonderful coast all of my 73 years that I can remember. I have silently gone along with all

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				Harvest Reporting		of your ridiculous rules and regulations that have diminished my enjoyment of fishing and eating fish to nonexistent. I know the little bit of money that I spend on motels, bait, tackle, restaurants even gas mean nothing to you, but I know that Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia even Florida would appreciate it more than you. All of these destinations are no farther than I now drive to the outer banks so regulate on.
311	Robert Smith	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Don't need more rules ' too many now ' example the 1 fish limit ' not worth the drive / fuel cost to go fishing ' like the 2 week flounder season ' bad weather can make you miss it all together for the working people who only have the weekend off to fish
312	ALLEN B MOORE	NASHVILLE	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	You should actually outlaw commercial slaughter of fish. A first step and another violation to add on when you catch them
313	George Garcia	rolesville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Good approach to accounting for the resource accurately. It should have been done 50 yrs ago when the numbers started dwindling.
314	Shawn Ward	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel that fishing isn't becoming fun anymore due to all these regulations. If you would start regulating commerical fisherman that constantly take from the waters there wouldn't be an issue. We can barely catch some of these species as it is. Now you're making it harder on the people that want to enjoy the water by not allowing much of a keep on certain fish. I feel commercial fisherman need more rules and leasure fisherman less
315	John S Avery	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You have limited the recreational fisherman enough. The commercial fishery Is killing our stock, Not the recreational fisherman.
316	ALLEN B MOORE	NASHVILLE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Ridiculous added bureaucracy harrasing recreational fishing which this state is doing their best to destroy.
317	James Garner	Sealevel	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this is an attempt to limit our fun and few fishing opportunities we have. A way of trying to impose even more unfair limitations on us. I don't buy all the rules and limitations because there are fewer fish or over fishing. I don't think the N.C. DMF wants us to recreational fish at all. You've taken our ability to enjoy fishing at every occasion. I've been fishing in N.C. my entire life. I wasn't fond of having to have a license to salt water fish for recreation from the beginning. I keep wondering why N.C. is imposing rules on us while our neighbors north and

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						south catch all the flounder and other fish they want. We see them post their catch (large numbers) all year long on social media while we get 15-30 days out of the season to fish and can only keep two fish a day. I see this as just another way for us to get regulated while our neighboring states rack up. It doesn't appear their wild life agencies are doing anything to limit them and the show us their wonderful catch on social media. If there fish are overfished, why are we the only one's getting the shaft giving up our rights, while they get to reap the harvest.
318	Michael Grimstead	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Thank you for allowing comments. I disagree with the proposed recreational reporting requirements. How in the world will this be enforced and why? I see no benefit in doing this. There is no way you will get accurate data if imposed. People are just not going to support this. We should be encouraging our youth and citizens to use our resources. I grew up in Wilmington fishing as a child often times by myself. Are you going to give a kid a ticket for catching a fish? Just does not make sense. We are already severely limited on flounder and I know for a fact that law is being abused. My suggestion is please do not make it mandatory rather offer incentives to report a catch like cash prizes or a simple t-shirt or hat. Also, I would rather see the money spent on this to go towards more public ramps and resource education. That's where we have an opportunity to gain traction. Please do not make this law. Again, thank you for allowing comments. I would be glad to serve on any committee to ensure our resources are protected for now and future generations. Kind Regards!!!
319	Donald Beard	Naiden	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Go to Hatteras flounder gigging got us to one a day harvest and now you want us to report that. BS. if y'all's plan us to end all recreational fishing your doing a good job . What's next rabbits and squirrels
320	Timothy Thomas	WAKE FOREST	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is absolutely ridiculous that we have to start telling you all when we catch one of these species of fish. Talk about government over-reach and you are spending >\$5M of tax money to implement I saw in one of your documents. Leave us alone. We are tired of you looking over our shoulder at every turn. I'd love to know how this got snuck into a bill and passed. To what end is this reporting for? So you can further restrict our fishing?
321	Shawn Rickson	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think reporting is a little excessive for most of us honest folks. Thank you for your time
322	Mark Camden	Holden Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I've fished New England waters my entire life. We have regulations in place for a sustainable fishery. I've never encountered regulations like North Carolina anywhere. Your flounder regulations are placing a lot of pressure on South Carolinas flounder fisheries. I understand the need for them but not to the extreme here in NC

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323	Ricky Bobby	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I will quit fishing in Nc and go to Sc if this happens
324	Betty Hackney-Biddle	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is absurd government overreach. If I catch a fish for my dinner, I have to report it to the Government? That's crazy! It will be onerous for both the public & whomever is the person that receives the report. I would think there are better ways to spend our tax dollars than to keep track of this nonsense.
325	Anthony Scarbraugh	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The current rules regarding stripped bass, flounder, and red fish are over regulated when compared to other states. Especially taking into consideration the vast estuaries that North Carolina poses when compared to our neighboring states.
326	Gregory Taylor	Atlantic	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
327	David Honeycutt	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I know myself and everyone I know will not report a single fish. Give us the flounder season back scumbags!!!!
328	Cole Branch	Kinston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Marine fisheries is a joke. I will not be reporting fish as i catch them. Take a look at surrounding states and do better.
329	Nathan McCallum	Mount Gilead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Against the proposal to require harvest reporting for recreational anglers.
330	Tex Grissom	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	First of all, I don't think you are looking at the real problem. Second, if this goes thru, you need a simple easy form to text in if you are going to get any participation at all. An app in my opinion would make it easy for people to participate if they chose to. Water quality should be first and foremost in this state along with ELIMINATING destructive fishing practices. We have an enormous fisheries in this state that is getting abused from all sides with absolutely no enforcement I will be glad to participate in this ruling if it consists of all user groups. The form should simply ask for fish taken, fish released alive, number of people fishing and duration of the event. I think with SOME participation from recreational anglers MAY be a good tool for

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						gauging what is actually happening instead of basing your assumptions on a survey you did 25 years ago. Real numbers are needed to make a wise decision. Otherwise keep guessing as in the past. How many times have I been surveyed? ZERO.
331	Nate Kowalczyk	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule will not help anything related to our coastal fishery. This is an over reach by a government entity. Only law abiding citizens will ever comply with something like this. If you are wanting a change then start finding those that don't follow the already existing laws and start charging them. Give the officers more resources like more officers if you want to stop illegal harvest. We already pay more than we should to even be able to fish legally in our state which should be illegal because of the Constitution. Fix the financial accountability issue inside the DEQ and actually use the fees that we pay for licenses and etc to help our fisheries instead of making more pointless rules that won't fix anything. Government intervention rarely works for something like this.
332	William Biddle	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is asinine! Complete government overreach! Our tax dollars should be utilized for worthwhile issues. Complete waste of money and an intrusion of our privacy! This is just creating a reason to arrest innocent people. I have to ask.....what kind of idiot came up with this idea!
333	Michael Hutchings	Hamptonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	One person catching one red drum on a week of fishing at Hatteras can't make a difference in determining quotas. Commercial fishermen should report.
334	Michael G Repose	Havelock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I feel that Marine fisheries dept. needs as much data as possible to determine fishing limits and seasons. Filling out a form stating fish that we harvest is simple and easy. It will help us all in the long run.
335	Rusty Whiteheart	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Fishing is a recreational activity. I should not be required as part of my leisure time to submit fishing reports to the state. This law is unenforceable. You should dedicate more resources to actually enforcing the laws you have instead of creating and additional burden on recreational anglers and enforcement staff.
336	Chris Zion	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Commercial reporting makes sense but for recreational fisherman it is unnecessary, a burden and trivial considering there are already rules regulating limits, size, seasonal, etc. It is not the recreational fisherman that makes significant impacts to fisheries.


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337	Julie Linville	Oak Ridge	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think the Mandatory Harvest Reporting is the icing on the cake of rules and regulations concerning the weekend fisherman or fisherwoman. We have to purchase a beach permit, licenses and follow the limits which have been reduced drastically over the years and now you are asking if we would agree to find someplace to register the fish that we catch and most likely pay a fee for that also. My suggestion is just saying NO FISHING because that is what it is coming to.
338	Spencer manning	Denver	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Give specific reasons for reporting, as if the harvest size and limits aren't enough! Those that break the rules are still going to break the rules, so no need for us law abiding folks to have more rules in place outside the size and creel!
339	James M Reilly II	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	For	As an avid angler, and advocate for sustainable harvest in all fisheries, I support the concept of all user groups voluntarily and accurately reporting their harvest, or lack of, for the sake of managing healthy fish populations. Rather than punishing them for not reporting, an aggressive education campaign, followed by a reward program to incentivise the reports. You will catch a lot more flies with honey than vinegar. Tie in the efforts with Fish Rules, an already existing app, have a site people can either report on, or an email address and a fillable PDF. We asked for mandatory reporting in the for hire sector, and for some reason, they thought that was a horrible idea and crushed it. Now, just a few years later, they want to force it down the throats of the only user group that isn't out there fishing for money and spends exponentially more money in the local economy than any other. Let's try to work smart here, not hard.
340	Scott Mooneyham	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I fail to understand the rule as listed on your website. The rule is under the heading of Commercial Harvest. Are Marine Fisheries (DEQ) or NC WRC actually going to write a specific rule, easily understood by average fishermen, that relates specifically to recreational fishermen? Does the 48 hour reporting allowance apply to recreational fishermen too? If not, what is that requirement? Next, how exactly are you going to inform fishermen of this requirement? Will the rule-making stipulate agency requirements for publication of the requirement? If not, why not? Obviously, this appears to be a stupid law that is virtually unenforceable — and that is the fault of the dumb legislators who approved it and not the agencies. But given the lack of internet access in areas where these catches occur, I would think that even a 48-hour reporting requirement for recreational anglers is inadequate. What about the person camping on Portsmouth Island or at Cape Lookout for a week? What about someone staying at a remote cabin near Hoboken? A two-week reporting period would seem to be a minimum for recreational anglers in these situations. That the extension of that time makes the law even more unenforceable is not the fault of the anglers. It is the fault of whoever thought up this stupid law.
341	John Williamson	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Non-commmercial - I think this rule can be beneficial if properly implemented. I think something like a report at the end of the day (or end of fishing for that day) should be sufficient. If fisherman

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						<p>are required to report each of the required species as soon as they are caught, I believe there will be a lower participation rate even if it is mandatory. I doubt many fisherman are going to stop fishing while the fish are biting to pull up an app or make a call to report a fish. I think better data for better management is a good move, but it has to be done in a way that will encourage, or least discourage, participation.</p> <p>Commercial - I think reporting everything that commercial fisherman catch is a good move. If the goal is to get a better accounting of the quantity of fish being taken to ensure better fishery management, then non-sold commercially caught fish should be included.</p> <p>As an aside, if I read the commercial flounder regulations correctly, commercial fisherman are limited on how many pounds they can sell in NC in a day or week (whatever the period is), but not necessarily limited on how much an individual commercial fisherman can catch. If I have that correctly, a fisherman could catch 10,000 lbs, only sell 2,000 in NC (whatever the correct number is) and then go sell the rest elsewhere, say SC. Again, if I have that correctly, it makes no sense. We're going to take from NC fish stocks, but not let North Carolinians reap all of the benefit. Whatever the limit is that a fisherman can catch in NC, they should be able to sell all of it NC. Limiting the amount that can be sold in NC isn't helping the stock, it's just harming NC.</p>
342	Danny Wadsworth	Manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Please make North Carolina's senior citizens exempt from these requirements
343	Dave Beaston	High Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Not happy with this responsibility being put onto the recreational angler. We pay good money for licenses and the creel limits are already restrictive, not to mention the flounder 'season'. This is another example of policy for the sake of policy, it does nothing but inconvenience honest law abiding license holders.
344	Kenneth Bailey Gibson	Pawleys Island	South Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
345	Danny Wadsworth	Manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Please make North Carolina's senior citizens exempt from this requirement

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346	Ronald Pugsley	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	When NC started fishing license the great LIE was more Cree limits, more launching ramps, longer seasons that's was promised when the general public voted on it. As it is now you launch your boat from a river, go out in the bay/sound , catch a fish come back through the river to haul your boat and you're in violation and get a ticket it happens all the time. Questions; 1) how are we supposed to report. 2) how long do you have till you report. 3) you are at an eating establishments/ gas/ store/ friends house/ work on the way home and haven't reported yet bad cell area dead cell phone or when I go fishing I leave it home. I have a VHF radio if I need to contact someone. We travel 3.5 hours to go fishing spend \$150.00 gas get local bait pay ramp fees get harassed by the state/federal officials. Now you want to add another layer of pain on people who support your paycheck. No reporting in any way
347	John R. Green, Jr.	CARY	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You people are the most incompetent fishery managers on the planet. Reporting of noncommercial catches is ridiculous. You need to address the real problem of commercial nets in the sounds! Until you do that, you not only will not have my support, but I will NOT cooperate!!!
348	christian sullivan	Granite Falls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I would abolish the non commercial law as it discourages people to fish for the said species and/or to buy licenses to even saltwater fish due to such heavy and prohibitive regulations. With my experience, I have seen that normally these fish are kept in a legal fashion by anglers. This seems to be a large overreach of government power.
349	Donald Hicks	Blounts Creek	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I am a recreational fisherman and I fish primarily in and around the waters of Blounts Bay and Blounts Creek. While the required reporting will be a slight inconvenience, I support the rules as they will aid in the long-term preservation of the resources.
350	Mike Warren	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We are already penalized as recreational fisherman now with quotas and limits that the commercial fisherman don't have to adhere too. You have taken a lot of fun out of fishing and now you want to add more work for the recreational fisherman to do. Its amazing that you can cross the border illegally and nothing happen to you But get caught with 2 flounder in NC in a day and you can get fined and loose your License. This is just another way to penalize the hard working person that just wants to enjoy fishing's a recreation. Terrible Rule!!!!!!
351	Donald Hicks	Blounts Creek	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I am a recreational fisherman and I fish primarily in and around the waters of Blounts Bay and Blounts Creek. While the required reporting will be a slight inconvenience, I support the rules as they will aid in the long-term preservation of the resources.
352	nelson beam sr	DENVER	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	it is a shame that a recreational fisherman can't even have the enjoyment of flounder fishing when we hardly even have a season, two weeks in september, non even set this year and can only keep one per day per person we are not the fishermen doing the damage to the population, it is the

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						netters that is the problem, and now you want to add more duress by reporting what few we can keep. it is ridiculous! it also hurts business in coastal areas,akc restaurants and motels etc.
353	Mike Satterfield	Holden Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have fished all my life. Growing up in Georgia and fishing the coast I always follow slot, minimum, and creel limits. Having lived in NC for 21 years and now owning coastal property I have done the same. NC has always been stricter for limits. Adding reporting is additional regulation for the recreational fisher—which is more than a burden to residents. Non residents (vacationers) will simply ignore it. I do not agree with more regulations—restrictions have killed recreational flounder fishing—while commercial fishermen do not have the same limits. Let’s put fun back in fishing and let tickets be written to those who abuse current regulations.
354	Shaun Quinlan	Rocky Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel this is just more over reach by the government. It would seem the state is trying to make it even more difficult for the average person to enjoy fishing. I know this will also be difficult for the elderly/ less tech savvy population to keep up with as well turning otherwise law abiding citizens into criminals. It’s a terrible idea.
355	Sarah Quinlan	Rocky Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
356	Michael Sutton	Snow Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop harassing recreational fishermen! You have had recreational limits for years and they are not working because of commercial netters. It's time to ban commercial netters for 3 years then see the results! Stop all inland netting and all ocean netting 3 miles out.
357	THOMAS Staton COLTRAIN	Grifton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You wanted this you got it now you figure out how to make it work.
358	Warren davis	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is over the top for reporting every drum, flounder and trout caught. Compliance will be very low and lead to an underestimation of harvest. In fact not all fishermen even have a computer or smart phone. GET RID of gill nets and populations of fish will rebound. Nc is the only east coast state still allowing this destructive harvest method.
359	Paul	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Keep on and y’all are gonna have it where people can’t fish at all.It used to be enjoyable to get out in the water but now you have to worry about all the dumb rules and regulations that you keep adding every year. You already have it where you cant keep a flounder but 2 weeks out of the year.If you keep on our youth will loose interest on something that is good and clean fun and might starting finding interest in other dangerous activity such as drinking and drugs or worse.

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360	Jeff Bell	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The proposed rule is overly burdensome to the public and extremely costly to enforce, therefore making the proposed rule an excessively overwhelming hardship on state and federal resources. This law / rule should be abolished!
361	Ray	Frederick	Maryland	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This will take a lot enjoyment from what used to be a pleasant pastime. It will creat a burden of carrying around a piece of paper and pen in a bathing suit pocket because in many fishable places cell reception is not good.</p> <p>I already have stopped spending money on vacations in NC because of too many beach closures. This will ensure that I don't return after growing up vacationing and fishing on the outer banks for over 50 years!</p>
362	Seldon taylor	Swanquarter	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Non Commercial Harvest reporting will be simply ignored by the vast majority of anglers, because there are not enough wildlife personel to see that the requirements will be enforced. It seems to be a waste of time and taxpayer monies for such little return of reporting that will occur. The data being gathered now is totally misleading and inaccurate; so why waste time and money to try to implement a plan that will never be followed to obtain more inaccurate data.
363	gilbert tart	RALEIGH	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Good Evening</p> <p>I would like to comment on the Harvest reporting proposal. For some time now I have had an issue with the direction that fishing in our coastal waters has taken. Not only are the rules capricious, on their best day, they are getting down right silly. Not only have you made it nigh to impossible for a man with a family of four, to catch enough fish to feed his family for the day, but now you want a detailed report on what he caught. Failure to do so in the proper manner can result in the loss of fishing privileges. At the least it will result in a tax, I mean a fine, where is the incentive to comply ? It is becoming painfully obvious that you don't care for use to catch your fish ! I understand there are concerns for populations and conservation efforts, I have no issue with this. I do, however; fail to see how causal fishing is the root of this problem. Let's get Big Brother out of fishing and go back to common sense limits and restrictions that don't change every month. Last year we had two weeks to catch a flounder. Why not just outlaw this activity all together and be done with it. Well... other than the massive loss you will take on fishing licenses, and the tax money from tackle and/or bait.</p> <p>Sincerely</p> <p>Gilbert N Tart</p>

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364	Michael Sutton	Snow Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Commercial netters reporting their actual catch does not include the discarded by-catch caught in their nets unintentionally! Who reports the by-catch? Please ban nets and then we wouldn't have to do mandatory harvest reporting.
365	Lee Gray	Clayton	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Regulation, regulation, regulation. This is not what is meant for recreation. Most people who fish along the coast do so as recreation and do not harvest thousands of fish on each trip. Charter captains know the rules and limits and often remind passengers that they have reached the boat limit. Good stewardship makes the resource renewable. Commercial trawlers are specific to what they harvest and the remainder is often returned to the ocean during the deck process. I do not agree with the proposed regulation and do not support it becoming another sportsman regulation.
366	Ryan D	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Recreational fisherman keep getting roped into these new rules you all are creating, it's the commercial fisherman that are taking the majority of the fish. They should already be reporting harvest. I don't see how it's fair to the regular weekend fisherman to give you so much information about our catches. Seems like you'd be targeting the industry that's using bottom trolls and harvesting the majority of the fish. Just seems like an unnecessary thing for recreational fisherman to have to do. You should have more than enough data points from commercial fisherman to have a good idea of fish stocks and population. To me it just seems like another government organization putting their foot on the throats of recreational fisherman.
367	Jimmy Powell	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not understand why we as recreational fishermen are being required to report fish. It is already hard to keep up with all the changes in length and creel limits.
368	Chris	EI	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Gill Nets. Ranging from (300 feet to seven miles in length). Gill nets are weighted at the bottom and held upright by floats at the top, creating what some have termed "walls of death." REALLY!!!!!! The weekend angler? You want us to report two fish that we catch on the weekend?
369	THOMAS PAUL BOECK	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Have you guys lost your minds?? Who ever came up with this idea should be fired immediately.

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370	Charles L Echols	Saint Matthews	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I think the current law limiting flounder to commercial fishing is unfair. I pay for a license, so why shouldn't I be able to keep a flounder or two per day. Especially as a South Carolina resident, I rarely make it to North Carolina. Thanks for your consideration.
371	Robert Skinner	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is so unconstitutional it's not even funny anymore. Y'all are so wrapped up in making everything political to make money on false info. I for one will not contribute to these rules and neither will plenty of people around here, nor will we be silent about it. Best regards and in hopes of y'all changing your decisions. Robert
372	David Buffington	Elon	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
373	Preston Marlowe	Harkers Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is not the best method of approach for getting the public to help you, being that many bogus rules have already been implemented. I along with many fisherman and woman in the state won't abide even if it's mandatory, because we know what happens after the fact. The numbers are skewed and aren't 100% accurate anyhow. Flounder is probably the worst case scenario the marine fisheries has handled to date. Best thing would be to ask people yourselves by boat if you wish to know better numbers. The private fishers aren't the problem either.
374	Carl Spencer	Bessemer City	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Long time coming just hope it's not too late! I know that fishing in the surf is no way close to years back you have to go offshore to catch fish.
375	Michael Veber	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	For recreational fishing, this is a hassle, hard to enforce, and bad for business and tourism.
376	Kelvin Morgan	Benson	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Hello what do you expect to learn from this as the rules are now a recreational fisher can't keep as good as no fish anyways. I don't know what has happen to the fish except that I think a lot are caught when they are small by shrimp nets and don't survive. It's about got to expensive to fish on our coast when you can't keep enough fish to feed your family if you are blessed to catch enough. I think putting another step that has to be done will make it even more difficult. But sounds like our legislators have already decided that is the way it is going to be so I'll stick to fresh water fishing. Thanks
377	Robert Thiele	Surf City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is overly burdensome to recreational anglers. In addition would be very difficult for tourists to comply with. I do utilize the the NC wildlife app to report big game harvest but this has season limits and I believe is on a smaller scale. I think this rule will do more harm than good and have a long term negative economic impact.

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378	Jonas Andrews	JAMESTOWN	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
379	Elizabeth Hunter	Manson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
380	Zachary George	Sophia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>The proposed rule change in 2023-137 will do nothing to help the populations of the affected fisheries, it will only hinder law abiding sportsmen for enjoying the outdoor hobbies they love. The dmf doesn't seem to be doing something right, I'm not a fisheries biologist but it seems the more dmf does to "save" fisheries the worse the populations health becomes.</p> <p>How can we as a state limit our red drum to a third of the limit of both of our neighboring states, our sea trout to half and 80%, not mentioning the dmf absolutely destroying the wonderful progress made by the ncwrc on the striped bass populations.</p> <p>It's just very frustrating as an avid outdoorsman in one of the best states for enjoying the outdoors to be limited so much on what we're able to catch and keep, while being banned from catching the most common bait used in saltwater applications.</p> <p>Please take this comment for what it's worth.</p> <p>Thank you for opening comments</p>
381	Taran Kett Hunter	Manson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
382	Kenneth Pope	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Flounder has enough rules for the non commercial already, registered flounder is such a waste of time, spend more time on commercial flounder rules
383	Ethan Call	Washington NC	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Knowing a majority of the public will not do this, the data set will be useless. The current rules, implementation and enforcement strategies do not work. Doing more will not work, it'll just be another way to bring in money from tickets. The issue is and has been lack of management for decades, and this is a "bandaid" to attempt to fix it. If you want your kids and grandkids to catch fish in the estuaries of NC, you need to restrict the commercial harvest and the rec harvest proportionally. Both bring in a lot of money to the state every year.
384	Mitch Newman	Columbia	South Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I understand the desire to acquire information that might be used to keep NC fisheries productive. However, the idea of creating a law that would make a criminal out of Dads fishing with their

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				Harvest Reporting		<p>kids, vacationers fishing at the beach, etc is unwarranted. I know you think, "well, it's just not that much trouble to report". Maybe not when you are in an office or the legislature, etc. But for someone on the beach, on vacation, it is a hassle and will reinforce the wrong-think that, instead of following the rules, just try not to get caught...</p> <p>My suggestion, would be, if you think vacationers' fishing harvests are of vital importance, then send a survey to all license holders at the end of the year and allow for estimated harvests to be reported. Take the honus off the license-fee-payer to either report or be committing a CRIME, and put the responsibility to collect data on the staff where it belongs.</p> <p>We have way too many laws and rules where anyone can become a criminal. I'm not for anarchy, I know rules are important, but there comes a point where the balance between following the rules and trying to avoid the rules starts to make sense, and we don't want to encourage that mindset with unnecessary laws...</p> <p>Thank you</p>
385	shane bufmeyer	west end	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I have been a law abiding hunter and fisherman my whole life. I taught my sons and now my grandsons how to hunt and fish legally. We used to say it took a lawyer to figure out the rules and regulations. Now a lawyer is not needed because I cannot keep enough fish when I go to the coast to even get the grease hot!! The division of marine fisheries has turned law abiding citizens into criminals over night.</p> <p>When I go to the coast on an average trip, my wife and i will catch on average over 100 flounder. All of which I now have to throw back if I don't fish during the allotted "season". This is ridiculous ! There is no shortage of flounder. If there was, there is no way that the hook and line fisherman can impact the species.</p> <p>So now what your telling us is besides throwing back our catch, we have to report our catch so it can be counted? You know you will never get an accurate fish count. Therefore, all of this tax money being spent is in vane.</p> <p>Why doesn't South Carolina and Virginia participate? I bet its because they have plenty of fish. Evidently fish don't cross state lines?</p> <p>I can't even throw net for mullet in the fall to catch fish that I have to throw back.</p> <p>I know this post will fall on deaf ears but it is time to repeal all of these foolish laws. I look forward to the day when I can take my grandchildren to the outer banks and fry their first flounder. Don't take this away from me!</p> <p>Sincerely, NC citizen and tax payer, Shane Bufmeyer</p>

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386	Kevin Skaradzinski	Monroe	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fishing should not be required to report each catch. Those rules should apply to all commercial fishermen and they should be limited on their harvests.
387	gene bell	Belhaven	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Keep this ridiculous governing of fisheries up and this state along with the economies of these communities (that thrive on fishermen) will lose millions of dollars because of your inability to govern fisheries properly!
388	Joel Jernigan	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Most ridiculous thing I have ever heard of. How on earth do you expect recreational fisherman out on a day off with their families to report catches of these kinds of fish? If the season is open and they have a license stay out of the way. For goodness sakes, keep fishing is complicated enough just keeping up with open seasons, size limits, etc.....keep it simple...do not put this reporting requirement in place!
389	darrell maness	Ramseur	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I can't believe it has come this ! More regulation on the fishermen! This is the next step to communism ! You can't keep enough fish to make it worth the trip to the Coast ! Sucks !!!
390	Nicholas Maraveyias	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>NC fisheries regulation is totally out of control. Having completely failed to protect our coastal and inland fisheries from nursery degradation and destructive commercial fishing practices, the agency has resorted to largely denying public access to our "public trust resources".</p> <p>Certainly no one would object to properly reporting recreational and commercial catches if only:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We were allowed to catch any reasonable number of the fish in question. We are not 2. NCDMF could come up with a user friendly way of doing it. You can not 3. The data would be used to benefit the fish populations and not to advocate for further reducing public access, while protecting "the right to fish" for the same special interests that have so greatly contributed to the sad state of current fisheries. It will not <p>The degree of dysfunction, favoritism and incompetence demonstrated by the NCDMF over the past couple of decades would be allowed to continued nowhere else, but only the most esoteric of gov agencies.</p> <p>Sincerely, Nick Maraveyias, Marine Biologists and Waterman</p>

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391	David Shaffer	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	These rules are unenforceable & make you look foolish. The solution is to outlaw netters and you will solve a lot of problems in the NC fisheries.
392	Austin Strickland	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Implementing a mandatory harvest report and treating fish like they are a big game animal won't fix anything. Ban all kinds of netting and dragging like every other state on the east coast and the fishery will be fine. It's not that hard.
393	Larry G. Pittman	Concord	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I oppose the requirement for non-commercial fishermen to have to report their catches of any species of finfish or crabs or shellfish. The God-given human right to harvest seafood for food is over-regulated as it is. It should be enough that we adhere to limits, some of which I consider egregious as it is, and be subject to legal penalties if found to be exceeding the limits. This idea of making us have to report our catches of certain seafood species is colossal overreach. Please abandon this idea. If I were still a member of the Wildlife Committee in the NC House, I would certainly do whatever I could to oppose it. Larry G. Pittman former member, NC House, 10/10/2011-12/31/2022
394	Nathan Zeagler	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This flounder limit is out of hand. There are tons of them if you know where to fish. These limits the last few years have been absolutely ridiculous. Need to make limit and season increase. Yall are taking the fun out of fishing when there is plenty to go around. No sane person gonna go flounder gigging for one flounder.
395	waylon biddle	wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	congratulations to the NCDMF for ruining recreational fishing in North Carolina! I have been a resident of North Carolina my entire life and have been fishing on the coast for most of that time. All the regulations the last few years have taken all the fun out of fishing. Its hardly worth the trouble to go fishing anymore and bring home dinner. I have a degree in Natural Resources and work as a Scientist. the population data presented by the NCDMF has been nothing short of trash and its clear the NCDMF are just puppets to the commercial fishing interests in Raleigh. it seems the NCDMF will only be satisfied when the recreational fisherman is gone and we can all buy our overpriced fish from the grocery store
396	James Roberson	Vandemere	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There are size limits set already to limit the fish taken. I would be for it if the reporting was for fish caught over the allowed size. As for commercial fishing, fishermen are already dealing with rules on top of rules from gill net size to areas where they can legally fish. It's a little over kill in

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						my opinion. I'm born and raised here in eastern NC and it's sad to say that fishing is starting to be no longer a way of life.
397	Charles Stancil	Whiteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	What about people who doesn't have access to the internet and/or doesn't know how to use it. I know a lot of people that don't have internet access and don't want it.
398	Stephen Bullard	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The problem with coastal fishing in NC is not the recreational hook and line fishing it's the nets inside the coastal waters. If you look to the left or the right of our state you will see that we are the only state that allows it. It's time to put all nets out in the ocean. How many millions of small fish die a year because of nets inside the inlets. I myself through back a hundreds of small black and red drum a year that live just for a net to kill them the very next night. It is time for this state to do the right thing and get all nets off shore. Thank you Stephen Bullard
399	John Parker	Manteo	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm commenting on Session Law 2023-137 which pertains to the mandatory harvest reporting law. There are already enough unnecessary rules and regulations relating to commercial fishermen. This is just another example of overkill which will inevitably result in making criminals out of honest hardworking fishermen. If you don't slack off on these kind of rules, you will drive all law abiding fishermen out of the business. Then see what you have left to deal with!
400	Kim MacCartney	Nags Head	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The state provides no background for the need to adopt such legislation; it appears it was just brought up by a left of center activist group that has only been around for SIX years. This temporary rule shows just how out-of-touch with the realities of recreational fishing the NC legislature happens to be. Do any legislators realize that there is only one state on the entire East Coast that has a flounder season? Do they realize there is only one state on the East Coast that has a draconian striped bass season. Do these elected legislators understand that there is only one state on the East Coast that allows inland waters gill netting? It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out what all other states have known for decades...you can't have healthy fish stocks if the commercial fishermen can harvest them where they breed! Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences, a division of William & Mary, did a study on the economic impact of recreational fishing versus commercial fishing. The impact of the recreational fishing community was over 100 times that of commercial fishing! Did the legislators pandering to an activist organization take into account that a high percentage of recreational fishermen who fish North Carolina waters travel from out of state. And it would be very easy for them to find another state to spend their dollars on charter

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						<p>trips, vacation rentals, food, bait, tackle, groceries, restaurants, boat repairs, etc., etc., etc.</p> <p>Unless they increase the number of marine patrols by 1000% to monitor ever shoreside fishing location, every boat ramp, every mile of beach, etc., who in their right mind would expect a fisherman, especially an out-of-state fisherman to fill out some state form that might come back to bite him/her. It is easier to find another state to fish in than fishing in a state where "Big Brother" is watching!</p> <p>This may be the most ludicrous, ill-conceived, insane piece of legislation ever to come out of Raleigh. The legislature should have let this die with Governor Cooper's veto. Instead they caved to a group of Johnny-come-lately activists and implementation of this legislation will just be another nail in North Carolina's attempt to drive recreational fishing north and south of the state.</p>
401	Sheron and Terry B Dedmon	Harkers Island, NC	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>With a big government foot on the fishermen's neck, there is little reason to fish any longer. There's no enjoyment in writing down each of the named fish harvested. Fishing is supposed to be a release from the workday grind and its endless record-keeping and accounting. Instead, the government is flexing its big onerous muscles, that it's acquired from the increased income from expensive fishing licenses . Disgusting. TRULY DISGUSTING !</p> <p>We have impowered a monster with the income derived from the ridiculous fees we must pay to fish in OUR waters! UGH I'll be happier not to fish than to oblige such an objectionable load of documentation.</p>
402	Daniel E Phillips	Denver	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Y'all need to stop on regulations on the hook in line Fishman
403	Daniel E Phillips	Denver	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You should stop all regulations on hooking line fisherman.
404	George Wheelis	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Honestly, I think the rules are absolutely ridiculous. Every time they pass another stupid rule like this, people that once fished find it more cumbersome and less relaxing. Kids that could have spent time fishing with dads are less likely to be taken fishing and memories that could have been made are less likely to happen. Encouraging fishing, instead of discouraging, is a small price to pay for strong father-son relationships that create good citizens and teach good judgment.

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405	Kerry Howard Miller	Mooreville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I read the Law and nowhere in law is how this is to work.I occasional fish and wonder how this reporting is going to work. It seems to me the legislature under Republican control is just making more laws that are going to cost more money to enforce with no reasoning
406	Alan Conrad	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Original lifetime license holder. Marine Resources has almost ruined the fishing experience of the angler. The creel limits or even ban, in an effort to sustain brutal and indiscriminate commercial harvesting of saltwater resources has been so intrusive to the individual human rights of a licensed NC citizen, to harvest natural resources of local estuaries that the intrusion on these natural rights have made simple fishing a regulatory frustration rather than God given life sustaining resource. Now NC Marine Resources leadership wants me to report my catch. If the resource had not been over regulated and slanted toward the culling of dead bycatch from the commercial fishermen, there may have actually been a catch to acknowledge by my family at the dinner table and report if mandatory. Get out of our lives and get jobs that actually serve some common good. Banning the use of billions of mullet minnows for bait to catch ONE fish per day made your functional decisions by committee, defunct and totally invasive to human rights. You could not have asked a more intrusive and insulting question's of NC citizens.
407	Mark Erwin	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am a local resident that is lucky to get 1-3 days of flounder fishing due to the severe restrictions enacted in the last several years. I am lucky to harvest 1 fish during this scientifically challenged regulation. To further require me to report my 1 fish is ludicrous! How about outlawing gill nets in our fisheries to stop this destructive behavior. I am for commercial fishermen reporting which will give the legislature real data to judge the health of our fisheries. Guys like me that work and have limited time on the water are being severely punished by commercial fishermen.
408	Alan J Scibal	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Feel free to call for my comments. Having a tough time putting all of my thoughts into writing. I run a 60' private sport fishing vessel for a living, and the regulations from the marsh to the Gulf Stream get worse and worse every year. I hope my child is even able to go fishing with a rod and reel and not just a camera.
409	Matthew Leggett	Clayton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	So now to take my kid out fishing I have to file a report for the fish we keep, by the way only if they are in some arbitrary slot, size, 2 week period, 1 per day, etc. How about enforce the same rules on the commercial fleets that other states have and get them out of the spawning waters so the populations can come back. The answer is never more government interference in the lives of the people who are already doing what's right. How about ending gill netting and trolling in the sound. Try that for 3 years and see if the populations come back, and if not then I'll do your mandatory repoeting.

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410	John wilson	Beulaville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am against the reporting of recreational catches. Who is going to make sure the gill netters and shrimp trawlers report all the dead fish they throw back? I have watched gill netters throw dozens of dead undersized redfish in the water to float off. There needs to be big changes made in NC, including laws and lawmakers. Reporting catches by law abiding fishermen hurts nobody but the lawabiding fisherman. The nets still kill all they want while we get cut back on what we can catch legally.
411	DANNY W EPPS	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational Reporting-Since when is anything temporary. Then it's mandatory. Then it's a chore or a fine. I agree with commercial catch reporting. Recreational is just that "recreational". We're not feeding the world ,just our families if we're lucky. I don't want to have to come home go online ,answer when, where ,how long, what did I catch it with, how much did it weigh. Bye the way is there going to be a tax for the fish? I've already spent thousands of dollars a year for gear, license, and registration for the boat. I abide by the regulations! Is that not enough.
412	DANNY P CLODFELTER	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You educated idiots are going to create a large group of lawbreakers. No basis for this so called "temporary" rule. Nothing is ever temporary. Once enacted, it will become permanent. I won't participate in this rule. Neither will the majority of fishermen. You will need thousands of new enforcement officers to monitor. Just admit it's a stupid ruling.
413	MARVIN J PHILLIPS	Denver	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	H*** NO WE DON;T NEED MORE RULES.
414	Joyce Ingraham	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I think it is appropriate for recreation fishing to make fishing reports equal to commercial rules. It should be exactly the same as the trip tickets commercial fishermen are required to submit. It should include ALL fish caught. That is the only way ACCURATE data on fish stocks can be obtained. Trip tickets are already in use so it should be easy to implement it to include all fishermen.
415	Rick James	Elizabeth city	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This entire organization is a joke. I am not reporting every fish I catch. North Carolina has one the best inshore fishing in the country and marine fisheries is ruining that. The striped bass in the albemarle sound is ridiculous. The past 4 years the sound and rivers are slam full of rock. Yet you're not allowed to keep even one to take home and eat. Let alone the commercial guys who are trying to make a living. Yet you walk in a restaurant and order striper that comes from Virginia which is 45 minutes north. This organization has done nothing but take from the fisherman on NC and has given nothing back to us. All coming from guys who couldn't catch a

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						fish while doing “surveys”. Whatever information you receive from people reporting harvest will do nothing but fuel the reason to reduce limits and close seasons. I hope like h*** I report something....
416	Greg Sorrell	Grimesland	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Mandatory to report before fish is cleaned or brought on land.
417	Patrick caton	Hatteras	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Y’all can’t even enforce the rules that you have made. Why are you doing this? Is it because of Tom Roller—that fly-fishing, false albacore-catching, CCA member with a major conflict of interest? I wish that y’all knew how hard you make our jobs. I already have to fill out VCRS for every day I charter fish and commercial fish. Most people who fish feel that every time that y’all collect information from the “stakeholders”, the fisheries managers end up using it against us. There’s a very big gap in trust between fisheries managers and fishermen, and if what you really want is reliable data, then you need to address that issue first. Adopting this more “micro” form of management isn’t exactly a show of good faith.
418	Robert Sandweg	Newland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Ridiculous. Unworkable. Unenforceable. An overreach by government. The recreational fisherman needs to be left alone. Feels like a violation of our rights to fish in peace.
419	Anonymous	Albemarle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe that the recreational angler is being penalized heavier than the commercial fishermen. I believe that the route of all the issues that our inshore and near shore fisheries are facing is trawling in estuaries. I believe that the mandatory reporting of the above listed species will cause the recreational angler to be under more restrictions that will not truly be benefitting the fisheries or addressing the route of the problem.
420	phillip w rives	Graham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why do I need to report catching fish while surf fishing? This should apply only to commercial fisherman.
421	Tony King	Morehead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Too many requests/requirements. Time and effort to report a fish or 2 after every trip? No way! Will not get good statistics as participation will be very low. So them the council will say there is no fish, so we need to close. If too many fish are caught, then council will say too much harvest. So either way, the fisherman is screwed.

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422	Erik Bufmeyer	Pinehurst	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I am 31yrs old and have held a lifetime sportsman's license since I was a year old. I have fished at the coast off and on for my entire life. Going fishing is not only a recreational sport but also allows me the ability to catch and keep fish to feed my family.</p> <p>Number one, the flounder regulations that have been implemented the last few years are not even worth the effort for a limit of one fish...this is ridiculous. The hook and like fisherman are not the ones hurting the population of any fish species. It is the commercial fishing boats with tons of by catch that hurt the population of many sport fish. Secondly, the new regulation for reporting every single fish that is kept is nonsense. You're telling me that I can't just go fishing and keep my limit of fish? Now I have to catch and keep a fish, then call in and record it every single time a fish is kept?. As for many individuals who buy fishing licenses and who have lifetime license, the ability to keep very few or no fish is terrible along with the fact that now you want every hook and line fisherman to send a report on what they keep. This is a waste of taxes and an overstep of the state into our fishing rights. I am all for size or krill limits but to close a season entirely (flounder) or have to jump through so many hoops for reporting kept fish (new proposed law) this is a gross overstep. You are not only hurting the fishing industry but now you are trying to fine me if I don't call in and report a fish harvest. As far as I am concerned, I hope other states such as SC and VA and others along the SE coast will step in and say what kind of nonsense this is. Beside clearly you think that these regulations in NC will help NC when in reality fish go up and down the entire coast line....so once they cross into SC you can keep multiple flounder and you don't have to report any harvests.</p> <p>This is a gross overstep from the state and this bill shouldn't be passed and while we're on this stance, let's change other regulations such as the flounder regulations as well.</p> <p>Thanks.</p> <p>USDA Wildlife Specialist Erik Bufmeyer</p>
423	Chris Matthews	Vanceboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
424	Anthony Hawkins	Concord	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	As a resident of North Carolina I am only allowed to keep one 18"-27" red drum a day and I am only allowed to keep flounder 2 weeks out of the year in September (1 a day over 15"). The only

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				Harvest Reporting		inshore fish left is the speckled trout which I fear is the next on the list of fish I cannot keep to feed my family. This three year plan of mandatory reporting is ridiculous. Numerous times I have been on the water trying to catch my 4 trout with a rod and reel, when along comes a commercial netter setting numerous nets across the creek. Once I was trying to get to the viewing tower for the Campbells Creek waterfowl impoundment, and there was a net blocking access to it, nets in Jones bay, nets in Bay River, some attended and some unattended. Commercial shrimp trawlers from NC as well as other states pulling nets 3 wide raping the Pamlico Sound. At some point the NCDMF is going to have to get control of these commercial gill netters and trawlers. The one redfish and four trout I catch a day are not the problem facing our fishery. It is almost like the state wants to stop recreational fishing all together as the politicians are paid off by the commercial fishing lobby. Why isn't the fishery in South Carolina in the same condition? What about Georgia? Florida? Because they don't allow inshore netting. A change has to be made, but threatening me with a verbal warning, written warning, \$35 fine, and suspension of fishing license for not reporting fish I catch to feed my family is not the answer. Our resources have been mismanaged, and punishing recreational fishermen will only accomplish 2 things: we won't spend money going to the coast to fish in NC, and we will buy that South Carolina license so we can actually keep the redfish, trout, and flounder we catch.
425	Richard Rudd	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this puts significant and unreasonable pressure on recreational fisherman to report their recreational catches. Most fisherman I know catch and release. We have no data to review this policy against, but i can't imagine the non commercial numbers are large enough to make an impact compared to commercial operators. Finally, I think this establishes no goals or reasons for the implementation of the policy (where's the science?) and will be difficult if not impossible to enforce, unless you plan to stop and check every recreational boat that could possibly catch a fish. If there's a need to control the catch limit of these species, just say that. Fisherman, like hunters, are your very best environmental stewards!
426	CHRISTOPHER R DOERNER	Garner	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I am not sure why this is not already in effect? I am a recreational fisherman.
427	Gary Chambers	Hillsborough	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	As a lifelong North Carolina fisherman, who has seen the ebbs and flows of the resource for decades, I am appalled at the thought of mandatory reporting of the targeted species! Do the lawmakers and the designers of these regulations have any remaining semblance of common sense? Requiring law-abiding, fully licensed recreational fishermen to report every red drum, trout, flounder, etc. borders on insanity!! This proposed regulation is about the most egregious example of government control and overreach that I have ever witnessed in my 63 years!! Please, please, please come to your senses and scrap this ridiculous proposal. If you ignore, what I would

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						assume, 95% of your feedback opposing this regulation, and continue down the path of enacting it, good luck enforcing it!! You will need to hire about 5,000 more agents.
428	Taylor Bailey	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is unnecessary. No matter what law is set in place those who are over fishing above the limits aren't going to abide by the law. This only makes it more of an unnecessary hassle for fisherman who obey the limits already set in place. It's already pointless to even flounder fish anymore, meanwhile commercial fishermen can catch as many flounder as they want. It's making it more difficult for those who just want fish with their families.
429	Celeste Mahr	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The government is making it impossible for commercial fishermen to feed their families with all the regulations and fees imposed.
430	Read Samples	Beulaville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Please consider the addition of Rule after Rule and Regulation after Regulation on the key gamefish species in NC. Once an angler is on the other side of the rules then what is to keep them from disregarding other regulations such as bag limits, size limits, or closed seasons. A violation of one game rules is still a violation and if risking the ticket and court date you might as well bet big. I understand the importance of data gathering but the required report of catch seems like a large amount of monetary overhead to gain this information. With the already over extended enforcement branch any further requirement also seems like a non-useful utilization of their time. In lieu of these new regulations I would recommend two action items.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest further and expand the tagging program in NC. Include a voluntary tagging kit with the purchase of CRFL covering at least 1 year. This would satisfy the requirement for additional data of species and provide fringe data as well. 2. Invest funding into habitat rejuvenation. The efforts in the main sounds are extremely successful, I recommend we move these projects into smaller areas and different habitats that would further benefit the subject species. <p>Thank you.</p>
431	Tommy Woodell	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm for harsher penalties for those caught not obeying existing laws....
432	Michael Brady	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Why is it that recreational anglers must report location of harvest but commercial harvest doesn't require this?</p> <p>I am against requiring recreational anglers to report harvest locations.</p>
433	Bobby Mayhew	Calabash	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There is already way too much state control over recreational fishing as it is now. I don't understand why or how reporting creels will be an advantage to the environment. Controlling creels will be impossible to be accurate because only a small percentage of the fishermen will truly submit to these laws. Waste of our tax money.

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434	Brad Staley	Richlands	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too much oversight.
435	Michael Casstevens	Lowgap	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel that the rules proposed to require reporting of any recreational catch, is absurd, a waste of time and resources, and almost impossible to enforce. I support the commercial fishing lifestyle, however recreational fishing is not what is depleting our fish. The thousands of yards of gill nets you have to dodge running up and down the beach at certain times of the year, the massive bycatch trails left by the trawlers, every Tom, dick, and harry with a commercial fishing license running gill nets all over the ICW, all of these practices are what is depleting our stocks. Regular surveys at boat ramps, piers, and beaches accomplishes more than requiring reporting of recreational catches. Required reporting is nothing short of right out harassment of law abiding fishermen.
436	Sharpe Wrenn	Brown Summit	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You have made tough enough on the once in a while fisherman! It cost a fortune to come to the coast now. I'm not a law breaker, but you about to make me one! Do away with all nets and it will solve all the problems! Teach the commercial fishermen a trade and all will be good!
437	Will Tulloss	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I can understand why one would want to know what recreational fisherman keep to understand population levels, but if you are concerned about the population levels just make it so we can't keep any at all. Trout, drum, etc. the rules are too complicated anyway. I mean 1 drum and 4 trout? Just f***** forget it and be done and cut back on commercial season. The end.
438	Matt Gillis	Creedmoor	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
439	John Doe	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	NC has totally destroyed any fun in fishing for the family that gets one week of vacation a year to enjoy any type of fishing. Most fish are one per day. Flounder season may be two weeks out of a Year? While our surroundings states SC and Virginia are having a good Ole time. Now if you were to catch a fish in NC you have to report it? NC has turned into a dictatorship! This is absolutely ridiculous! No fun or enjoyment in NC fishing anymore!
440	Margaret Buck	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I believe that fisherman should report what they catch to keep up with population control of the fish so that we do not have overfishing happening more than it already does.
441	Stephen Chisenhall	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You idiots are all on dope! All of you! Mandatory reporting?? Why don't you a***** work on doing some real governing and leave NC fishermen the h*** alone! What do any of you REALLY know about fisheries management? Zip zero and you prove it time and again. Pathetic.

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442	Ashley Hux	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If marine fisheries want to know what's being harvested, they need to check boats at the dock. There's enough restrictions on fishermen as it is, I have enough things to take care of with the boat and equipment to report a harvest of fish with every fish caught. I have children that fish under my license.
443	Edgar Mitchell	Elizabeth city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
444	Randy Clodfelter	Thomasville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
445	Randy Clodfelter	Thomasville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
446	Van Steen Moss	Holden Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	No I don't think there should be a rule to require a person to report their catch! You can ask us to volunteer our catch but not require. There are enough rules! I've been fishing for all those fish and I can tell you i fish with a group of friends and we have been fishing together for 40 years and have been catching more fish in the last 5 years than any time in the 40 years. Who ever says there is a shortage of fish doesn't know what they're talking about. Also we only keep what we're going to eat! I believe the most guys who fish are doing the same. Netting should be banned from all the creeks and back waters. We have fished creeks one day and catch plenty of fish and then the netting comes in and we go back and not get to bite. I have seen it with my own eyes. When say we catch fish I'm talking about all that is listed!!!! Steen Moss
447	Brooks Deaton	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Outlandish and does more to compromise future non-commercial fishing enjoyment versus alternative solutions.
448	Canyon scott	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It was born and raised in America and taught to fend for myself my entire life never was I told that I had to report anything to the government and I never will I believe this is very unconstitutional and every man deserves to fend for themselves whether it be start turning on business or just survive with the natural resources that God himself has given to us

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						I will never submit to this and you will never make me God help anyone who tries to stop an honest hard-working man from surviving
449	William Sykes	Ivanhoe	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	More rules will not solve the issue of the laws not being enforced.
450	Terence Dash	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Flounder and Striped bass are closed to recreational harvest. How does an angler report a harvest that is illegal? Only a dumba** would self report an illegal harvest. Why not spend the 5 million on something more beneficial to the environment and recreational fishing.
451	Michael Alford	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This is just punishing law abiding sportsmen, who are not the problem. NC needs more boots on the ground enforcing harvesting laws, restrictions on inshore bottom trawling, and an end to gill-netting.</p> <p>I've done a lot of fishing in my life and have virtually no experience with a game warden. We need boots on the ground at boat ramps and popular fishing spots throughout North Carolina striking fear into those who are breaking our harvesting rules. Please don't add administrative work to those who already follow the rules.</p>
452	R. Leggett	Belhaven	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>SECTION 6.(a) G.S. 113-170.3 (d) & (e)</p> <p>I live near Belhaven, NC and have recreationally fished the waters from Washington to Ocracoke for nearly 50 years. Additionally, I completed my undergraduate studies majoring in both Fish and Wildlife Mgt. and Environmental Science.</p> <p>Personally knowing many recreational fishermen who fish the same waters as I do, and observing commercial fishermen over these many years in the same waters, many times at night with all their lights off, I feel that the wrong approaches are being proposed.</p> <p>While not totally against mandatory reporting, I feel that it's an unnecessary and expensive burden to place on the taxpayers and fisherman of our State. ALL of the recreational fishermen I know fish more for the thrill of the catch and some, for the satisfaction of being able to cook and eat what they have caught a few times a year. It's painfully obvious to us all that the cost of fuel, boat payments etc., are many times more than we can buy fish for at the local fish market for whether we catch 1 fish in a weekend or 20.</p> <p>The point is, and I would imagine the number of citations given for catching too many of any of the targeted fish will substantiate, that recreational fisherman are not inclined to catch and keep so many fish that it would take them hours to clean and freeze. Even if they did, they would soon have many more fish in their freezer than they would eat in an entire year!</p> <p>Rather than focusing on mandatory reporting of daily limits, the focus should be on yearly limits.</p>

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						<p>Most recreational fishermen only get time to take their boats out 8 to 10 times a year and are pleasantly satisfied to catch their limit a few of those times. Personally, I will only catch my limit 2 out of 10 times. If I were to catch and harvest 20 to 30 fish in the course of a summer, that would be plenty to last until the next summer. Anything more would be released.</p> <p>There are fisheries "statistic takers" stationed at most public ramps and I talk with them frequently. I don't ever hear reports of recreational fisherman catching their limits by the droves. By the way, are those same type statistic takers stationed where commercial fisherman sell their catch?</p> <p>It seems to me if manditory reporting is a means to force fisherman to stay within kreel limits with the arguable goal of preserving the species, then what evidence supports that they are not abiding by the law already.</p> <p>I would dare to say there has not been a drastic increase of citations issued for size or limts. If there has been an increase, I'm sure it would be statistically comparable to the number of recreational licences issued.</p> <p>In terms of penalties for non-compliance, it's already a severe fine associated with catching too many or undersized fish, and there are few recreational anglers willing to take that risk. And, why would they, to catch, clean and freeze more than they could possibly eat. I think not.</p> <p>While I personally don't have an issue with commercial fishing since I love a good seafood dinner at a local restaurant as good as the next, what I do disagree with is the manner in which commercial fishing is allowed in our state. Specifically, commercial fishing in our estuaries. Other states have adopted protections of the estuaries for good reason. Allow the fish to come in, breed and populate instead of harvesting them before they even get a chance. There are ample catches of the same variety of fish offshore.</p> <p>If continued fishing of our estuaries by commercial fisherman is allowed, there needs to be very conservative yearly poundage limits per commercial license.</p> <p>So, let's weigh the financial impact of forcing regulated commercial harvesting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The commercial fishing industry represents a very small percentage of State's population, voters, and revenue compared to the number of recreational fishermen, voters and the revenue generated from tourist who come to enjoy fishing from our piers and beaches. Not to mention revenue from boat sales and jobs at our many boat manufacturers. 2. Harvesting outside of estuaries will only allow all the species you are trying to protect to thrive by allowing all those that enter our estuaries to reproduce. <p>So, weighing the difference in the approach, I think anyone would agree which approach is more beneficial to the majority.</p> <p>I implore our elected legislators to think clearly and explore all alternatives when the "gloom and</p>

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						<p>doom" environmentalist and biologist paint a picture that there's only one way to solve a problem or save a species.</p> <p>While no one wants to be "the one" who goes against these "save the species" tactics, there's more respect to be earned from "doing the right thing" and supporting a solution that the "majority" of our states citizens can agree with and all the same goals can still be met.</p> <p>Respectfully, R. Leggett</p>
453	Jeremy Clyde Yancey	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This is not hunting, its fishing so if you expect fisherman to report their total harvest it will be forgotten once back at the landing/boat ramp. When you harvest a deer or turkey yes, its tag before you drag because it's usually 1 a day but dealing with multiple species of fish and various limits it can get lost in the sauce. If anything, do officers not already check boats for limits and sizes? Sounds like you're trying to protect the commercial fisherman with this, and do you think they are going to report they're by catch and undersized fish they rip the gills out of in those nets when pulling them out?</p>
454	GARY K WILLIAMS	HARRELLSVILLE	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>ITS JUST ANOTHER WAY TO RAISE REVENUE THERES ENOUGH RULES ALREADY</p>
455	Logan Simmons	Chadbourn	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>For the recreational fisherman the proposed rule further limits their ability to enjoy the outdoors and only adds to the possibility of getting a fine. The NC fisherman already has a hard time enjoying the outdoors with the many restrictions placed by our dictators at the DNR. You people take the fun out of the outdoors and should be ashamed of yourselves. Yes, there should be some restrictions and limits on bag size and size limits. However, asking us to call in our harvest report on how many fish we caught? Get real, we are not the DNR's voluntold surveyors.</p> <p>As for the commercial fishermen they should be required by our officials to report all species caught. The majority of over fishing belongs to this group and I feel the NC DNR lets this demographic of fishermen bend the rules consistently.</p> <p>I no longer desire to go saltwater fishing in NC. This agency has taken many future memories from me and my dad.</p> <p>Sincerely, Logan</p>

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456	Michael Ste. Marie	Matthews	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	As a recreational fisherman, I strongly oppose reporting harvesting my catches. I am an ethical sportsman, as is most of my fellow anglers. I follow the slot limits and possession laws. I feel that this is just more unneeded regulation and imposing a fine seems like nothing more than another way to generate more income for the state. Let's not complicate the simple pleasure of sport fishing.
457	Eddie Rich	ANGIER	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Might as well hang a sign at the coast, "NO MORE FISHING". Not going to convince me that recreational fishermen are causing the disappearance of fish. Also, how's this going to play with the millions of dollars brought into the State's coffers from tourist who once or twice a year visit our State to sling a hook in the water?
458	Jeffrey L King	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is one more obstacle that has to be addressed for the regular sportsman to have fun. There will wildlife crawling all over the place.
459	Allen Dameron	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an over reach of government and you need to stop. I always comply with your rules but you have gone to far. You have take the fun out of fishing. Theses are natural resources and I respect them. You need to show the same respect to us.
460	Bob Waters	27925	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	What is the purpose of mandating yet another administrative burden on law -abiding, conservation-minded citizens? When is enough...enough? Will my grandchildren have to submit to a background check someday to obtain a fishing license?
461	David Spencer	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The amount of government injected into our daily activities is becoming more absurd. As a law abiding citizen and licensed fisherman I am charged with following harvest limitations - from that perspective the general public does not see the return on time invested in additional reporting requirements. I'm guessing this adds another potential fee/fine perspective to the marine fisheries and give added ability to otherwise harass law abiding folks. Let us continue to execute the license we have been charged with without adding more government bureaucracy to our daily lives.
462	Brett Nolker	Reidsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	If the rule helps manage the fishery, I support it
463	John Clark Maness	Sanford	North Carolina	Both rules	For	1. The process needs to be simple for both recreational and commercial fishers to go online or call-in report their fish counts. 2. A portion of recreational licenses and commercial permits fee revenue needs to fund making

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						<p>sure this system is up and running properly on 12/1/2024.</p> <p>3. The infraction fines are too low, especially for commercial fishers. Commercial fishers need a real fine that affects their bottom line and a faster route to losing their permit if they do not accurately report their catches.</p> <p>4. Commercial fishers need to be required to report their bycatch kills (non-target species killed and not kept in their operations). This is critical information for creating future legislation to protect NC fisheries.</p>
464	Ken	Washington	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	You will need to have an online submission form or this rule will not be followed. You should also ensure that your website can handle this increased amount of website traffic.
465	Robert Ballard	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
466	Dennis Johnson	Woodbridge	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Over fishing by commercial operations has caused fish decline. Recreational fishing has been ruined by the commercial over harvesting for many years. Recreational fishermen and women should not be further burdened and harassed when most people never get near a catch limit. I've fished on my one or two week vacations in NC for about 40 years and never caught a limit of any fish. Putting additional burden and threatening recreational anglers is inappropriate. Voluntary reporting and no threat of penalty is the appropriate option for recreational fishing. Most recreational anglers want to increase fish populations and protect the environment so don't punish us. Increased limits on commercial fishing and reporting by businesses is appropriate.
467	Patrick	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Inland waters adjacent to joint waters covers too much territory.</p> <p>Example some Ocean/salt water species can travel and live well into Inland waters .</p> <p>Using Flounder for Example, A flounder caught above Williamston (which has happened) on the Roanoke is Adjacent to the Abemarle Sound.</p> <p>An inland Fisherman who doesn't normally fished for then post a picture and gets fined under this new system , verbal warning etc.</p> <p>That jurisdiction also gives Nc Fisheries jurisdiction all the way past Weldon .</p> <p>Tar and Neuse same issues .</p>
468	Dean Harrison	Clemmons	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	

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469	Webster Collett	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>It's difficult to comment when you don't know what type of format will be adopted.</p> <p>You don't have enough officers patrolling now to make a significant difference on harvests so why do you think this all inclusive reporting will matter ? This has the appearance of another Democratically controlled power grab from both Raleigh and Washington</p>
470	John Stuebe	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I am against this new rule. When I go fishing, I do it to relax, spend time with friends or family, and because I simply enjoy it. Adding a reporting requirement is just one more thing that I need to worry about when I am done fishing. I question whether real data will be gained from this reporting as many folks will likely not report their harvest. It will be mostly unenforceable. I am against the rule out of principle and inconvenience but I do have some questions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How will it be enforced or how do you prove that a fish wasn't reported? 2. What if someone accidentally reports a fish out of slot or has a typo? Will they be fined? 3. How long does someone have to report a harvest? 4. Is the reporting per boat or license holder? Am I responsible for reporting a licensed juvenile? How about an unlicensed juvenile? <p>Are Leo's now going to start counting fish on your boat and then follow up later to see if you reported? This give Leo's more reason to interrupt fishing.</p> <p>I am concerned that only the most law abiding citizens will report because it's unlike hunting where you get a set of tags at the beginning of the season and must tag the deer right away.</p>
471	Scott grissom	Oxford	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>ALL Commercial harvests should be reported in NC. If you have Commercial license holders not reporting sales or harvests during the year they are not Commercial fisherman, they are rec fisherman using a Commercial license to sidestep the creel limits to harvest larger amounts of fish. By-catch should also be reported by Commercial fisherman to fully understand the impact of gill netting in our waters.</p> <p>I'm not a fan of more regs for Rec fisherman but if I have to report catches at least the state will have real harvest numbers instead of artificial ones to make decisions with.</p>
472	Donald DeWire	Arapahoe	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Undecided	<p>I believe that this regulation is an attempt to quantify fish stocks, a prudent idea. There is a number of potential problems that I recognize: enforcement may be impossible (officers are in</p>

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				Harvest Reporting		the field at the time of harvest, but fishermen have until midnight to report the catch, who reports the fish caught by licensed and unlicensed fishermen that are fishing with a guide, only kept fish are to be reported many avid fishermen practice catch and release). Additional consideration should be given to the occasional fisherman who may not be familiar with reporting or may not have a license, example: a grandparent taking a relative who is too young to drive.
473	Greg Kirk	Flemington	West Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The state of NC is getting ridiculous with regulations. Let's just use flounder for example. States on both sides allow 4 and 5 fish per day with no checking required. Why pick on the little guys and concentrate on the commercial fishermen who have been using nets and taking fish that are not legal in size. I could go on but I think you will force people to go somewhere else to go fishing without any restrictions or hassle.
474	Mark Garrett Lang	Dallas	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I think that these rules are overstepping on anglers rights. Especially on none commercial fisherman.
475	Benton W. Dewar	Wilmington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am a commercial fisherman. I have to report my landings already to NOAA. I think this rule should be only for non-commercial landings. NC Wildlife should have access to the reports we submit.
476	stephen murray	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	As long as this is done with a simple app that is not inconvenient to use I have no problem with it. If however, this process requires being on hold by calling a 1-800 number or a government made website that is slow or not user friendly, then it is problematic. The easier it is to do the more I'll be on board.
477	Matthew Harrell	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Reporting requirements are long overdue. The proposed reporting methods seem quite rigorous. A more basic annual report similar to the HIP survey required of migratory bird hunters would capture at least most of the non-commercial harvest reporting. If the proposed rule is implemented as currently written, PLEASE get the money to roll out an appropriate app (or add a feature to the NCWRC GoOutdoors app) to allow smartphone reporting. Today's phone technology allows both species identification and length measurement through the camera so users could provide excellent records simply by taking a picture through an app tied to their license information. This would make compliance so easy for the majority of non-commercial harvests!
478	Grover Canady	Wallace	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am a recreational fisherman that may go fishing three times a year and sounds like a lot of trouble and not worth fishing anymore.

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479	Horace Barbee	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The recreational fisherman adds millions to the MC economy. Their harvest cannot be the reason the fish population is declining. I don't fish for the species that you are targeting because of the present regulations. Don't make it worse
480	Forrest Turner	Elizabeth City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	What has happening to our Freedoms? Please stop this abuse of the public. Thank you
481	Jacob Vandesande	Denver	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This is another step in the wrong direction for North Carolina fisheries. The only thing this does is put an additional unnecessary burden on recreational fisherman in the state who are already extremely limited in catch and release compared to other states. How does this help improve the fishery? This seems like an effort to burden recreational fisherman with the job of the marine fisheries department for surveying and data on populations. How will the data be used to help fish populations?</p> <p>There seems to be no logical reasoning behind all these additional rules being placed on recreational fisherman adding zero value to the enhancement of our waters.</p>
482	Larry Hamilton	WILSON	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I don't have a problem with reporting harvest. It's laughable that the DMF thinks commercial fisherman are going to report all " bycatch". That is the problem in the Pamlico Sound. Get the trawlers out of the estuaries and maybe the fish stock will be able to replenish. Until that is done there is no future for these species.
483	Larry Jackson	Angier	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	All the rules yall have invoked in the past few yrs are wrong. It's not about the science it's about the \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
484	Glenn Mitchell	ayden	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Ive fished Pamlico sound as a rec for over 30 years! All that had ever been done is tighter limits on both sides! None has worked! I'm for shutting the fishery down until stock is recovered and slowly reopen when stocks recover. Reissue com license to only those who truly make a living instead of part timers!
485	Roy Oake	southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Terrible idea!!!! This would be a terrible idea to have "big brother" watching every free American and where they are fishing and what they are or not bringing in. Terrible government over reach and a terrible waste of tax payer money. You should be ashamed.
486	Danny Viverette	Morehead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is " phase in". This just keeps giving more control on everything caught to state government! This is bulls***!!! Democratic bulls***!!

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487	Joe Movic	Efland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Fishing and boating is currently on the decline and this will further dissuade people from participating thus further harming the sport. It's also a big inconvenience for the occasional fishermen that just wants to catch himself lunch and isn't out to load the box on a daily basis. I'm curious why there's no information or at least it's not easy to find as to how this reporting will be done. Have you made it very convenient?
488	James	Benton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
489	Bob Maag	Pittsboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Enough with all the regulations. Stop wasting my tax dollars
490	Bennie Braswell	Havelock	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	The rules created for these reporting regulations need to be separated from commercial vs recreational. The consequences for violating the rules of a 35 fine - after warning ticketing is much to low for commercial fishing purposes and will be considered as a business expense. The rules do not state if the fine is per fish. The rules do not state how many times a warning ticket may be issued prior to escalation to a monetary fine. Good old boy rule. The rules should have the number of times ticketed to revoke a license. Good old boy rule.
491	Robert Tatum	Manson,	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
492	Elaine Tatum	manson,	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
493	Brian Hampton	Wilmington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
494	Brian Hampton	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	

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495	Brian Smith	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	To whom it may concern, As a recreational angler, I believe this new "rule" to be completely unnecessary and burdensome for the average everyday angler who tries to enjoy themselves at one of the many outdoor activities that make North Carolina a great state to live in. I can only assume the rule was put in place to try and track fish species in our waters...but to burden recreational anglers with this activity is a ridiculous ask and will drive recreational activity to other locations out of state and loss of local revenue as well. I also believe it will continue to generate additional mistrust of the NC DEQ, Marine fisheries commission, and Wildlife resources commission. With "rules" like this one, the mullet closure rule in fall, the absolutely ridiculous flounder season and catch of 1 per week - you are driving away the very people who support and love the coast of North Carolina and it's beauty. If anything, focus on shutting down the thousands of commercial fisheries destroying the environment and our waters...but of course, we know why that isn't done...I've seen the \$\$ being sent to legislature from those folks. Reverse this "rule" for recreational anglers. It's ridiculous.
496	Joshua Moose	Lowgap	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is absolutely crazy. How is fishing supposed to be a family event where you are to enjoy it and now you are wanting make the everyday person tag every fish. Absurd!!! I am against it.
497	Brenton Baker	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
498	James Merritt	Holly Springs	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I would like to know HOW the rule is going to be enforced. Are the resources in place to enforce this rule effectively? I am not against reporting- a tag system similar to big game would be helpful. I have been a property owner and fisherman at the coast all my life - let's quit trying to overlook the fact that it's the NETTING AND TRAWLING in the creeks, bays and estuaries that is having the biggest detrimental effect on our fisheries. Limiting or elimination those actions will have the biggest positive impact.
499	The American People	Hickory	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The NCDMF has created this total disaster of a fishery for the NC coast, while you can go to VA/SC and catch all the flounder you want because apparently they don't swim around the ocean. NCDMF has become laughable to EVERYONE who knows anything about the fisheries. You snobs sit in a office, thinking you know more about the area than the folks who live in it every day. It is unamerican that you believe you have the authority to sell a universal right to feed ourselves back to us in the form of a license. The entire NCDMF needs shown the door and this

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						organization needs dismantled. It then needs re-built with knowledgeable folks who have lived in the fisheries, not some buddy of a high ranking politician. It is asinine to think that you can require the public to report fish catches, as I can guarantee people will spitefully refuse to do that. It is apparent you know and care nothing about the region and the folks here, and only aspire to "create" an industry that you can control and profit from. Despicable creatures you are.
500	Harold Faulk	Nakina	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Another invasion of privacy. How will this information be used? Another rule to put a limit on fishing that makes it not productive to make a trip.
501	Eric Lee Price	Newport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	As both commercial and charter the paperwork already is un-reel!! Permits, price per gallon, number of hooks on a fishing line??? This has got to stop! Get out ur office and go get your own data! We have to work all day then go and do your paperwork
502	James Dawkins	Tabor City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Bigger Government smaller citizens
503	Matthew Yousey	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is one thing to register big game, something that someone may kill a couple times a year and only able to hunt a part of the year. I think it is absurd to tell people they have to register fish they catch. I fish over 200 days a year, and think it is a ridiculous inconvenience to tell me that I have to register fish that I catch regularly and follow the local regulations. Our seasons are already smaller than the states around us, especially flounder, and now you want people to register their fish, as if it was big game, something that is only harvested a few months out of the year. Just absurd in my opinion.
504	Steve Barnes	Matthews	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	While reporting will provide some data as to what take rates for the target species is, the information will be virtually useless due to the near impossibility of reporting enforcement. Reporting will not reduce the amount of pressure on our inshore species, reduction/elimination of gill-netting and inshore trawling and/or the reduction or ban of commercial sale of sportfish as seen in other states with similar eco-systems. Commercial by-catch and indiscriminate gill netting are far more damaging to inshore fish stocks and voluntary reporting of catches will not fix that!
505	Billy Beaty	Bessemer City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
506	william terry	merritt	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	The reporting of fish caught legally is pardon my language BS. Enough of the Fisheries attempt to punish and control those of us who spend our money to enjoy fishing in NC. Every year the

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				Harvest Reporting		netters destroy the trout population in Trent Creek behind my house where I fish to keep 4 trout for dinner. I cannot even take one flounder from the Fisheries CONTROLLED waters I pay taxes and fees to fish in. Enough is enough.
507	Kevin Prince	Granite Falls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why the war on recreational fishermen!?? This is absurd when u can only keep 1 a day already for a lot of fish.
508	James Thomas Schumacher Jr.	Broadway	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If you are concerned about the over-harvesting or population health of fish populations then you should first place reporting requirements, limitations, or prohibitions on commercial fisheries since they comprise the greatest taking of fish. Additionally, there are enough challenges for new recreational fishers to get out to the water to now have to worry about more rules to limit their development of a safe outdoor activity. Tom Schumacher
509	Billy Cannon	Camden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Address the real issues instead of throwing whatever against the wall hoping something will stick. Isn't it amazing that we can go across state line and keep 10 trout, 2 reds and flounder. Hardly any point in fishing in NC anymore. Guess as long as the entire east coast fish dealers are fat and happy that's all that matters
510	Thomas Daniels	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	As with any reporting, there will be flaws. Management should be on scientific data and not harvest reports. Making it mandatory doesn't mean it will be correct.
511	john jagu	ocracoke	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Bureaucrats trying to create hoops for us to jump through and red-tape for us to get tangled in? Warning tickets and gradually increasing penalties? License suspensions and temporary, yet always evolving rules and regulations? I'm shocked! Shocked, I tell ya!
512	James Smith	Holden Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
513	Daniel Summitt	York	South Carolina	Both rules	Against	
514	John Swart	Nags Head	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If your trying to improve the fisheries try eliminating gill / pound nets in the sounds and hire more field officers to patrol beaches and piers.

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515	Todd Barnes	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Having anglers report their catch, as well as more restrictions, is only going to drive recreational anglers away and make the commercial take over. This will lead to a significant negative impact on the local economy. Every state around North Carolina does not allow commercial fishing in inland waters, whereas North Carolina allows it which has a huge negative impact on the population.
516	Jason Peoples	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Reporting to the state or federal government any activities is an anathema. We are supposed to be a free people restricted only by the rule that we not infringe on someone else's rights. As socialism has overtaken America bureaucracies have exploded. Your bureaucracy has grown so much you think you have the rights of the legislature to make laws. So while I am against this new proposal specifically as there are several Constitutional protections violated, I am especially against your insistence that you have as an unelected lawmaker the right to make laws and enforce them.
517	Jason Williams	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Is the ultimate goal to end fishing all together? Can't fish with live mullet. Can only keep flounder for a few hours on Sept 31st. I guess bluefish are endangered since you can only keep 3. Now we have to log everything we catch? Unelected agencies are taking the fun out of fishing. Shameful.
518	Will McGowen	Burlington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	What is the added cost of this to the taxpayer? What information are you hoping to collect that isn't already known? Who will administer this program and collect the data? What will then be done with the data? This is pointless government interfering with no return on investment and no improvement to fisheries or the public.
519	Bryan Jones	FUQUAY VARINA	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Just hearing about this so, yes i will say i am for this, but I really don't have the detailed understanding to say I'm 100% onboard. We need accurate and real time data. On the surface this seems like a logical step. The Elephant in the room is enforcement and how accurate this data will be. I can't see a high percentage of accuracy as it will boil down to individual integrity. We have a solid history of Commercial Fisherman not reporting accurate poundage, you could write a novel on that. Then you have the recreational side, who had never had to do any reporting. It sure will clean up the Guide services , who play both sides. One side being, "they are all about the resource" and on the other side being, "to make a check, they put more fish in the box per boat than anyone". They will literally wear out any ancestral holes they can find. Then you have the typical recreational crowd, who puts everything they catch in the box with no regard to breeding stock. So yes, if this helps lets do it. The REAL ISSUE is Politics and no one will address this. NC needs to look in the mirror and ask why are we here and why are we still defiant in the face of a collapsing fishery. Why are we still the only state allowing Trawlers inside of our Estuaries????????? If the state really wanted a fix, it would address this issue immediately, but my guess is they'll continue to kick this can down the road until they have completely destroyed the fishery and THEN, everyone will be screaming about the economic impact that this

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						represents. I guess the state will then sell out to the Energy and Commercial Coastal development industries and will look like the VA Tidewater. Just my 2 Cents worth.
520	Sean P. Dullaghan	Lillington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The idea of making recreational fisherman report harvests is adding an unnecessary and unhelpful layer of bureaucracy to a traditional form of relaxation and family tradition. Sport fishing is dwindling in popularity as it is. I do not think the small amount of fish taken recreationally, when compared with commercial fishing, is more than statistical noise, and the data is not worth the harassment and aggravation of recreational fishermen. I oppose this legislation, and it's implementation will be nearly unenforceable, wasting the time and resources of Fish and Wildlife personnel, with next to no benefit. The money you gain in fines and confiscated fishing equipment will be negated by losses in licensing revenue and funds for officers to chase down Grandpas taking their granddaughters out to fish.
521	Graysen Pack	Asheville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I am consistently frustrated by the decisions and proposals put forward by this body regarding the conservation and sustainability of our water resources. In particular, the allocation of blame on recreational anglers for the consistent shrinking of our fish populations while in-shore gill-netting is crushing our annual recruitments. I am wholeheartedly for these changes so that we can gather the information needed to finally make sound decisions about sustaining our NC water resources.
522	Ben Thomas	Pittsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You all sure know how to take the enjoyment out of fishing. Was looking forward to bringing my children up fishing but I doubt I'll be interested any longer, especially if more and more of these regulations are continuously passed. It'll be no longer enjoyable that's for sure.
523	ROBERT BERGER	CONCORD	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Need to see what commercial fisherman are harvesting. Need to stop them from fishing the Neuse river . Lived in Oriental NC for over ten years. Sport fisherman can not even find fish because of all the the nets.
524	ROBERT BERGER	CONCORD	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Reporting your harvest is the price for having a license.
525	John Hatley	Denver	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	For what purpose is this new rule aside from an additional money grab? What benefits have been PROVEN thus far by enacting the extremely limited recreational flounder fishing season? How are these species endangered to the point in NC waters that we need not only limited seasons but now also a requirement to report a harvest? How is it that such requirements do not exist in SC

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						waters? Their game management is head and shoulders above NC's and these limitations and harvest requirements are not even discussed. This new requirement places undue burden on recreational fishermen in NC. Creel limits, size restrictions and current enforcement methods are sufficient and have ALWAYS worked. These are not deer, turkeys, bear or other big game that require the sort of nanny state reporting that is being proposed and forced on fishermen. Why does this body enforce rules on recreational fishermen who take a small fraction of what the commercial group does? The answer is always money. Prove these methods will provide measurable improvement in the fishery, set hard goals for them to be met and include provisions that these requirements be removed once they are proven to fail to meet said goals.
526	Richard T Lambert	Burlington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why does NC continue to discourage recreational fishing. Maybe we should look at other factors that may be impacting the fishery. How can VA and SC not have issues. Take a hard look at the difference in these 3 States. Totally frustrated
527	ed S.	thomasville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I buy a coastal fishing license each year, I get to go to the coast 1 weekend out of the year, every couple of years I actually catch a fish. Now I would have to fill out a form, if I can figure out what fish I caught. This seems like it would create an undue burden for people like me who just want to catch a fish.
528	JONATHAN P STUCKY	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I frequently recreationally fish in inland and coastal waters. I rarely see fishing laws and rules being enforced for commercial or recreational fishing. Is there appropriate staffing to enforce new rules. Or are honest fisherman going to be punished while others continue to harvest unethically?
529	shaun A wilcox	OAK ISLAND	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	
530	Lane White	Tyner	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	For years I have seen NC Marine Fisheries employees sitting at Wildlife ramps "collecting" data for insight on fish stocks in that area; specifically the ramp next to Albemarle boats in Edenton more so than others. Not once have I ever been asked about the fish I may or may not have harvested; yet the decision was made to make it illegal to catch Striped Bass due to a shortage. If the assumption that there was a shortage of Striped Bass based off of what data these employees collected that would be totally inaccurate. Now it is being pushed for the fisherman to be responsible for data collection that NC Marine Fisheries failed at that essentially ended up punishing the fisherman by closing the harvest on Striped Bass?
531	thomas brotherton	Taylorsville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	

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532	Deborah Kohlbeck	Rhineland	Wisconsin	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Added restrictions for the general recreational person are extreme and hard to enforce. Daily bag and possession limit enforcement should be the focus along with creel surveys.
533	Carl Benton Pennington Jr	Elm City	North Carolina	Both rules	For	We must protect our resources.
534	Shane Staples	Bath	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Having a degree and work experience in fisheries and having been in NC since 2008 it is apparent this rule only exist as a result of commercial fishing interests lobbying legislators to make recreational anglers report the same as businesses.</p> <p>All that aside this rule is totally unenforceable. There is already scarce resources for enforcing rules we have, HOW are these officers going to check that harvested fish are reported once taken home? Monitor social media and cross check reporting? Investigate fish fries against reported harvest?</p> <p>NCWRC has a reporting system for big game. How many enforcement cases have been brought on failure to report ALONE and not when other more egregious violations where present? Scientifically this is unusable data for management. Even assuming there is any reasonable level of compliance, self reported data is notoriously unreliable.</p> <p>5 million dollars of tax payer money might as well be lit on fire.</p>
535	Jarrold C. Quinlivan	Clayton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	This sounds just like what happens for reporting deer and other wild game harvest. So long as the system is user friendly, as the harvest report card is, this makes sense. Would recommend anglers be able to report all harvests on the same phone call or submission form as placing multiple calls and/or submitting multiple forms would be needlessly time consuming and inhibit compliance with the regulation.
536	Jonathan G Ennis	Newport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
537	Capt Harry Baldwin	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Absolutely ridiculous. If you want to improve the fishery, stop the trawling in the Pamlico Sound and Rivers.</p> <p>Reporting catches is not going to do any good. Most will not report! Come on guys, you know what needs to be done.</p>
538	Capt Cane Faircloth	Holden Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Mandatory reporting requirements for recreational anglers. I'd like to encourage NCDMF to work with the NC For-Hire Captain Association a group comprised of guides, commercial and rec anglers 300+strong on the framework and reporting in regards to this new law.

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						Capt Cane Faircloth Ollie Raja Charters
539	Mitch Crumley	Pinnacle	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I would like to know when NC is going to get serious about restoring our fish stocks. Which means no more trawling in the sounds or near shore. Plus a moratorium on all keeping of fish by commercial or non commercial harvest for 3 years. Fishing should be allowed but nothing kept. This would apply to NC waters
540	CK	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is illogical, unenforceable and ridiculous to impose such reporting restrictions on recreational fishing. This is just another overreach by government under the guise of "conservation" or whatever excuse is used to rationalize such onerous government control for the benefit of self-serving individuals who want to pat themselves on the back so they can feel good about themselves.
541	Michael Staszewski	Fuquay Varina	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Comments for the phased-in mandatory commercial and recreational reporting.</p> <p>What an incredible waste of taxpayer money. The legislation reads... "shall report that harvest to the... in a manner consistent with rules adopted by the..." What is this "manner?" Are we using tags? Will a warden follow me home for dinner to make sure I fill out the form that evening? It's kludgy.</p> <p>The speckled trout, flounder, and drum fisheries are excellent. We've been blessed without a hard freeze for several years now and the trout are on fire. Large numbers of a larger class of fish. Puppy drum (smaller Red Drum for you non-fishing folks) come through in very large schools in the Pamlico. It's awesome! You guys already ruined flounder fishing. A two week season, 1/day limit because you can't tell the difference between the types of flounder is disgusting. Lets not forget about that joke of a striped mullet closure. Has anyone actually been on the water in the sounds between May and November? Go onto the flats, into the creeks, along the grass lines and there are so many mullet you can almost walk across them.</p> <p>So here we are with a bunch of uninformed folks shifting OUR money around between their buds for a project that will provide no useful, actionable data and have a near 0% enforcement rate. My suggestion... get out on the water and go fishing. You'll have a better understanding of things by fishing rather than listening to your agenda driven cohorts. There are some incredibly simple solutions that you've already used in the past like closing the trout fishery after a hard freeze. That is perhaps the only smart thing I've seen in recent years. If we have a hard freeze send folks out to the tributaries and count dead fish. Come up with a change for the following year based on this. Implementing a temporary closure, slot limit, or creel limit changes following a freeze makes a</p>

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						<p>ton of sense. These arbitrary rule proposals because you are uninformed is senseless.</p> <p>Every time you turn the screws on one fishery another is going to take a hit. Red drum, flounder, and trout all share the same water and are caught using the same methods. A management plan that increases the creel limit for red drum and flounder, eliminates the 2 week flounder season, and implements a slot limit on trout will spread impact across all fish in the estuaries and things will remain in balance.</p>
542	Lin Boyd	BLOUNTS CREEK	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	regulations can be helpful but this is TOO MUCH! What happened to the freedom to drop a hook in the water and catch a fish for dinner?
543	Gregory yousey	Salisbury	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Research shows that commercial anglers catch 23 times more fish targeted by recreational fisherman than the recreational fisherman do. This mean roughly 4% of these targeted fish species are caught recreationally. Despite this, commercial fisherman are allowed to harvest the fish while recreational anglers are not. Why do we continue to place the bulk of marine species management on recreational anglers when we know commercial overfishing is causing the declines? Stopping commercial harvesting and/or putting the burden of harvest reports on commercial fisherman will be 96% more successful. (See: https://asafishing.org/uploads/Comparing_Recreational_and_Commercial_Fishing_Data_Report_May_2013.pdf)</p>
544	Haywood	Asheboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Commercial harvesting is more devastating to the fish populations and needs to be reported, not that they will do it accurately. Let us catch a few fish to feed our families too. The amount of fish recreational fishermen harvest from NC waters is negligible in comparison to commercial fishing so this is stupid.
545	Dana Bevins Williams	Indian Trail	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Mandatory Harvest~ Ok, so in NC you can only take flounder two weeks out of the year and now this requirement would have recreational fisherman comply with another law on top of length and catch limits. I believe the length and catch limits are enough for recreational fisherman to comply with. Might as well just stop fishing given all the requirements on top of what it cost (bait, parking fees, pier fees). Please stop! Maybe the state should hire additional people if they want to see what everyone is catching. Not make the fisherman report it. We don't need another law.
546	Don Yousey	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	These rules are way too cumbersome! Over regulation takes all the enjoyment out of outdoor recreation. I have voluntarily participated in big game reporting even when hunting on my own land. Reporting a big game animal, or submitting a deer head to help track and stop the spread of CWD makes sense. Submitting bear teeth to track age and health of bears again make sense. The

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						numbers are small and manageable and Easily complied with. But reporting each fish will require way more tracking and time investment. Use some common sense and put an end to this proposal! It's just a bad idea!
547	Keith Douts	Frisco	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Define "Harvesting," please? Catch and release?, Catch and take?
548	Timothy P Miller	WINDSOR	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You do not have the right to dictate what God has provided for us to eat ! He fed 5000 with 3. Surely He can feed the country with an ocean full. Screw you Roy Cooper!
549	Robert M. Tyson, Jr.	New Bern	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Commercial fishing has already decimated the good fishing around the Broad Creek area in the Neuse River. They leave nets unattended and kill the population, and what happens in the Pamlico Sound filters into the Neuse River. Finally, you are proposing some rules and regulations for commercial. Good luck. Politics will probably win out. I would just like to catch trout off of my pier again, and see some crabs make it all the way to the shore at Broad Creek. I own property at Broad Creek. I am 82 yrs old, and I have watched the river die. So sad. Bob Tyson
550	Gerard P Moriarty	SOUTHPORT	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	A classic case of government overreach. How is this going to work? Am I now going to be required to fill out a report every time I go fishing? I don't work for the government, the government works for me. What's the time limit on when we report our catch? Is some Wildlife Management Officer going to be waiting at my car to see if I reported all the fish I caught? Do I have to report it online? What about elderly people? All you're doing is riling up people for no good reason.
551	Stephen Coe	Trinity	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Commercial fishing take advantage of the rules, you already know this. Putting mandatory reporting on the FEW fish that people like me that might go fishing 2 times a year, atone to just no go costal fishing in NC . I now drive 1 hour more to go fishing in VA. In VA I don't have to contend with the trawlers that cover Al the NC waters. Looks like the recreational fisherman have been SOLD OUT AGAIN.
552	Aaron Ambrose	Hertford	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is a terrible way of trying to manage your stock. The data will be incorrect just like most of the data you already receive. Take for example your biologist going to boat ramps and trying to get assessments based on the boats there. You can't see the big picture. People will not report or report accurately. Therefore you will impose stricter regulations because you believe the fish aren't there. They are there. Trust me. You're over stepping your boundaries on this one and the

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						good people of this state with rebel against it. Just like your striper moratorium. Absolutely ridiculous. The stock is as healthy as it's ever been with absurd amounts of quality fish.
553	Greg Brissette	Raleigh	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a ridiculous exercise for the Recreational Fishermen. With strict rules on how many fish you can harvest feel like this is just one more note of discouragement.
554	John	Lillington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
555	Fisherman	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>At first glance this probably looks like a good idea from the fishery management perspective. From a recreational fishing perspective it is invasive and another step, another rule to comply with in an already non-user friendly plethora of rules that are inconsistent, confusing, conflicting, everchanging and can vary day to day by location and by which state agency you deal with because these two agency's can't even agree on a concurrent Flounder season in different waters. On the DEQ website frequently asked questions there are conflicts. "Recreational fishers Harvest must be reported either electronically or on a paper report card at the time harvest is complete.</p> <p>If fishing from a boat, this is when the fish reach the shore/dock. If shore based, this is once you are no longer engaged in fishing."</p> <p>"What if I don't have a smartphone/internet connection at the time of harvest? You will go to the DMF website (www.ncmarinefisheries.net) and print a report card prior to your trip. If you need to report your harvest, you'll use the report card to record your information. You will then have until midnight the day following harvest to submit your information electronically. So which is it? When you reach the dock? When you are no longer fishing? Or midnight the day following the harvest. Everyone can say they didn't have internet. Fill out a phony report card and if you don't get checked throw it in the trash. This type of reporting will not yield accurate results and by design is unenforceable and puts even more burden on the angler who is now doing Marine Fisheries and the Wildlife's agency job for them gathering and reporting this information or face punishment.</p> <p>I think the 5 million dollars would be more effectively used by posting agents, biologists, volunteers on the water and boat ramps to monitor catch instead of contracting out another task</p>

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						that should be completed by current or temporary Marine Fisheries or wildlife staff. Just keep going and both agency's will be completely outsourced to private entities. What other states have these same requirements?
556	Liam Kenny	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are already laws in place that majority of fisherman adhere to around fish size and quantity for legal harvest. If NC Marine Fisheries decides they want a count on every fish caught/harvested it should mirror the waterfowl surveys in a way that it is not mandatory and can be completed at the beginning/end of the year for data collection.
557	William Ennis Jr	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I don't understand any benefits to the resource of imposing mandatory reporting when there's a well-established survey methodology already in place. Unless it is to lay off all of your field survey agents. In which case the value of any new mandatory data going forward would be essentially worthless for indicating stock trends - which is the whole point of the exercise in the first place. Where was the public comment process when this piece of nonsense slipped through the legislature and apparently became law without any notification to the fishing public?
558	Brian Meares	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	While I appreciate that mandatory reporting MIGHT help increase the accuracy of recreational catch statistics, I worry that, without extremely proficient enforcement, ESPECIALLY OF COMMERCIAL FISHING, it will do little but impart added liability upon honest, rule following recreational fishermen, while the statistics will remain skewed by non-rule followers and/or those who fish for financial gain. There are so many questions; who will enforce mandatory reporting for recreational fishermen and when? Do I have to report before I get back to the dock? Within what span of time? How? What if there is no good cell signal to report—am I now liable for the legal fish in my cooler? How soon before I'm being issued tags for a limited number of reportable fish of any certain species and then held liable for that as well? We should be banning indiscriminate killers of game fish like gill nets, pound nets, jug fishing, long lines, dragnets, seines and all of that long before we mandate that recreational fisherman report catches.
559	Brian Meares	Raleigh	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	We should be banning indiscriminate killers of these fish (like gill nets, pound nets, jug fishing, long lines, dragnets, seines, etc.) IN ADDITION to mandating all commercial harvests of these fish be reported and regulated for the long term viability of the fisheries. That's just common sense.

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
560	Sean Mulligan	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I used to take my kids to Ocracoke fishing for weakfish. Now that we have the 1 fish limit no thanks. I have a grandson now and he won't be able to experience fishing in NC. Thanks NCDMF for the great job managing the weakfish fishery. Retired Captain Sean Mulligan
561	Jamie L. Cole Sr	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting on species that have been continuously been taking away and not anything saying this could potentially increase harvest limits or expand size limits etc. I cannot support a further restriction.
562	Jerry Cochran	Newbern	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm a commercial fisherman. I get a trip ticket when I take my catch to the market. Your new rule will require me to also fill out some kind of paperwork for marine fisheries. Why?..... Doesn't the trip tickets get sent to marine fisheries? And for the recreational sector. There's no way to enforce this new rule wide spread. Unless, you have observers or wildlife officer waiting at every boat ramp, waterway or in our case, at the intersection of highway 70 and highway 24. As we all know, seasons close when the quota is caught. This is for the recreational sector reporting there catch.
563	Anthony Hipps	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Reading the proposed rule, there is no mention of when the catch and keep report must be submitted to MFC. Is there a grace period of days or does each catch have to be reported immediately while still on the water? There is no mention of what information must be reported such as date of catch, size of fish harvested, where fish was harvested, what tackle was used, etc. I think the rule needs some clear guidelines of what MFC's goal is and why is this rule being implemented (why is it necessary). Many recreational fishermen already have a strong mistrust of the state government and this may seem to them to be another example of government overreach (such as has been expressed with the current flounder and red snapper restrictions). Just my humble opinion.
564	Tim Trivette	Todd	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I would love to know the reasons for the proposed rules change. Are fish numbers low? Is there any way to enforce the proposed changes? It seems that you are relying on mostly voluntary reporting by rule followers, with most people ignoring the rule. Will any valuable data actually be gained by the rule? Seems to me that if any damage is being done to the fish population in North Carolina, gill netting is the biggest problem with the bycatch that is just wasted. If we are worried about fish populations, isn't that the place to start?
565	David white	Mills River	North Carolina	Both rules	For	While management has had a good grasp of what the commercial sector has landed and sold, the new requirement would improve the data on those fish NOT sold. One suggestion would be for commercial fishermen to document all fish landed in their log books. The log book is a tool already in practice.

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						The required reporting of the species listed by the recreational sector could be a game changer for fisheries management! We simply do NOT know how many are landed recreationally. If this is successfully implemented, it could be copied by other states, and thus improving our knowledge of these species regionally.
566	Daniel Willis	Tarheel/ Engelhard	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The other day a commercial fisherman came in with over a thousand flounder. I can't catch but one a day for just a few weeks a year. You are targeting the wrong group. I doubt that I will ever report my catch.
567	Michael W. King	NEWPORT	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This reads like reporting is going to be pretty much on the honor system. If a recreational fisherman goes out catches some of the identified fish and brings them home with him/her and does not file a report how will the state know about the catch? Is the state going to require every fisherman to have a computer or smart phone and connectivity to file a report? I think the state would see more information with greater validity if it just requests that recreational fishermen voluntarily comply and help with the process of fish management. the state is not going to have the funds, staff, or other resources to enforce this as written.
568	Mark Anderle	Bahama	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	No where has the reason such reporting is needed and a recreational fisher has very little impact on fishing in general as compared to commercial operations. This becomes a case of overbearing governmental regulations.
569	Battle Smith	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I truly think that this will cause a lot of problems with grey areas, sort of like the seatbelt law. This is just another reason for someone to get checked by an officer and to get a ticket (\$ for you). Where's the data to back up the need for this extremely inconveniencing law? Is this just a way to get more money for the state? Sure seems like it. Also, I never trust the word "temporary" in regards to regulations. Just do a "temporary" slot for all species, I don't think most fisherman would mind. The commercial sector has a much greater impact than the recreational sector, so you would need to address that first & foremost. I firmly believe if all recreational fisherman were removed from NC waters, there would be hardly any impact to the species due to the large impact of commercial fishermen.
570	Ben Schosek	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Thank you for making an effort to better account for and more closely regulate these particular finfish species for future generations of North Carolinians.

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571	Hubert Steve Tollerson	Clarksville Va.	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I understand the reason for harvest reporting. I have no issue with commercial fisherman having to report the harvest and are equipped to do so. But i think it will be a burden on recreational fisherman to have to report these harvests. I also do not believe it will be accurate data obtained from recreational fisherman.
572	Randy Chandler	CEDAR POINT	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How do you propose to implement the reporting process? What is the time line to make a report?
573	Andrew Oakley	PROSPECT HILL	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just let us peacefully fish without having to worry about 15 different laws we could be breaking by reeling in a 18" speckled trout. Nothing the NCDMF touches ever ends up well. Limits after limits, regulations after regulations, and yet the fisheries still aren't where they should be. Maybe y'all aren't looking in the right spot by looking at the recreational fishermen, maybe you should try locating the main problem first before you start implementing different laws and regulations that do not help? Band-Aid fixes never work, find the source of the bleed and correct that.
574	Mark Bologna	Trent Woods	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think it's a little arduous to have to report a days catch almost immediately while fishing per "Recreational fishers Harvest must be reported either electronically or on a paper report card at the time harvest is complete. If fishing from a boat, this is when the fish reach the shore/dock. If shore based, this is once you are no longer engaged in fishing." Kind of takes the fun out of going fishing for myself, even though I primarily do catch and release. Thank You.
575	JOE	Windsor	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Harvest reports for fish are absolutely ridiculous!
576	Larry Dean McBee	Spruce Pine	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	If these are becoming endangered or over fished then I'm all for reporting catches. If not over fished then it should be temporary for recreational fishermen.
577	Brad Moor	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	

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				Harvest Reporting		
578	Bo Nowell	Apex	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>Since shrimp trawling often occurs in inside waters, there is a large number of by-catch per haul. While Ted's and Feds are used to minimize the bycatch/bykill there remains a large amount of fish tossed over the side. These juvenile fish fall among a variety of species of which there is not much data. There should be a requirement for commercial reporting whether scientifically determined through sampling and extrapolation or some means to assure these fish are counted — whether kept, discarded or sold. While shrimper reporting would be questionable, DMF needs to determine a base estimate of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 the average number of hauls per trip 2. The estimated breakdown of fish species killed per haul 3. The estimated impact of the loss of these young fish to the health of the marine fishery. 4. And if found egregious harm is occurring, take steps to overall bycatch.
579	Cary Webster	Burlington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	All I can say is it takes a special kind of STUPID to come up with something like this.....
580	johnny earliwine	supply n.c.	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Inshore fishing in my area has too many rules now. Open flounder season up. Creel limits and size limits are ridiculous as it is. I have to go to S. Carolina to enjoy fishing keep fish to eat. I am 70 years old and fishing with all these regulations has made fishing not as enjoyable as it was at one time.. Get commercial fishing out of inshore waters. Commercial nets destroy inshore beds and kill tons of small fish. Rod and reel fisherman bring in more revenue to and area than commercial does. Tourists come to fish and enjoy themselves. Help is needed.
581	Donald R Yarborough	Henderson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is just another infraction of privacy against sportsmen. Have someone at the local ramps and do creel counts. and don't inflate the results as done with so many surveys.
582	johnny earliwine	supply n.c.	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Inshore commercial fishing is destroying habitat. Commercial flounder gigging should be stopped. Open flounder fishing up to recreational fisherman.
583	Jim Henderson	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do any other states on the Eastern Seaboard request these species to be reported? 2. If so, which states? 3. If one catches a fish of a certain species that requires being reported, how soon after the catch is made must one report it? 4. Will these reports be made through a mobile cellular device app?

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						5. If this reporting will be done through the existing apps, how long will the catch information be retained so that the reporting fisherman may review these reports?
584	Steve Pfaff	Winston-Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The recreational harvest is not of the magnitude of the commercial harvest and will not produce a large percentage of viable data. More information should be provided to the recreational sector on the process of reporting in the event it is made a regulation.
585	ken lapen	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	the limit on fish is low as it is and now requiring someone to report it is not good. A single fish is not harvesting!
586	CHARLES MAXIE FREEMAN JR	SWANSBORO	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I DO BELEAVE WE ARE AT A POINT THAT YOU WANT TO CONTROL US TO GET A FISH TO CONSUME ,IM SURE THERE ARE SOME THAT WOULD KEEP ANYTHING BUT THE EXTENT OF THE RULE THAT YOU ARE MAKING IS COMPLETELY RIDICULOUS ,LETS FACE IT IF YOU CANT WALK OUT ON A PIER AND FISH FOR A DINNER ,OR TO STOCK YOUR FREEZER FOR THE WINTER TIME SO YOU WONT BE WITHOUT A DINNER WHEN ITS COLD AND CANT AFFORD THE HIGH PRICES FOR STEAKS AND BEEF ,WHY DO YOU WANT TO FISH IN NC .I CAN DRIVE TO SC AND CATCH FISH WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT SOME POLITCAL APPOINTEE STANDING OVER MY BACK WANTING ME TO STOP WHAT IM DOING AND GO REGISTER A FISH EVERY TIME I CATCH ONE .IM SURE YOU FOLKS THAT MAKE 6 OR 7 FIGURE INCOMES AT THE CAPITAL HAVE NO WORRIES YOU CAN GET IT CATTERED TO YOUR FRONT DOOR BUT OLDER FOLKS AND LOW INCOME FOLKS DONT HAVE A PRAYER.ITS TIME YOU GET SERIOUS ON REAL ISSUES INSTEAD OF WORRYING ABOUT A GNAT RIDING ON A TURTLES ASS.
587	Donald Allen	Hertford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Concerning the recreational reporting of harvests, I feel this is totally ridiculous . The rules have already gotten so strict about fishing, one almost needs to take his lawyer with him when he goes fishing. You've already made everything so strict that it takes much of the fun out of fishing from fear that one might accidentally break one of your new, everchanging laws, accidentally, of course. I'm a lifetime NC resident and Lifetime license holder, as well as my entire family. Why don't you spend your time trying to catch the rule breakers rather than spend so much effort in penalizing the honest fishermen with more to do.

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588	Ray Whitby Jr	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
589	Jerry Bumgardner	Lewisville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You put new rules in place with no idea how to enforce it. I would think that this would be the first thing that should be done is how to enforce it. It seems like every time new rules are put in it always fall on the recreational fishing. Why don't you put in a rule that stop all fishing because that seems to be the goal!
590	Patrick M Tripp	Ayden	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	
591	Charles D Johnson	Havelock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have fished eastern nc for years and I have also fished in Florida after they enacted the gill nets ban. The state has failed the people of the state we have to have a permit for everything to include saltwater licenses. I feel the public is not get the best bang for the buck. I used to be able to catch 20 to 24 inch spanish from the beach. That is very rare now. I can spend all day on the water and only catch 4 or 5 that are 12 to 16 inches mostly 12 inch fish. Now regulating mullet. It is apparent that the commercial industry runs the wildlife resources commission. Ban all commercial harvest of these species. Ban all gill nets. Stop commercial fishing within 3 miles of the coast and the population will return. I have witnessed the first hand the by catch kills from commercial boats around Fort Macon and cape lookout. The problem is not the recreational fishing it is the commercial vessels.
592	Jonathan Carter	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is ridiculous!...our state allows netting and inshore shrimping of our waters by commercial fishermen while we recreational fisherman can't harvest flounder but a short 30 day season, and the limits on our other inshore fish we can keep is low as well and now the few d*** fish that we can keep we have to report...this is total nonsense. Regulate the commercial fishing not the one hook and line guys...this is stupid. Wake up and regulate who needs regulation...and it's not the recreational fishermen. I'm a lifetime licenses holder in this state and have fished and hunted here all my life...but every ridiculous law you all pass just makes me go to other states to enjoy my fishing and hunting. You'll soon be losing more money in licenses fees and such as people realize how bad this has become here...I'm fishing Virginia and South Carolina from now on...good luck with your ridiculous laws and inshore commercial netting and such...you all are idiots.
593	Herbie Tayloe	Ahoskie	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You have already made it hard to even catch fish now you want to make it even more burdensome. Soon you'll have to have a lawyer on board to interpret the rules and regulations. Total BS
594	steve adamczak	GREENSBORO	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	The regulations recreational fishing have gotten out of hand. Closed Striper season, Closed flounder season, Closed Mullet season for recreational fisherman. Open season for commercial

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				Harvest Reporting		fisherman and open season to place gill nets inshore and kill our fishery. Something has to give and I'm tired of having to take trips to Texas and other states to have quality fishing. Other states ban inshore netting. I was talking to a commercial fisherman that shared with me that he can take 3-4 trips a day in the summer for black sea bass killing 400lbs per trip. 1200-1600lbs per day for one boat. the rule states 400 lbs per trip. Something has to give...
595	Helen Ramazio	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>We already have size and creel regulations, and some seasonal regulations, for these fish. I feel certain that a great deal of study has gone into creating these regulations, to ensure healthy and robust future populations. I assume that part of the study would estimate landed fish volume per season. The reporting of every fish landed seems like an unnecessary expenditure of \$5 million, plus personnel to enforce the law, especially at the recreational level. Our belief in this household is that regulators are looking for ways to eventually eliminate fishing from recreational fishermen altogether, one step at a time. As far as the commercial fishermen go, I believe (not certain, as I am not a CF), they already have to follow strict reporting guidelines, correct? They are not going to count their large-haul fish - 1,000 lbs of fish divided by the average-sized sample of fish = the estimated number of fish landed.</p> <p>Regarding flounder, we used to enjoy gigging until the season was virtually eliminated. However, the commercial folks can still load up their boats with OUR flounder and take it to other states. Maybe have them only offload flounder from OUR waters only in OUR state, and fish elsewhere for other states' offloads. That way, we as recreational fishermen would have our share of the flounder population to fish again.</p>
596	William Ray Michael	GIBSONVILLE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	THIS IS SO STUPID HAVING TO PAY \$47.00 FOR THE LICENSE AND STILL HAVE TO REPORT WHAT YOU CATCH.
597	Ned Bull	Kernersville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How is a 85 year old man that has been fishing at Ocracoke for 65 years that does not have a computer or a smart phone suppose to comply with this absolutely ludicrous rule my daughter is responding to this for me because I have no way to respond. Just let us enjoying fishing
598	Eric Rieker	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	

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599	WILLIAM MICHAEL NOWELL SR	Castle Hayne	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Do not understand why NC has only one or two weeks for flounder recreational fishing??? And then only one Flounder?? Have all of our flounder swam to South Carolina?? Does not make sense. Also on spotted seatrout one can only catch 4 so its fishing for fun. Many states have 8-10 fish limits. If your concerned about the population just put a slot limit into effect. Know you people are trying hard but I wonder if anyone on the board actually fishes.
600	Stephen Giorgi	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is the stupidest, most useless rule NC Wildlife has ever come up with. How in the world you think you can ever enforce this is beyond me. The State of NC is making the simple joy of fishing more of a crime than dealing Fentenal and killing people. Why not use your law enforcement powers on solving real problem criminal behavior? Guess politicians only understand one thing, who is greasing their grubby paws with the most cash.
601	David Conklin	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am an occasional recreational fisherman in the Southport area. For me to have to register every fish i catch (among the list) is an incredible burden to me and other fisherman. Almost no one will comply because it can not be enforced due to lack of enforcement personnel. This is yet another example of needless government intrusion into the lives of private citizens.
602	James R Bunch	Hertford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why are we being asked to report on fish we may keep when the current regulations don't allow us to hardly keep any fish???
603	Jacob Sparrow	Greenville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is another small change that is expected to have a big outcome. DMF cannot enforce this because they don't have the manpower. How about instead of trying to micromanage our fishery, we target big changes that can actually make a difference? How about ban the out of state trawlers for a start. They come here because they CANNOT net in their sounds, but they can here. That blows my mind that we allow this as a state. We have the best fishery in the world and we need to start acting accordingly. The trawlers in our sounds are the real issue
604	Mike Phelps	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed rule requiring recreational fishermen to report their red drum, flounder, and speckled trout catches. While I understand the desire to improve fishery management, I believe this rule places an undue burden on honest recreational anglers.</p> <p>Increased workload for responsible fishermen: The additional reporting requirement adds unnecessary complexity to a leisure activity. Many recreational fishermen enjoy the simplicity of a day on the water and may find this reporting cumbersome.</p> <p>Limited impact on dishonest practices: Unfortunately, dishonest fishermen are unlikely to comply</p>

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						<p>with the reporting rule. They will likely continue to underreport or simply not report their catches, rendering the data collected potentially inaccurate.</p> <p>Possible alternatives to consider:</p> <p>Focus on creel limit enforcement: Increased enforcement efforts to ensure adherence to existing creel limits could be a more effective way to manage fish populations.</p> <p>Explore alternative data collection methods: Investigate alternative methods of data collection that may be less intrusive for recreational fishermen, such as port samplers or voluntary reporting programs with incentives for participation.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my comments. I urge you to find a solution that effectively manages fisheries without placing unnecessary burdens on responsible recreational anglers.</p>
605	Ben Saunders	Jamestown	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am totally against the required mandatory harvest information for recreational fisherman.....it is an unnecessary additional government intrusion into our daily lives that cannot be enforced in a timely manner. The state needs to put their efforts into regulating the commercial fishing industry and leave the recreational person alone. My experience is that we already adhere to size limits possession limits and this proposal will not have any positive effects on saltwater fishing.
606	mark a duncan	hickory	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think I it's over kill for the recreational fisherman, that may only get to the coast 1 to 2 times a year. I could easily see me at 62 years old forgetting that, I also don't always carry a phone when I get around water
607	mark a duncan	hickory	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	A lot of recreational fisherman probably only get to the coast 1 to 2 times a year, and I may forget this even if I know I should know all the rules before fishing, Also I rarely carry a phone when I get near the water.
608	Colby	Coinjock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Hello! I am commenting on proposed rule that would make harvest reporting mandatory, specifically for recreational fishermen as I do not have the ability to speak for commercial fishermen. I hold a 4 year degree in wildlife biology, and am very passionate about conservation. I definitely consider myself a person of science and deeply love our states coast. However, I do not believe implementing this rule would do much of any good, especially for the NC Marine Fisheries Commission. Public disdain for the Division of Marine Fisheries is currently high where my family and I are from (North Outer Banks+Currituck), and a rule like this will spite the

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						general public and cause an even larger separation between NCDMF and the general public. It would be bold to assume that submitted reports would be accurate, and safe to assume that many will not report anything at all despite enforcement, largely due to the destain formerly mentioned. This being written, I do not believe it would be wise to gain further public resistance in trade for less than reliable data.
609	Robert Bentley	Swansboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I've lived in about 30 states and overseas and have never been burdened as much as here in NC. From trying to figure out flounder rules and different creel limits in coastal and joint waters (remember, in Onslow county you have to transit through coastal to reach joint waters so that's a "speed trap") to reduced creel numbers for flounder and drum, all while I watch from my dock, commercial boats string nets across the whole 2 acre bay next to Hammocks beach in our backyard areas. Yes, in a neighborhood where all the baby shrimp, fish, and crabs rely on marsh grass areas for protection, just to be decimated through bi-catch and reduction of sport fish through the d***ed nets. I have an alpha gal allergy (beef AND pork allergy) so I actually eat what I harvest. I feel like our resource has been squandered and now I am burdened by this. It's a fish. It's not a deer or turkey. I'm 10000% protecting our resource but this is absurd to me. Keep commercial harvesting vessels out of inland breeding grounds so the population can right itself. I love flounder fishing, didn't even try to go last year. Not worth the hassle. Definitely not worth the hassle now with a potential burdensome reporting requirement. Please tell me that the biologists have better ways to figure out numbers. Even if this legislation passes, your frustrated beneficiaries of our important resources will likely NOT report it anyway so you can bet the numbers will be skewed. I'm ethical, so I'll do it. Others are so pissed off they would simply not report as a way to snub their noses at what seems to be more government oversight, mis-management, and burdensome to constituents. Plus, who manages the massive database that will be required to monitor this? Let me guess, make another government position. I've not seen ANY promulgated information that supports why reporting is necessary and what further impact that collected info would do, nor do I believe that harvest reporting requirements for fish would be accurate anyway. I vote NO on any type of reporting requirement.
610	Bobby Schultz	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't understand how that reporting would happen, it has to user friendly which is seemingly hard to do? Do other states do this? If so how?
611	Daniel Midgett	Nags Head	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	As a commercial fisherman to report something that is already accounted for at time of sale at a fish house is redundant! it is an unnecessary wast of man power to enforce. Point blank! As a recreational fisherman, who pays boat registration fee, trailer, licensing fee, maintaining a pleasure boat, recreational license fee, and not to mention the rods the tackle to have the "chance"

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						<p>to attempt to catch one of these fish species mentioned! To have to be mandated to report whether or not I actually was able to catch one is a gross overreach of power by two agencies that don't produce anything other than more regulations that result in more money out of my pocket for failure to comply.</p> <p>This will also result in more manpower to enforce the proposed law and more manpower to research the data collected, and will ultimately result in more regulations of fish species that are already so heavily regulated you can hardly possess one to have for dinner anyway.</p> <p>The law is a gross overreach and will ultimately result in more regulation, more officers, more manpower, and less people purchasing fishing license because they won't be able to keep anything by the end of this three-stage law. The charter industry will suffer, which will result in the tourism industry suffering. Which will result in less tax dollars collected by North Carolina to pay for all of your newly needed enforcement officers!</p>
612	Bradley Futral	Richlands	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am 62 and retired. All I want to do is be able to fish enough to supplement my food cost with a wholesome meal. I wish the Government would keep their noses out of sport fishery.
613	John Trice	Cary	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	The public needs to know the reasoning behind this proposed change. Is it biological? Conservation-based? Economic? Political? More information is needed to provide actual input.
614	tim kent	kitty hawk	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I do not see the advantage of this mandatory harvest reporting for the rec sector. You already fully estimate all the catch and dead/discard numbers, so how is this going to help? The problem with the fishery is that DMF is too heavily influenced by commercial fish houses to manage the fishery for maximum exploitation of the resource for themselves. The DMF have been improperly managing the fishery and now we are in this crappy situation. I should not have to report the few fish that are kept by myself for my friends and family just so you can try and better gauge the total take. What a mess y'all have made of this, just get rid of inshore gill netting and shrimp trawling and all will be well.
615	Joel	Lenoir	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	With the limitations on size and number already being imposed on these fish, it is ridiculous to ask non-commercial fishermen to provide a harvest report. Let's keep fishing an enjoyable experience.
616	Matthew Ward	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If marine fisheries plans to fully open flounder season to 365 days / year then I could see this rule being accepted by fishermen. If MF plans to only open the season for a 2-4 week period then this is a waste of a rule. Nobody will submit their catch because the NC flounder season is

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						already a joke when you have South Carolina and Virginia not following the same conservation efforts as NC.
617	Brian McArthur	Hatteras	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You have done so much to harm innocent hard working families already and now this right in the middle of an unprecedented financial hard time in our country. You have also totally destroyed a wonderful industry that so many families like mine have depended on over the last century. You should be ashamed of yourselves.
618	Cameron Whitaker	Hatteras	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>My name is Cameron Whitaker Owner/operator of Tradition Fishing in Hatteras, NC. I run an inshore charter fishing business that spends lots of time targeting the species required for mandatory reporting. As a charter boat captain, I am already reporting my harvest, location, fishing dates/times, and economic impact every day through my federal reporting requirement. I know this is coming and there is no getting rid of the reporting requirement but we can help steer how reporting is gathered.</p> <p>This topic will bring lots of discussion because it is the first rule at the state level that requires recreational anglers to report catch. Recreational fishing data has always been gathered by different methods so this topic will bring a lot of discussion.</p> <p>My main concern is duplicate efforts of reporting. I am already filling out a federal log book every day I go fishing with this data. I currently get called on a regular basis by Marine Fisheries for a for-hire survey. NC Marine Fisheries has no access to the data that I am already reporting.</p> <p>Currently, We have been reporting for 2 years and the South Atlantic has not used the data gathered in charter headboat reporting in any of the stock assessments. The data gathered from the charter / headboat trip reporting is the best available data and it is not being used to assess the fishery.</p> <p>All I ask is that there are many charter boats already reporting their daily trip information as a requirement for their South Atlantic permits. Please find a way the State can access this information or find one reporting software that makes both agencies happy. Having to complete electronic trip reporting for both permits every day just because the agencies cannot communicate will be a major pain for all permit holders who are already reporting their trips electronically.</p> <p>Professionally,</p> <p>Cameron Whitaker</p>

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619	Andrew Davis	China Grove	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Limits are already controlled by law enforcement. There is no need to make it mandatory to report fish. I am for commercial fishermen to have to report the above fishes.
620	Bill Thompson	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No where can I find the reason for this absurd law. 2. Instead of the non commercial fisherman and the commercial fisherman reporting their respective catches, why can't the game wardens and/or paid surveyors take on this task as respective boat ramps and docks? If I understand the funding for this law is \$5 million that money could be used to hire more wildlife officers and/or surveyors. 3. Placing the burden of reporting these stats on the fisherman not only creates an unfavorable view of the Wildlife Resource Commission and the State Legislature, it offers numerous unfortunate events where the fisherman is going to be penalized for not being informed, especially for those tourists who come to NC to enjoy our wonderful resources.
621	Dr. Jon H. Arvik	Pinehurst	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I strongly support both the Commercial Harvest Report and the Non-Commercial Harvest Report. I am a retired biological science researcher (and still dedicated sportfisherman!) who has worked at various times during my career in commercial, non-commercial, and governmental positions for many years on human and wildlife environmental, habitat, and population management programs. The two worst conditions for organizations attempting to generate appropriate regulation of limited or variable resources are 1) no, outdated, or limited data, and 2) such organizations ignoring pertinent and timely data. I believe that these two rulemaking programs are excellent in their intent, and appreciate your requests for user-generated data.
622	Charles Mincey	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	For	No problem reporting catch as a recreational fisherman. Commercial fisherman should be made to report. I am in favor of banning all catches of flounder - recreational & more importantly commercial so we can reestablish a healthy population so there can be recreational fishing of flounder year round. What is being done currently is not working. Also need to find a revenue source to raise & release baby flounder & any other unhealthy fish population. What is being done is not working!
623	Donald Horton	Rolesville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Given the issues we're facing with the targeted species I am in favor of taking measures to better understand the fishery. I will support this action, though with concern. While I plan to comply if this legislation is implemented, I am concern there will not be acceptance by either commercial or recreational fishermen without 1) an complete explanation of the intended purposes of this legislation 2, how the collected information will be used and 3) a simple, easy straight forward process for reporting. Over the past few years, fishermen have seen changes in regulations and reduction in season and limits, therefore any actions taken will be subject to skepticism. I am concern that implementation of this legislation could be the tipping point where public trust is

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						totally lost. In my view it is imperative that a public education program be a major part of any implementation.
624	James Brian blackley	Selma	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Making fishing to hard on everyone
625	Alex limoges	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Y'all make it harder and harder to enjoy fishing each and every year. This is y'all job to keep track of fish populations, not the general public's. Dont do this and do better as a whole.
626	Preston Jones	Catawba	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not see this working on a recreational level. I believe people selling the fish, etc., and commercials should report harvesting to get accurate numbers on the fishing. But I don't think non-commercial people harvest reporting is going to work. I don't think people fishing for their food should have to report the government every time they keep and harvest something. I believe it is overcontrolling and just wild. There should be a fine line between people making money on harvesting and just getting food for their families!
627	Charles W. Bennett	Matthews	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Reporting requirements promote adherence to limits and provides needed information to biologists for resource protection.
628	Robbie Barber	Plymouth	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Striped bass are eating up all the smaller fish in the Albemarle Sound and to think a recreational fisherman can't harvest any is totally unbelievable!
629	Emitt C Witt	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This represents significant over reach by the Division of Marine Fisheries. While I support most of what the organization does, this is ridiculous. First, you don't have enough officers to enforce it, so what is the point. Data will be sporadic and not help with future conservation efforts. Surely you can think of a better way to collect data short of fining the base that supports the organization. Abandoned this totalitarian effort. Dr. Emitt C. Witt
630	Stanley Griffin	Surf City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There should be no reporting requirement for a recreational fisherman. Existing catch limit rules are sufficient.
631	Jonathan Birkett	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	

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				Harvest Reporting		
632	Ryan Thomas	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
633	Thomas Christopher Bartolotta	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I am in favor and will gladly report, but I fear harvests will be vastly underreported because no one has done this in their lifetime. If you make it easy to report, I think you will find more people will comply, but the data will not be valid or reliable as so many will not be bothered to do so.
634	Rom A WHITAKER	Hatteras	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>This is needed for Recreational accountability in the harvest of these fish. Not sure how you are going to hold such a large user group accountable and even more how are you going to enforce reporting. I can see tremendous problems with under and over reporting and how this data is going to affect regulations in the future. I guess dockside and boat ramp surveys will somewhat make reports accountable on recreational fishing reports.</p> <p>As far as commercial reporting goes I am not sure how you make it much better that it is now. It is recorded on a ticket at the fish house and is dead on accurate. I guess you are looking for release discards and what mortality is associated with them. Not sure you are going to get much reporting on that and don't know how you will enforce that.</p>
635	Tom dunnigan	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How do you enforce? Is this a voluntary act? What is the method to report and what is the response time post catch? Do release catches count for reporting?
636	Kelly D Neal	Walnut Cove	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>Hello,</p> <p>The way I read the rules, I have to report either using a computer or cell phone either immediately after harvest or by midnight the day after. I go to the coast to disconnect from technology. I have no issue with reporting, but the timing requirement for reporting is excessive. Submitting after the trip seems more reasonable, not every day.</p> <p>Kelly Neal</p>
637	Joyce Ingraham	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I just participated in the public meeting and I have a few other comments. Like I said to get accurate data to effectively manage the resources, ALL fishermen (who cooperate) should report ALL their catch. We all catch the same fish. and it needs to be permanent. Several recreational fishermen who spoke have absolutely no idea what is involved in the management of the

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						commercial fishery. The idea that commercial fishermen catch more than recreational fishermen is inaccurate. One person said commercial fishermen catch so many fish in their nets that it exceeds what recreational fishermen catch. Consider this: There are thousands if not millions of recreational fishermen, of which catch a number of fish each, most likely equally or exceeding what the few commercial fishermen catch. The numbers of commercial fishermen in NC are considerably less than that and the numbers of them are steadily decreasing because they can't support themselves on their meager catches. The information the rules are based on are biased toward recreational fishermen (probably with those numbers, the money that backs them). Every one wants to blame commercial fishermen for the reduction of resources but consider this: the water quality is getting progressively worse thanks to over-development that is unending. We honestly believe that chemicals in the water are killing the fish and shrimp larva. No one takes that into account. My husband has caught more plastic in the water than he ever has. , what about that? Pollution is getting worse, doesn't that count? So what if some people don't report their catch, it happens. That doesn't make the whole system wrong. There are probably not many who would do that anyway. And the idea that it makes more work for the recreational fishermen - what babies! Marine Fisheries knows how much paper work commercial have to submit daily and monthly, with fines for not reporting. They can use the established trip ticket program with probably a few changes to the personal information. I mean common sense, people.
638	James Doncsecz	Pilot Mountain	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The limits in my opinion are so small that it doesn't seem worth reporting. The limits need to be raised on most fish mentioned here. People spend a lot of money for their fishing trip and the reward is very small.
639	Mike Brown	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Rules like this and past regulations surrounding flounder season, limits, and the like are ruining recreational fishing in NC. Stop over regulating recreational fishermen who are by and large responsible stewards of our state's resources. This rule will not be well received and I think you will find that it will further erode the good faith and trust that recreational fishermen may still have in the work that you are doing. In short, it's another unneeded regulation and a bad PR move for Marine Fisheries.
640	Richard Austin	Gastonia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm not understanding how this would benefit anything except revenue from tickets that have been written to people who didn't report what they caught and who does that money go to it sounds like to me Size limits creel limits weren't enough. They went to seasons on every species and now they're wanting you to call them and tell them what you've caught and when you caught it ..do we need Tags as well?

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641	joseph lukowski jr	iron station	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We don't need more regulations and hiring of additional people to enforce them. Secondly, start encroachment on commercial gishing and gill nets and leave recreational fishers alone. Thanks you
642	Richard austin	Gastonia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I can't figure out what they are trying to accomplish at the North Carolina Marine fishery. They are taking the fun out of everything I own a house the beach I own a boat. I have a lifetime fishing license that I have purchased so I can do this legally and they keep adding more and more and more and taking more and more and more enough is enough, no I have to spend my time on the phone talking to the North Carolina Marine fishery about a fish that I have called or I have to pay money for it. I can't even catch Bait in the winter time and have it in my possession because it is illegal, it's time for change .
643	Gregory W. Judy	Washington	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	The commercial fishermen have been reporting their sold catches for years and now they will be required to report fish they take home to eat. the rec sector has always wanted to dump any overfishing on the commercial man, not just his sold catch but this made up tonnage that the commercial man eats or gives away. I say HOGWASH. I was raised to obey the law so I will comply with any new reg. But what about my rec buddies? They are breaking the law about possessing fish beyond limits and fish that are not even supposed to be possessed at all. Do you really think they are going to report what they catch? The DMF will have to hire 500 new lawmen to check every ramp and patrol every private dock. Since the MFC screwed the fishermen in the upper sections of the Neuse and Pamlico, my fishing is next to nothing. But I have contact with friends that see the shenanigans of the recs. They come to the ramp, look around for a lawman, then tote a cooler to the truck, leave the ramp only to return 1/2 hr later and go fishing again. Even more brazen, they pull fish out of hiding places on the boat, while at the launching ramp, throw them in the cooler and speed away to their homes. This call-in plan is needed but will be the modern version of Prohibition. Wide spread disregard and new, more elaborate evasion techniques. Good luck.
644	Artie Rogers	Jamesville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Although I agree that we need to do a better job of tracking catch data for both recreational and commercial fisherman, this is one of those ideas that look great on paper, but are not easily implemented. For example, when exactly would you need to report the catch. If it is directly after the catch you have issues with cell service, tournaments in which you are culling smaller fish, and forcing people to be on their phone, which defeats the point of going fishing to get away from the digital world. Reporting when you get back to the dock would be a potential solution, but even then cell coverage, how soon you have to report the catch (arrive at the dock, trailer the boat, etc.) would cause issues as if you have to report before you trailer the boat or leave the parking lot would cause huge traffic jams at the boat ramp. Another option would be physical tags to put on

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						fish. This I see being a huge cost to NC, who already does not provide enough support for fisheries management/personnel, and would be a barrier for someone fishing if they needed to go get tags every time they go out fishing or ran out while out on the water. I think the better approach would be to send out a fishing survey to understand the area a person fishes, then randomly select recreational fisherman from those difference areas and pay them to report their catch along with turning in the fish carcasses for analysis. You could use that information to extrapolate that data to the larger population and also have fish carcasses which will allow you to correlate the size and age of the fish with how many are being caught and kept.
645	Harvey Wall	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Opposed to harvest reporting for recreational anglers.
646	Ronald Pugsley	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	When NC started fishing license system the great LIE was more Creel limits longer seasons more and better launch ramps. None of which happened! Now we can keep (one) just 01 flounder and have split seasons. We spend about \$150.00 in fuel for truck to go to the coast, \$50. Food \$45.00 for non ethanol gas/ oil. \$40-50 in local baits/ ice , ramp fees. We get harassed by local ,county, state, federal agencies. We launch out of a river go into a bay/ sound/ocean come back through river and get ticketed . We even shown picture of fish and a GPS screen showing where we caught it. Now you want a reporting system; how do we report when go we report. We have left our phones home, have bad reception, dead batteries. What happens if we stop off at gas station/ store/ restaurants/ friends house or our work afterwards. Every time the state “just” does something to make it better, it winds up hurting the recreational fisherman and helping the commercial guys. We say NO to any reporting system. Signed the Wake Forest Fishing Club
647	Sandra Cummings	Calabash	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It seems the state of NC is ruling with an iron fist on recreational fishing. Living on the North Carolina/South Carolina border I’m watching South Carolina pull in all the flounder they want each and every day. North Carolina gets 15 days a year AND now, record the fish we catch? In the meantime, while fishing off the pier, and watching the boats harvest, shrimp and fish within the feet of the end of the pier and now report what we catch with a rod and reel is absolutely asinine. I buy a NC fishing license every single year. It honestly feels like the state of NC is trying their best to take the fun out of something as simple as fishing. I no longer feel the want to even buy a fishing license ever again!

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648	Justin Ferguson	Bath	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>The mandatory harvest reporting needs to be a “trip ticket” layout obtained from the DMF offices, similar to the trip tickets for commercial. The mandatory report should have boat registration numbers, number of people on board, number of fish caught, a check box for multiple fish species, and a multiple lined comment section to record each fish length and species. Also with some form data base showing purchase of a “recreational trip ticket” book before a fishing license can be bought from the nc wildlife.</p> <p>I know this is just like any other rule coming from DMF it’s just doting the “i” and crossing the “t” going through the formal motions so it can’t be appealed later</p>
649	Neal Robertson	Asheboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>The commission is by far the most unintelligent of all in the USA. With the laws they try to enforce that will not help one bit!!</p> <p>How the h*** do yall expect think you are going to be able to get recreational fishermen to do this when you can’t even get the commercial fishermen to be honest about their catch limits!!! Start using your brains for the first time please!!!!</p>
650	John morgan	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Why do yall keep regulating the common average fisherman, keeping him/her from feeding his family while taking money from the commercial fishermen and making their lives easier. No other states on the east coast have this many rules and limits as low as ours. Y’all need to stay out of the rule making business. Everything yall mess with turns to s***.</p>
651	Jonathan Lane	Nickelsville	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I just want to say that I think the new proposed rule for recreational fisherman is ridiculous I think you need to worry more about the commercial fishing than the recreational fishing. You are taking a fun sport for recreational fisherman and making it stressful and more trouble than it's worth.</p>
652	Jared Paul	Vandemere	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>As for both rules, commercial and recreational, I feel that as long as you hold a valid license in either one you should not have to report all catches to the NC Division of Marine Fisheries. I think that it just takes away the fundamental part of being able to go out and enjoy the sport of fishing whether it be commercial or recreational. There is already more than enough laws and regulations in place to allow for a sustainable fishery in the state of North Carolina.</p>
653	Jeffrey Jessie	Winterville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Why do you want my opinion now?? The General Assembly already made the rules/law.</p>
654	Jim Wallis	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	<p>I am sight impaired and anything more than verbal communication will be difficult.</p>

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				Harvest Reporting		
655	Richard Shindel	Merritt	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>1) It is an unenforceable mandate. A complete waste of taxpayers money. Why not take that money and enforce the current rules in place? This is just another layer of administrative burden to the enforcement budget.</p> <p>2)This one-time funding does not cover the additional costs going forward, including the lawsuits, time spent on targeting individuals, data assessment, etc.</p> <p>3) why is there a 48 hour reporting period for commercial versus same-day for recreational? This disparity in enforcement highlights the bias, and can easily be leveraged in a legal argument.</p> <p>4) This law will directly hinder the recreational sector, particularly the charter and tourism as this is an obscure law that will likely not be adhered to by visitors to the state. Once the law is enforced and unknowing individuals are fined, it will ensure people will not return.</p>
656	Jason Rivenbark	Clayton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>There is little incentive, other than the fear of getting caught for recreational fishermen to report ANYTHING, so long as we have such horrible fisheries management in NC. In addition, NC has such horrible enforcement of existing rules on the commercial sector, including reclaiming those licenses of those not reporting any trip tickets. Fix the problem first, then look forward. The DMF will only use the data to further restrict recreational harvests.</p>
657	Jeff Fuchs	Hope Mills	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>What's the purpose of reporting? Data collection? Or limit enforcement? Honest fishermen/women will follow the reporting guidelines. Poachers will still do what they want. As far as commercial fishing I'm undecided as I don't know their quotas.</p>
658	Lance Batts	Stella	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
659	Amy	Gibsonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>This is not needed nor is it enforceable. NC has already created enough rules for the fishing industry to chase away a lot of business to our neighboring states. The government control has got to lessen, not increased. At the end of the day, you guys pay people to monitor fish population and health. State paid biologists can get the numbers for the data that you guys need. And if that is not the underlying reason to force fishermen into reporting numbers, then it is simply just a control issue--yet another annoyance to deem fishing too much hassle to mess with and another ding the state can leverage to nickel-and-dime-citation people who already pay taxes anyhow. It's pathetic and it needs to stop. You already establish ridiculous limits and stupidly short seasons. The constant creation of new laws and rules which apply to the fishing in North Carolina reek of communist Cuba where the government owned the cattle. Stop acting like Cuba, stop taking peoples' rights away, stop preventing people from enjoying the wildlife that God put here. You do not own the fish and you don't own the people. This whole thing is just further evidence that the</p>

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						government in this state and in this country is getting too big and too powerful. Nobody wants these regulations. I have talked to a lot of people and I have not run into one person that thinks this is a good idea. So as respectfully as I can say it, stop coming up with new ways to control people and scrap this whole idea.
660	Robert Hall	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How about to regulate the commercial guys who destroy the fisheries! It's not the rec guys that are destroying flounder numbers it's the commercial trawlers who kill them in bycatch before the can spawn. The commercial fishing of our waters is a cancer that continues to slowly destroy our great resources. End commercial trawlers. Regulate the commercial fishers. Leave the recreational guys alone.
661	Eddie D. Odom	LEXINGTON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Do you people that hasn't ever fished a day in your life, make these rules to hurt the little fisherman. I surf fish and I can't keep anything, now I can't use mullet for bait. Can't keep flounder, but I can go into sea food restaurant and eat 10-inch flounder, but you blame me? I see commercial fisherman fishing 1/2 mile offshore and again you blame me. I fish for food and not for money, but you blame me. Do you really think people are going to tell the true. I personally don't think you people have a clue. Its all about putting money in your pocket.
662	Linda Liles	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	WE have to report what we catch? What little we catch now (commercial fishermen drag the inland waters so there is not much for recreational fishermen to catch) is few and far between. Asking the recreational fishermen to report what we catch are face a fine is ridiculous!
663	David Herring	La Grange	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The continuous increased regulations along with increased license fees is limiting my rights as an individual to harvest my resource. The commercial fishing industry has gotten away with using antiquated reporting methods, as well as fought the integrating of updated reporting methods successfully for years. This has resulted in overharvesting of many species repeatedly and expectedly for many years due to the reporting methods. I would like to see the commercial harvest reporting methods be electronic and real time like other states before we go regulating further those who do not profit from the resource. The DMF studies have shown the overharvest over and over and the lobby has prevented correction. Now we see those that who have no representation in the government paying the price. This is wrong. I do not mind reporting my catch and abiding by increasingly stringent creel limits on trout. We can't even harvest striped bass. Flounder is down to a 15 day season with commercial guys still wearing them out as usual. The general sportsman is growing ever more tired of the constant growing regulations that cause discontent and more apt to break rules.

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664	Tom Wagner	Wanchese	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think it's total bulls***! I worked for DMF for 20yrs and Kathy and Mike should be fired for even thinking about doing this. We need a total fisheries reform act that does away with 3/4 of the idiot biologists
665	Rick stanley	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am sorry I cannot agree to the mandatory reporting being implemented. Very hard to trust that the data will be notbe used to further restrict access to these fisheries.
666	Jeffrey S McBane	morehead city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The mandatory reporting is completely ridiculous and unenforceable. Way to many variables to be able to accurately enforce. The DMF law enforcement is and always has been understaffed and now with this absurd idea it will make their job even less effective. Come on NCDMF...you can and need to do better!
667	James Pate	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How will the Marine Fisheries Commission enforce harvest reporting? In fact, how would they even know if a recreational fisherman catches any of the species listed in Session Law 2023-137, section 6?
668	Danny Strange	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	So, If I catch one of the 5 listed fish off the end of my dock with my grandson, I have to report it to the "king"? This sounds like a ludicrous idea that is totally unnecessary and I am totally against it. Who do we need to vote out of office or replace in the job to stops this crazy stuff?
669	Jeff Buckles	Ramseur	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	While I understand the need for limits and controls, this legislation places an unjust and unfair burden on the harvester, there is no clear explanation as to how this is to be reported and since there are so few wildlife offices some clarity would be appreciated. Also, to penalize by revoking liscence is unduly harsh and unfair to those who do desire to follow guidelines and may find themselves in a location where they cannot do so. This law places the burden of law enforcement on the people which reasonably should be placed upon the officer who is payed and employed for just such a thing. The existing laws are more than sufficient when enforced. Thank you for your time and consideration.
670	patricia a howard	Southport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	in my opinion this is just about one of the dumbest ideas that you have come up with in a long time....to require citizens to have to sit down and fill out forms and mail and anything or time required to do this is just about stupid thinking.....Why don't YOU who come up with this type of nonsense just resign your job and go out and start counting the fish in the seas . Can you count the

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						fish in the Sea. No!!! Can you annoy the people, the citizens by requiring these reporting issues,, Yes!!! Come on People...get Real!!!!!!
671	Richard W Taylor	Williamston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am a 75 year old lifetime North Carolinian, and have fished in the Pamlico and Albemarle sounds for fifty+ years. Politics has ruled our saltwater fishery for way too long. It is time to do as other states have done, and let the marine fisheries experts manage our resource. Other states have implemented restrictions on inshore netting and other bad practices, and have seen their fisheries bounce back quickly. It is so obvious that this law to require recreational fishermen to report their catches is being proposed to punish our citizens for wanting to restrict commercial fishery abuses. What a sham and a shame that our leaders do not have the courage to restore our fishery. Just a few large commercial fishing companies are being allowed to rape our natural resources. As their equipment has gotten larger and more capable of harvesting large quantities of fish, they are using politics to in essence keep control of their own domination of a fishery that rightly belongs to the citizens of this state. Quite frankly, it is appalling and disgusting! The economic benefits of restoring the Pamlico and Albemarle sound fisheries to their past realities would be enormous! Who has the courage to do what is right for our citizens? Just because a family has made their living as commercial fishermen, does not give that family the right to do so forever and ever, to the detriment of the other citizens of NC. My family had a farming legacy for several generations, but that does not give me or my other family members the guarantee that we will be able to make a living farming. Take back our great sound resources - PLEASE! Our children and future generations deserve good stewardship of our natural resources, but that requires determined leaders to make it a reality!
672	Gerald P Hrabica	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	not possible to enforce, will be additional paperwork with meaningless info
673	Stavro Maroulis	Taylorsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If the reporting will be on the app it will work as intending. I have fought that app when reporting Deer Harvesting. If you were able to make it easy than I would not be apposed to it. But the state always does the bare minimum and expects the users to fight trough it then fining us for the states short commings.
674	G. Allen Cummings	Calabash	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Usually when we count things it is based on subtracting an amount against a known. Budget vs income for example. So who counted the totals of all species of fish in the Atlantic? Obviously someone in Raleigh needs a job.
675	T Davis	WAKE FOREST	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This rule is another example of unnecessary, overly burdensome hyper-regulation by a Leftist NC administration. Such a reporting requirement does NOTHING to preserve or monitor the

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						<p>preservation of our fisheries. Commercial fishing aside, North Carolinians have casually fished our coastal waterways for these species for generations, now the government wants to require us to report? Big government democrats emanating from Raleigh are hyper-regulating for the sake of optics and State power. Some State bureaucrat(s) likely conceived this reporting in hopes of winning a promotion or merit of some sort, regardless of how truly worthless and burdensome it actually is...happens all the time in government.</p> <p>Is there evidence of dangerous depletion of these species? If so, why not simply impose a temporary moratorium until they replenish? If there isn't, stay out of our lives - we simply don't need your discretionary ever-increasing intrusions. I say all this as a native NC'er, veteran, and former career government enforcement employee.</p>
676	Everett C Mitchell	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Let's see- Under current rules I, as licensed recreational fisherman I am allowed to catch 1 (one) Red drum or 1 (one) flounder of legal size each day during the short season and report my catch. To me this represents Hugh government overreach, not to mention the waste of money to collect the data and use of manpower to police it. ECM</p>
677	George Humphrey Wilkins	Summerfield	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>You want my advice to figure out how you can enforce this stupid rule? Have you lost your mind or just plain stupid? You have it now so no one can catch anything to offset the cost of trying to fish. Also, fine us for what used to be a fine sport.</p>
678	William Garrett	Mount Olive	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>There is little incentive, other than the fear of getting caught for recreational fishermen to report ANYTHING, so long as we have such horrible fisheries management in NC. In addition, NC has such horrible enforcement of existing rules on the commercial sector, including reclaiming those licenses of those not reporting any trip tickets. Fix the problem first, then look forward. The DMF will only use the data to further restrict recreational harvests.</p>
679	William Harris	Pittsboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>This rule, while good in intent, is 100% unenforceable, and the majority of rec anglers won't report because you can't create a penalty that's realistic. If I'm on the water and catch a speckled trout, do I have to go to my phone right away and log that I'm keeping one? What if I'm out of cell service. What if I don't take my phone on the boat to keep it from getting salt spray? What if I'm not done fishing? Ok - so I have to report it back at the dock then? But I didn't bring my phone with me that day.</p> <p>Point being - at what point can a warden check you to see if you've got fish onboard that you haven't reported, and you've missed your window? Is it when you get home? Because if that's the case, nobody is doing it.</p>

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						Commercial guys will probably report something, since if they don't it'll get questioned, but they'll under-report because once again, what's their timeline for reporting it and what do you do if they forget or lie? It's an unenforceable edict, and therefore shouldn't be put in place.
680	Kris Thompson	Cherryville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Everyone wont report and data will be misleading. Makes me not want to fish NC.
681	Joe blow	Kure	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Are you all f***** nuts? No way I'm calling the government for anything. Maybe I'll kill every fish I caught in the future. Don't have to report a non harvest
682	Darrell Easley	Rockwell	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Against the complete proposal, I'm a recreational fisherman and feel there are more than adequate rules to manage coastal fishing. This is a waste of time and money. What are your justifications for the need of this new rule? Thank you
683	Gary Pandolfi	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I support this proposed regulation. Requiring commercial and recreational fish harvest reporting provides the agency with explicit data on the harvest rates, distribution, and allocation between fishing types. My hope is this data be used in future years/seasons to elucidate daily harvest and length records and accurately allocate allowable take between recreational and commercial anglers. This supports our NC and Atlantic Coast fisheries and further protects the species from overharvest.
684	Marian Allen	HAMPSTEAD	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I just want to enjoy fishing without regulations that I have to report what I caught. Too much regulations!
685	Stephen O. Robertson	Sunset Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Requiring recreational fishing electronic harvest reporting at or prior to return to the dock will create an unacceptable financial burden for many North Carolinas who cannot afford a \$ 2,000 smart phone due to the requirement for immediate electronic reporting. This appears solely to benefit and save money for government regulators and transfers the burden to the citizens of North Carolina. It should be entirely acceptable for recreational fishers to report harvests by mail

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						(paper format) within one week of completing a fishing trip. Anything more is serious government overreach into the lives of ordinary citizens.
686	Bill Molnar	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	No more regulations or government intrusion and overreach, please! On fish harvest reporting.
687	Noah Miyazaki	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I am struggling to find the words to properly communicate how I feel about this issue. As a life-long North Carolinian, avid angler and outdoorsman, this proposed legislation leads me to feel disheartened and disappointed. I am not sure if the Marine Fisheries Commission is intentionally mismanaging our natural resources but it appears that these actions are not accidental. This should be a crime and you all should be ashamed of yourselves.</p> <p>I will begin with the logistical challenges of the proposed legislation. How will this be enforced? If I catch a fish, will I need to find a game warden (when there are few regularly available) in a prescribed time? What if one is unavailable? Does this ban fishing at night and returning at atypical times? Are you going to force fishing tackle stores (which regularly close between 4-6PM) to stay open so anglers can report harvests? If you are thinking of leveraging technology for reporting, I am highly skeptical of the efficacy and implementation.</p> <p>Is the goal to eliminate recreational fishing to benefit commercial fishing in the state of North Carolina? If it is, then you should all feel great about yourselves. The constant creep to favoring commercial harvest versus recreational anglers is an affront to our state and community. If you actually care about the resources, ban gill-netting of our creeks and estuaries and restrict commercial fishing permits for individuals and companies that are out of state. Reevaluating bottom trawling sensitive and vulnerable habitats off the beach would also be a sensible solution.</p> <p>If you believe the core issue here is the quantity of the harvests and not the conditions the fish need to reproduce, grow, and thrive then no amount of public comments will fix your stupidity. If this trend continues, I will be moving out of the state to one where our natural resources are better managed and protected. It is sad as I would like to do environmental restoration work once I exit my company but it seems like a lost cause and these efforts would better serve a different community.</p> <p>- Noah</p>
688	Matthew Brown	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I understand this is law, but this is an absolute slap in the face to recreational fishermen who've seen their ability to fish completely desecrated over the last 5 years. Flounder seasons? Mullet Limits? Yet the GA lets commercial boats from out of state-run roughshod over the estuaries at

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				Harvest Reporting		the expense of recreational fishermen. This further erodes fishing tourism, a multi-billion dollar industry in this state. DMF and Wildlife need to stand up to the GA, and this rule is not only prohibitively expensive but is destroying one of our state's great pastimes. VA is lifting flounder limits, and SC and Florida allow extensive flounder fishing. Why is NC so behind the times. Plus, how will the reporting work? In many areas I fish, there is little to no cell service.
689	David Brown	Stella	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Mandatory reporting is going to do nothing. If you don't have enough officers out giving tickets for overfishing, you surely aren't going to be able to keep up with who is catching fish and not reporting them. How about doing away with the certificate program which gives an incentive to keep/kill larger breeder fish just for a useless piece of paper. If you want to keep the program, then switch it to photographing the fish on a measure board and releasing it. Its just a useless piece of paper anyway.
690	Timothy Prictor	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Government has never needed to know what I catch with a hook and they don't now. I'm against ANYTHING that gives government more control over free citizens.
691	John Morris	Weaverville and Ocracoke	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Government idioacrazy at its finest. The recreational fisherman is not the issue with the fish populations. If we report our harvest, you will say too many fish are being caught. If the harvest is not reported, then you will say there are not enough fish to support the harvest. People will quit fishing. This is a terrible law. I wonder what was the payoff to pass this?
692	Jon	Aylett	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I noticed that you provide a means to comment on this proposed rule both on-line and by mail. Sitting at a desk, either method is easy and convenient - I chose on-line as it saves me a stamp.</p> <p>However, under these proposed rules - I'm not given a choice, its online, and online only. Oh sure, you provide a pre-printed "report card" - but then state that it must be submitted electronically (?) by midnight the day after harvest - so it's still online. When I'm fishing in North Carolina, its at Cape Lookout. The only way on or off the island is by boat / ferry. Cellular service isn't available everywhere on North or South Core, and the availability depends upon your chosen cellular provider.</p> <p>Most fishermen on CALO are not day-trippers. A trip may span several days, or even weeks for those lucky enough. If you are on CALO, and harvest a fish without cell service, what exactly are you supposed to do? Fill out a "report card", and then take the time (and expense - last time I checked it was \$28 round trip) to take a ferry back to the mainland just to report your catch?</p>

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						<p>NC Wildlife has an app available for reporting big game harvests. But they also allow you to call a toll free number, go online, or visit a service agent location. Their app claims to allow one to report their harvest with or without cellular service. I'm not saying this is a perfect system - but it does allow options. Options fishermen are apparently not entitled to.</p> <p>While most people now own a cell phone, only 89% of those in the 50-64 age group own a smart phone. In the 65+ age group, the number who own a smartphone fall to 76% (Pew Research, Jan 31, 2024). These rules, as written, discriminate against older citizens who do not wish to own a smartphone, for whatever reason.</p>
693	James Winborne	Clayton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>With the hope that this will be read, and to whom it may concern.</p> <p>Everything that has been done as far as regulations over the last 10 years has been absolutely un called for. There are to many rules, to much fraud in government reporting. The commercial man that has to make a living (that live in the state) need to be left alone under regulations from 15 years ago.</p> <p>Recreational regulations need to go back 15 years.</p> <p>All Recreational regulations should easily be printable and set for 12 months. NO CLOSED SEASONS!!!!</p> <p>WLRC, DMF, DEQ Are all oppressive in regulations, without merrit. General assembly should be ashamed of itself. If any of you doing this actually produced something to make a living maybe you would understand.</p> <p>Leaches on society, you are.</p>
694	Amanda Winborne	Clayton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Will you actually drop unlawfull regulations and oppressive rule making when your #s are way lower than you lied about the last 10 years?</p> <p>Commies!!!!</p>
695	Carl Hatcher	Halifax	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>As with all laws and regulations that govern the actions of a free society, if there is no clear purpose, goal, or objective for the regulation or law, then the society will not understand its reason to comply. Likewise if there is no “serious “ fair , and equal treatment for individuals and entities involved in the endeavors to be regulated , then entities and individuals will also not comply. The behaviors that the state is attempting to regulate may or may not even have any thing or little to do with what it is that you are trying to accomplish as a regulatory body. The common perception among most recreational fishermen is that these fish (with the exception of Striped Bass truly belong under the jurisdiction of Marine Fisheries and under that jurisdiction the long term sustainability of the public trust resource (salt water species of fish shell fish and crustaceans) is not as important a priority as the viability of commercial fishing industry . It’s</p>

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						<p>patently obvious that both commercial fishing and key marine fish species are in significant trouble . In my opinion that recreational fisherman and their behaviors are not the cause of the “over fished” and “ over fishing”. As a regulatory body MF still hasn’t received the message that it works for all North Carolinians and it’s mandate is to conserve the public trust resources (marine species) and marine waters not caudle commercial fishing entities. A good example of this is “ “allowable bycatch”. Estuarine and joint water netting , and trawling. there is still even the ability to take and possess striped bass from the ocean by hook and line. So until the marine fisheries commission can demonstrate that it knows what a poundage or quantifiable results that insures the long term sustainability of these resources is and that these Ill conceived attempts at unenforceable regulation will meet some sustainability goal, Im against the regulation . The Division of Marine resources and the Wildlife Resources commission combined don’t have the resources or the political will to regulate the Commercial Fishing Industry and when there are no fish left for your children and grandchildren they (your children and grandchildren)might come up with a real solution. A fish protein tax A dog food tax Coastal property tax. More boat tax , a larger license fees for unlimited harvests Mitigation fees or taxes for sound side development and other coastal development .Real enforcement for estuarine water quality violations My opinionmore enforcement at the point of sale And More real marine fisheries enforcement on the water. Double the number of marine fisheries officers Double the capacity to observe quantify and regulate the commercial fishing industry. And each of those fish listed as well as Atlantic Croaker and Spots and crabs and shrimps. All of those should have a sustainable harvest cap. And it should be public and well known each year and immediately available and published annually I think the models used by WRC. Creel and sampling and possession limits are a start And there are possession limits. Not suggestion. Warning tickets Verbal warnings. I don’t think these regulations get to where we the people want to go. Thousands of pounds of fish not being harvested in the Roanoke Albemarle sound this year Are they being “landed” as by catch in the summer and fall? Does the marine fisheries commission know.? Is the Marine Fisheries Commission publishing and annual report. publishing and annual report. ? That’s a rhetorical question. Most informed fisherman know that MF data is at least 5 years old .</p>
696	Dr James W Baker	Nags Head	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>How can the Commission mandate a rule that does not have any common sense. How many recreational fishermen does the Commission expect to report their catch, whether they fish one time per year or they fish daily. This rule is the very reason that people lose respect for government commissions and committees due to the outright ridiculousness of this rule. STOP IT BEFORE IT LEADS TO ANARCHY ON THE COASTS OF CAROLINA.</p>
697	James Destefano	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	<p>this is government over reach</p>

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				Harvest Reporting		
698	Tom Berry	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	To whom it may concern, I'm a born and raised North Carolinian and find the proposed recreational fish reporting the most absurd legislation I have ever seen. For example I surf fish every November with 12 guys from different states on the Outer Banks in early November. We usually catch red drum, grey and speckled trout. Once we catch fish, who and where are we to report our catch? What if the reporting station is closed? Will all catch information be made public, ie recreation can see commercial? What is the local impact of revenue loss to fishing piers and sporting goods stores? It was bad enough with the mullet restrictions last year. How does this impact the commercial net fisherman with fish they do not need? Ie shrimpers with mentioned fish in catch? How do or where or will they report? Lastly who exactly wrote this bill?
699	william burl sorrell jr	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	things are getting too complicated. The commercial fishing nets everything and you want the old man to take precious time to inform the department on what I caught and if you can't do it a ticket a waits. Don't complicate things anymore than they are.
700	Richard Howle	Richmond	Virginia	Both rules	Against	Just another example of the administrative state getting in the way of everything. You already have established arbitrary limits on just about everything that swims in the coastal waters. Now you will have us doing the work of the conservation Police. I think this whole experiment is nonsense...
701	Kenneth Hanson	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	My wife and I are senior's and enjoy fishing. The proposed reporting of each speckled trout, gray trout and drum fish is over regulation by what I assume are a few power hungry individuals. We are responsible and check the daily limit and length on all fish we catch. I am opposed to this change Kenneth Hanson [REDACTED]
702	C. Davies	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I suspect that requiring the non-commercial harvest reporting will have negative side effects on the economies of the towns as visitors will decide to fish in other states. The 'keep' limits are already very low and seasons closed to protect the fish stocks.
703	Ronnie Dove	Wilmington	New York	Non-Commercial	Against	I support harvest reporting for big game. However, harvest reporting for recreational inshore fishing is overbearing and burdensome. It will be too hard to keep up with, and lifelong wildlife

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				Harvest Reporting		enthusiasts will be penalized for not being able to keep up. Find the solution in real problem areas. Recreational enthusiasts are not the issue.
704	Paul Hoover	Ernul	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	What difference will it make. Public comments are rarely seriously considered. Very few decisions made have proven successful. Grey trout restrictions obviously a total failure after years of one fish.
705	Mike Inman	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	No one is enforcing the rules in place already. Making more rules on harvesting without having the necessary resources to enforce them is foolish. I live on the water and constantly observing night activity with netters and fishermen not running lights but using flashlights occasionally. New laws will be useless until you start enforcing existing ones. Enforcing existing laws could be the needed solution.
706	Jim Jeffreys	Graham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Daily reporting of catch is the most ridiculous thing I have ever read. I both surf and boat fish. When surf fishing I may relocate up and down the beach 20 or more times (starting and stopping). According to what I read I would be required to report every time I stopped fishing at each location? Are you kidding me. I will be spending more time reporting than fishing. If boat fishing I will be requires to report as soon as I dock. That is where your survey people are ALREADY checking what I caught. So now I have to deal with them as well as do your report? You people need to find something more productive to do with your time than to put such a plan into effect. Just set some slot limits on the various species that allow them to spawn and quantity numbers that allow us to keep enough to eat. In other words, kISS - keep it simple stupid !
707	Matthew pope	Wade	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The ocean is the world's largest resource, let's start using it again. I hear the reasons behind these restrictions but I disagree. Counting fish populations in the ocean is impossible. It's really not worth the two hour drive to the coast for me putting very few fish in the cooler. That's what it's all about. Much more complications and I will not continue to purchase my license.
708	David S Stauffer	Whispering Pines	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I find these rules, requiring American Citizens to report their personal catch to a Government appointed bureaucrat, the epitome of Socialist rule within the state of North Carolina. I stand against this law, this rule and the Socialist party that supports exercising such unconstitutional laws within our great state.
709	Tyler	Vanceboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
710	Lars Nielsen	Denver	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I find rules like this for a hobby fishermen, a waste of everybody's time. Please concentrate on solving issues versus penalizing or punishing the few whom catch a fish or two for fun. If a species is in danger it most be a ban for everybody catch...

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711	Matthew Kefauver	Frederick	Maryland	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>I have a few questions as well as a comment.</p> <p>My first question is, what is the purpose for needing to report the harvest of the listed finfish? Why was this legislation passed? Is the reasoning published somewhere? Please forgive me if the justification is outlined in the detailed legislation.</p> <p>My second question is, how will this be enforced? Will this primarily be enforced by marine officials on the water (in person)? What enforcement tactics are being discussed?</p> <p>My comment is more of a request. I would like to request an electronic process of submitting a harvest report. Ideally, developing a free app for a smart phone in which users could submit harvest numbers digitally would be the best way to observe compliance with this program.</p>
712	Ken Maus	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Maybe 50% of the HONEST fishermen will comply with this. Which means you end up with useless data, that is off by even a wider margin than what is currently being obtained. Plus, you have made more honest sportsmen into criminals.</p> <p>So, what does this new law / regulation do for the fish populations? Nothing! But it does continue poor fisheries management at an even higher cost to North Carolinians.</p>
713	Tanner	Roxboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Fishing used to be a fun and relaxing sport. I can remember going out fishing and not have to worry about anything but catching fish and keeping enough fish to eat for the family, but now will all these rules and regulations fishing is a lot less fun. I am against this new rule of reporting all my fish.</p>
714	Michele	Peletier	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Reporting catches for recreational fish :</p> <p>Do you really think you will get an 'accurate ' number reported ? No way. As far as flounder, the recreational fisherman is screwed either way :</p> <p>They call and report one flounder every day for two weeks.....'oh no. Too many being caught. Tighten up the numbers '. Nobody calls BUT they did catch a flounder.....'well that's we thought. Flounder is overfished. All gone. No season ever'</p>
715	Austin Scheib	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I understand that tracking harvest may be a vital part in deciding on recreational limits, how ever making this mandatory is a little over the edge. If you would propose incentive to fisherman on coastal waters that limits may increase or decrease if there is participation of option harvest reports you may see a difference.</p> <p>I do not recall ever getting a harvest report for fishing this past season or the season prior.</p> <p>I also understand this may be a vital part in protecting our resources</p>

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716	Walter cox	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I am complaining about the endless increasing regulations for the coastal salt water recreational surf fisherman. This latest harvesting reporting requirement procedure sounds absolutely insane for us to comply with. It also sounds like a nightmare for the various depts required to enforce it. It will increase the time spent by the various authorities with each contact they make with the public and I doubt they will be receiving more manpower.</p> <p>In NC, we have already been subjected to size and catch limits that seem to change yearly and outright bans on flounder that other states on the east coast don't appear to agree with. For a long time, to the recreational fisherman, it's been almost comical how one-sided the Marine Fisheries have dealt with every perceived problem with our fish stocks. Blame the rec fisherman, increase his regulations and requirements. Make it easier on the commercial industry because it couldn't be they contribute more to the problem.</p> <p>Why do you folks seem to be h*** bent to end recreational salt water fishing in N.C.? Do we not contribute enough to our state economy thru permits, equipment, cabin rentals, gasoline, etc, not even counting all the various businesses in the small and large coastal areas we visit sometimes several times each year.</p> <p>We are losing the time honored traditions of hunting and fishing and just being in the outdoors through the increasing difficulty of just trying to meet the guidelines to participate.</p> <p>I have already read numerous comments from other fishermen that they see no way to abide by these new regs so if they go fishing at all, they will just catch and release everything. Maybe that's what you are after. One of the best things about a coastal fishing trip with your friends is cooking some of what everyone caught that day.</p> <p>I am 71 years old and have been going on fishing trips to the coast with my best friends for over 50 years. I would humbly ask that you folks please reconsider this latest harvest reporting idea. The NC recreational coastal fisherman has suffered enough.</p>
717	Dennis Durham	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Any fisherman paying attention would know where this is heading. The government agencies will use this data to manipulate it, to justify the complete closure of all fisheries for the recreational angler. This will be done in the name of "SCIENCE" by way of a "calculated" mortality rate of the released fish (Dead Discard). This dead discard will be applied to our very limited season we currently have and used to justify the complete closure, because the recreational angler caught too many fish for the year preventing the opening of a season for us to keep fish to feed our families. This will be used to annually to justify the complete closure of the fisheries year after year. Eventually this will lead to the next phase where you mandate no targeting of certain species, because of "Dead Discard" and your law enforcement officers get to decide what you are fishing for and write citations for just fishing. While all this is happening, the lobbyist for the commercial sector will be donating to politicians to fund their campaigns and ensure their financial future of</p>

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						<p>the large fish houses. Of course, all this money coming in from the commercial sector wouldn't help persuade how the Fishery Commission's vote, and allow how many pounds of fish to be harvested? Keep money and politics out of NC fisheries!</p> <p>North Carolina fish are a natural resource and should be available to be shared by all citizens equally. If the fishery is in decline, most recreational fisherman would be willing to accept reductions in fish limits, but not if you are going to let a privileged (commercial) group keep deleting the resource for profit, as the recreational angler patiently waits for permission to be able to fish. NC Marine Fisheries Commission has lost the trust and respect of the recreational angler. Stop catering to the "privileged group and do what's right for the fisheries. Get the shrimp trawlers out of our estuaries for a start. If the fishery can't sustain commercial pressure, do what is right, and make the hard decisions.</p> <p>Dennis Durham</p>
718	James T. Campen	Red Springs	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>This is a foolish and intrusive requirement for all fishermen. It will have two very harmful results. It will encourage contempt for the law and the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Officers charged with enforcing this requirement. It will also encourage fishermen of all types to lie about their harvests. Suppose that I, as a recreational fisherman report that I harvested 6 channel bass, each 40 inches in length. What will you do? Will you charge me with violating harvest limits (taking a fish outside the slot as well as taking too many on one day? Or will you charge me with lies on the harvest report form? My defense in either case is likely to be: Everyone knows fishermen always lie about what they catch. Do you actually think that you could find a jury in NC to convict me? Respect for the Law is at the lowest level I have seen in my 78 years. Your proposal will just make worse,</p> <p>This is a ridiculous proposal because it is overly intrusive and because there are better ways to manage and improve marine resources than another burdensome regulation. One very bad consequence is that, if implemented, this will greatly discourage recreational fishermen. Maybe that is you intent. It will certainly be a consequence, as will contempt for the law,</p>
719	David	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This rule does not seem to be realistic. As the rule state, any person harvesting said fish shall report the catch. The systems will be over worked and fishermen will be quite aggravated trying to report.</p> <p>When do you report? Each time you catch one? End of fishing trip? When you get home? No direction.</p>

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						<p>How do you report? On line? Mail? Phone call? Paper form? No clarity.</p> <p>Personally, I think this is an over reach. Are we running out of fish? Remember, not everyone has connectivity or a phone. This rule should not be required of recreational fishing.</p>
720	Salathiel LuMsdn	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How can you dictate what can be done to something you don't have any thing to do do with it's care , medical treatment, breeding, feeding or any other part of raising! As well we saw more flounder caught (released) than ever
721	Clyde Fail	MT OLIVE	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
722	Floyd E. Moody Jr.	Maysville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Sec. 38. Right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife.</p> <p>The right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife is a valued part of the State's heritage and shall be forever preserved for the public good. The people have a right, including the right to use traditional methods, to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife, subject only to laws enacted by the General Assembly and rules adopted pursuant to authority granted by the General Assembly to (i) promote wildlife conservation and management and (ii) preserve the future of hunting and fishing. Public hunting and fishing shall be a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife. Nothing herein shall be construed to modify any provision of law relating to trespass, property rights, or eminent domain.[2]</p> <p>Do you really think that FISHERMEN and FISHERWOMEN are going to take the time to report every fish they caught? All of you must be on drugs. More money in the pockets of those pushing to pass this bull s*** bill.</p>
723	Jeffrey Starnes	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This has to be the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard. You keep regulating recreational fishermen to death, reducing limits, raising prices, and the fishing is not improving for anyone with the bogus laws you keep implementing. Seems as if the CCA has taken over your agency and you want people to stop fishing altogether. Your regulations are closer to tyranny than they are to being helpful. Thanks for nothing.
724	Kevin Patton	ARAPAHOE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	In the interest of fish management I'm not adverse to reporting catches. The thing I'm concerned about is will the reports be accurate? I fish off my dock a lot. Most of the time I catch and release but would have no issue with reporting what I do keep. The fish I keep are cooked the same day and are usually hooked where it wouldn't survive anyway. My concern is how many people who

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						fish off and on would accurately report their catch. In view of this would any reports coming out be accurate enough to actually accomplish anything.
725	Wesley Morris	North Topsail Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Most recreational fisherman like me, are concerned about our fishery and want to protect it. We understand the need for regulations and enforcement. Therefore most of us follow the rules. We don't need further policing and the hassle of reporting every harvested fish. This is an unnecessary burden on every fisherman that wants to enjoy the outdoors and our natural resources.
726	Ben Cross	Fleming	Ohio	Both rules	Against	How about you stopped or slow commercial fishing on these species and drop the harvest limit. Recreational fishing should always take precedence over commercial. Especially when some are not even Americans. Yeah we know.
727	Liam	Camden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Law 2023-137, this rule is stupid!! America is a free country and we should be free to catch fish without having to report to the state, who is clearly trying to make fishing harder and more expensive by making the rules more strict and threatening us with fines if we don't abide
728	Gordon caviness	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Non commercial harvest reporting I do not disagree with the proposed rule but it will be impossible to enforce. I don't think many fishermen are going to report the catch of 1 gray trout.
729	Christina L Hagerman	Spring Lake	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	How many locations for reporting or can it be done online? For example, I locally caught a large bass and wanted it officially recorded (almost record). Closest place to do so was over an hour away. Nope. It was supposed to be dinner that night.
730	Randy Tugwell	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	North Carolina Must eliminate all trawling once and for all with no exceptions. I understand its a "way of life" for some commercial entities, however as far as the future of our coastline, creeks, rivers and estuaries, this is the best way to sustain all species of salt water life.
731	James Hardin	Buxton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We here in North Carolina who fish both commercial and recreational are already subject to over regulation. While the states immediately to the north and south of us are not. NC marine fisheries have a long history of regulations that not only don't work but are arbitrary and overreaching. I say no more.
732	Lawrence D. Justice II	Weaverville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a burden on the recreational angler. I went to the link but really no reason was given that this is needed. Low fish species population? Pollution or environmental concerns? No need for it for someone that only makes a couple of trips per year, except to make the state

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						additional funding if a ticket is issued. Please stop this now.
733	Jeff Green	Midlothian	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is silly and a waste of tax dollars to require non commercial fishermen to report their catch. They represent an extremely small percentage of the total harvest. The commercial fishermen are the ones that need to report and be better controlled. Especially for secondary catch. And to greatly reduce the flounder catch commercial fishermen are allowed so that sportsmen can have a reasonable flounder season, not some stupid 2 week season that exists now. Again, the non commercial sportsmen are not the ones harvesting the vast majority of fish. Do not burden the non commercial fishermen.
734	Chester Ragland	Morganton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Coastal recreational fishermen in NC are regulated more now than any other fishermen on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. NC has the most liberal laws of any state pertaining to allowing netting in coastal waters. It is way past time to stop netting in coastal and joint waters. Also we are the only state with a two week flounder season. Stop the netting! Stop the politics!!
735	Jonathan Edwards	Winterville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I like the idea of mandatory reporting. I'm assuming this will be through a phone app. Hopefully the process is smooth. Really want to see more enforcement on the water.
736	Chad Austin	MINT HILL	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's already such a short season for flounder fishing, why make it more of headache for those lucky enough to keep one fish per day. South carolina game and fish is sure making more money selling fishing licenses to North carolina residents.
737	Cedric W Black	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a burdensome requirement that accomplishes nothing, recreational fishing poses no threat to fish stocks compared to commercial fishing.
738	Paul	Oriental	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Good luck enforcing such a ridiculous rule. We are already required to pay for the right to fish in a public water for something that nature provides us and now you expect us to report what we catch to you. Is it not enough that you set a limit on what we are allowed to keep when commercial fisherman rape our waters everyday. I'm only given 1 week a year to catch and keep 1 flounder per day!!! Why in the world should I have to report that to you. Do your jobs and get out there and catch the people doing wrong. Don't expect me to do it for you.
739	Greg Wallace	Surf City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	These rules will only work if the "motivation " is there to encourage compliance. Unless the reporting method is easy and fast, it will not be used. Unless there is a significant increase in

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						enforcement staff, these rules will be little more than a feel good action that will not change the sorry state of NC fisheries.
740	Kenneth Burroughs	Chocowinity	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Absolutely not! Government overreach!
741	Tram Williams	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not believe recreational fisherman should be required to report their catch. The data received will likely not be accurate or comprehensive, especially considering the recent controversial flounder regulations. My belief is that anglers will not give accurate information if they report at all. There is no way to regulate this mandate either b
742	Anthony Newman	Columbia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Your proposals are jokes
743	thomas lackey	Vale	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	toll bull crap
744	John Prowell	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	This is a general comment on what to include in the harvest report. Please include what is caught and released in the count. Last trip we caught (and released) what is becoming the normal 15 American Reds. If the "real" numbers are used it will make for more accurate data. And MAYBE a reasonable season for ARS. Thank you John P
745	Zack Stanley	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
746	Samuel Pittman	Concord	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Regulations regarding reporting of harvests should be voluntary, not mandatory. Sadly NC Wildlife is getting outside of its legitimate function which is conservation while making it easier to enjoy our RIGHT (it is a right not a privilege like the hunters safety course I took likes to pretend) to engage in hunting and fishing. Any regulations that hamper this serve no useful purpose. The fact that you seek to impose a fine on anyone who doesn't comply is absurd. The only way something like this should even be considered is if it is voted on by the people.

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747	Tim Farris	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Please do not do this for recreational folks! Will be a huge pain and detract from the relaxing aspects.
748	Stanley Matthews	Pikeville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Ridiculous!
749	Kristina Marchisin	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
750	Rick Garrett	Liberty	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You don't enforce laws that are there now. You are a waste money and resources. No way to support any other ridiculous laws you dream up
751	Rick Garrett	Liberty	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Do not support any more regulations
752	John Richeson	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I understand the reporting of harvesting certain species for environmental purposes but for recreational fishing, I think it's a bad idea, especially for the occasional recreational fisherman. There may be some pushback when an occasional recreational fisherman forgets to report a fish and is cited by an over exuberant Fish and Wildlife Officer. I understand reporting wildlife harvesting for big game and support that but c'mon, reporting "I caught one speckled trout today!" (no sarcasm intended) It sort of diminishes the recreational aspect of recreational fishing.
753	Michael Rimmer	Cove City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Quit being a communist organization..... you have killed the commercial fisherman making it hard to get local seafood making Americans depend on foreign crap seafood. You have killed recreational fishing to where we can't even fill our freezers to provide for our family's. GOD put the fish on this earth to eat. Not your job to kill it. WE NEED TO DRAIN THE DMF SWAMP.
754	Neal Leonard	Ocracoke	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am a lifelong sportsman, both hunting and fishing and I consider this law to be government overreach. I'm retired and as a recreational fisherman who often fishes daily, I'm curious as to how I will be expected to report each day's catch. I do not use a computer (my wife is typing this) and wonder how this will work. Will I have to phone in my catch? How will this be enforced? Do we report when we catch a fish? How long do we have to report after catching a fish? Is this daily? Weekly? Monthly? I support good fisheries management and conservation but I feel that this law is excessive, difficult and expensive to enforce, and a burden on recreational fishing. Thank you.

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755	ROBERT JOSEPH DWULET	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I hope the rule makers take into consideration that recreational fisher people have taken it on the chin the last few years with a very short and restrictive flounder season. Now you are going to develop a reporting system that in my opinion is a burden and will most likely result in "bad data". Add in the fact that the punishment for an offense is completely impossible to prove unless you spy on every person in NC who goes fishing. Please open up the seasons to recreational fishermen. It has been proven in the past that the State of NC is biased against recreational fishermen and favor the commercial fishermen. Please reverse this bias!
756	Marion p koonts	linwood	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Just one more instance of government over reach. Making it harder for the public to enjoy vacations for the one or two times a year they my go fishing. In between this and the absurd seasons and limits NC has put on these species makes fishing in NC not worth the trouble. How about relaxing the recreational requirements and make real limits on commercial fishing. Baby flounder plates do not help the flounder population. Me catching the 2 flounder I have caught in my lifetime is not hurting the population. That said the government polluting the outer banks with a dilapidated navy base they refuse to clean up hurts worse.
757	HOYLE L LOWDERMILK	KNIGHTDALE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The state will mostly likely not be able to have a working website up and running for the reporting by Dec. so I am not worried about having to report any catches at least this year.
758	Caitlyn Hall-Lucas	Laurel Springs	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Both are sound and logical proposal with a fair timeline.
759	Dan F Spivey	Zebulon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am a 74 year old avid sportsman. I am against ANY MORE RULES that have to be followed while I am supposed to be enjoying leisure time. I DO NOT trust that any rule is going to be temporary or even evaluated again. I don't know how Rockfish could possibly need any more regulation. There was a hatchery in Weldon for years and plenty of rockfish to be caught. In your infinite management wisdom it was closed. The result is few Rockfish and a nearly nonexistent season. Please no more management on Rockfish. Just a suggestion, open a hatchery somewhere and release the fry. Another suggestion is to stop trawlers from scouring the Pamlico sound. They kill huge numbers of all kinds of fish. Rules never get rescinded E.G. No Herring. Red Drum. Bluefish. Flounder. Weakfish. PLEASE NO MORE RULES. I NEED MY ATTORNEY TO GO FISHING WITH ME NOW.

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760	Peter Hilburger	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This seems like a big overreach. The resources should be allocated to stop gill netting in the NC estuary areas like every other state on the East coast has. This includes commercial shrimp netting within 3 miles of our coast. Ships from as far as Alabama come here and destroy our resources in the Winter because of NC's antiquated rules.</p> <p>This law is a huge waste of money with no way to enforce it. Please focus on something that can actually improve our environment. This law sounds like it is a way to make a lobbyist rich from software sales.</p>
761	Jackie Strickland	Whiteville	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>I really don't know where to even start with you guys anymore. My family has been commercial fishing all our lives. I currently hold a license, but due to heart trouble and rule changes I have not made a trip ticket for flounder in several years. Instead of making more rules and making things harder. Why not improve habitat. Implement some dredging projects on the south facing beaches. If you are going to continue to allow ocean trawling for flounder. Why not give the commercial guys the same opportunities inside with a creel limit. It seems everything that we have commented on goes in one ear and out the next. All I know is this. I have been fishing in south Carolina around cherry Grove and Dunn sound. There is the most and the biggest flounder this year than I have seen in 20 years. Still NC gives us no season and more rules. The marine Fisheries in NC has totally failed all residents commercially and recreational. The best thing to do is open up fishing season to include flounder. Put a creel limit on recreational and commercial and implement an easy reporting system. We have given and suffered enough. Time for changes for the better. Don't tell me there is no fish. I know better.</p> <p>Fishing deals with a lot of factors such as wind, moon, tidal coefficients, storms etc. To limit commercial season to a few weeks is absurd. Extend the season with a daily creel and let the fishermen fish the way we know how. Thanks</p> <p>Thanks</p>
762	Darrell	Mount Pleasant	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Creel limits are enough to remember without adding more. This is another example of adding rules for wildlife to write citations and generate money for government. There are already rules that discourage recreational fishing and does not apply to commercial fisheries. It just doesn't seem we should have to call in what you caught for a day. There are enough rules to keep up with already.</p>
763	Gary Bott	Charlestown	Maryland	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>The reason I travel to N C a couple times a year and spend lots of money is to get away from all the restrictions Md has placed on striped bass. It's just more Government BS that is not necessary.</p> <p>Temporary always ends up permanent</p>

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						your not fooling anyone. These kind of laws is what kills tourism. You have a beautiful state with great fishing don't screw it up.
764	Joshua Bivans	Jackson Springs	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too long in this state has the public access to fishing been deemed as lower priority than commercial fishing. Commercial overfishing is a problem nationwide and once again the solution is to limit the general public. As if that will have appreciable effect. You take a natural resource held in public trust and hand it over to special interest again. What harvest limits will you come up with next for normal, responsible people looking for recreation and cheap meat?
765	george hines	cary nc	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	temporary, will turn into forever. just like the rules on striped bass, herring, puppy drum and all the other restrictions. Temporary my ass!! Salt water fishing license for what???
766	george hines	cary nc	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	temporary, will turn into forever. just like the rules on striped bass, herring, puppy drum and all the other restrictions. Temporary my ass!! Salt water fishing license for what???
767	James Fields	St Pauls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This has gotten ridiculous, so over regulated already, I already have to release flounders all year long. I have had a place at Holdens beach for over 20 years, love that place, but I'm selling it and moving to little river, because fishing is my life. NC fishing regulations is the sole reason for moving.
768	Phillip Benson	Clayton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	regulation is getting out of hand it's not worth going fishing anymore please reconsider your governmental overreach.
769	Matthew Ross	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The state is making recreational fishing which is insignificant compared to commercial fishing more and more difficult Why not just hold the commercial fisherman accountable?
770	Richard Rappaport	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe that this puts an unnecessary and undue burden on the recreational fisherman, who generally don't harvest large numbers of fish. There are already many rules about catch limits and size requirements. I oppose adding additional rules.
771	Phillip Benson	Clayton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop the excessive regulations that!!!!

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772	Greg Homiak	Clemmons	North Carolina	Both rules	For	<p>Happy to see that commercial fishing will be subject to the same mandate. Are they also required to report on bycatch that does not survive???</p> <p>As an avid recreational fisherman, I am more than happy to report, as long as it is quick, simple, and app-based. Would recommend allowing time to report following a day on the water - maybe midnight the same day? Not practical to think we would stop fishing only to report our catch as we go.</p> <p>This is a small 'price to pay' if it leads to better-managed fisheries and a longer Flounder season as an example.</p> <p>Greg Homiak</p>
773	Roy Bass Sr	Wilson	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Too many regulations now. This rule has no value to fishing and will hurt the coastal economy. No reason for this rule has been given, why not? What is the difference whether reported or not people are going to lie about it anyway with no law enforcement to verify. These dumba** politicians who made this need a fact check.</p>
774	Caleb Bednarz	Monroe	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>As a recreational fisherman, I am against mandatory harvest reporting.</p>
775	Cas Willborn	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	<p>I am a resident of Raleigh and generally make 1-3 trips a year to the coast to surf fish where I enjoy harvesting Red Drum and spotted Sea Trout. I'm concerned that current harvest estimates across all sectors are inaccurate and I strongly support the *temporary* mandatory report of harvest for the fish indicated. North Carolina's fish and game regulations are generally behind other states, despite the extraordinary fishery this state holds. This rule would enable the state of North Carolina to more accurately estimate the effects of measures implemented to boost stocks, for example the conservation of sub aquatic vegetation by closure of inshore trawling operations in some areas. It should also provide more accurate data on the impact of the currently restrictive regulations governing the harvest of the indicated species. In terms of the enforcement and penalty for violation of this rule, I believe that warning tickets should actually be issued starting in June 2025. 6 months of initiatory enforcement with verbal warnings should be plenty of time for word to spread and could make the duration of these rules shorter in the long term.</p>
776	Christopher Todd Allison	Stella	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Yet again another level of government overreach placating special interest groups (read CCA). This is why you magnanimous phallic symbols in Raleigh while eventually see crowds gathered with torches and pitchforks again, buckets of tar and feathers in hand.</p>

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777	Michael Weaver	Angier	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Another far reaching mandate that will prove useless in building up our States resources. This is just another way to increase fines and revenue without increasing the sustainability of our fishery system.
778	Charles r mercer	Whiteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Having to report fish catch is ridiculous, nc wildlife are trying to control way to much. They have already priced us out of alot of our way of life. It's getting to the point people will not even try to follow the laws because enorder to be able to eat fish and game you'll be breaking some kind of law. We love to eat flounder but you can't afford to drive to the beach for one fish that's not going to feed your family. It has to stop somewhere. I have always tried my best to be within the laws but it has become hard to do. The recreational fisherman are not the ones hurting everything. The commercial boats kill thousands of baby flounder pulling nets but the recreational people have to do without. When is it going to stop.
779	Chris	Rocky point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's a little ridiculous we have to report our fish for recreational fishing. We can't even just enjoy a day on water keep a couple off fish a day without constantly looking up updated size limits and seasons already. There are no shortage of drum. You can catch them anywhere in abundance year round. As far as flounder go it's commercial fishing killing the numbers not recreational. Stop gill netting and population problem will be solved. There are more recreational licenses sold than commercial every year but they get to keep everything and we suffer. Makes people not even want to go.
780	John Covington	Vale	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	SC is going to get a lot of money from recreational license sales including mine! To h*** with NC rules.
781	Jordan Isles	Rocky Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	With the North Carolina fisheries being so mismanaged for so many years, the fishermen again are bearing the brunt of poor governing over our natural resources. With limits so minuscule, with fish populations so decimated, with more restrictions imposed, and no meaningful resolution. Yet, another way for a ticket (tax) to be placed on the license holders for non-compliance of a rule that is arbitrary at best. Why does the government want to track every single thing citizens do, limit the ability for people to go out and gather their own food to feed themselves. The netting that has been allowed to decimate our coastal fisheries with no one in leadership held accountable speaks volumes to how much thought is put into the regulations. Vote no to regulations that impede fishermen to go catch food and not be stifled by the over reach of government. Recreational fish men have suffered for years under the commercial fishing industry paid politicians, stop stealing rights of citizens to live free.

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782	Walter Neal	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Virginia and SC both do not permit commercial netting or trawling in inshore waters. Wouldn't this work just as well in NC and mean more fish and no bycatch losses in NC waters and do away with the need for Harvest Reports.
783	Tom Troxclair	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I deer hunt and always report harvests. Fishing is a little different, there are no Commercial Deer Hunters. The Commercial Fishermen harvest the vast majority of these species and they should be first to report harvest but I have serious doubts that they will comply. So again, you put the bulk of the responsibility on the weekend guys, doesn't seem fair. I will comply but I don't think the Commercial guys will? Thanks
784	Richard C Pease	SNOW CAMP	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against harvest reporting of fish. The anglers that are following the rules currently will follow the rules in the future. Those that are not following the rules will not follow the new rules in the future. More rules will not help the fish or the angler that follows the rules.
785	David swain	Grimesland	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There is no reason why we should have to register fish. Give us a limit and leave it alone!
786	Brock Thomas	Jamestown	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
787	Joseph	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>These restrictions should be applied to commercial fishing only as they are operating for profit gain and cause most of the decrease population. Commercial fishing also should be held under more strict civil penalties because of their responsibility and obligation to maintain healthy ecosystem and fish population for the massive harvests being taken every year.</p> <p>Individual sportsman account for a small number of harvests comparatively, and increasing rules/regulations for very specific species and locations will deter new sportsman young and old from interacting and learning these species which will ultimately hurt the species public visibility and concern when it comes to preservation of fish population AND ecosystem.</p> <p>Thank you for making public comments accessible to everyone and user friendly, this reinforces public trust and cooperation with NCWildlife and NC DEQ.</p> <p>Joseph Charlotte, NC</p>

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788	Mark LeGwin	Wilimngton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I have hunted and fished in North Carolina for over 65 years. These proposed rules are a total infringement on our constitutional rights, and were obviously thought up by people who do not actually fish. Come on guys, try to think of something better than this. It only encourages fishermen to become criminals under the law. People in North Carolina have always had flounder , trout and other fish mentioned as a staple in their diets. You will be attempting to take food off our citizens tables.
789	Robert Mays	Aurora	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Stupid and impractical !!! Ban gill nets!
790	Harry Sadlock	HAMPTON	New Hampshire	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The byproduct catch from the commercial fisherman is where you should concentrate your time. The sport fisherman doesn't catch enough to make a dent in your fisheries problem.
791	Chris Smith	Willaimston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	How do you plan on ensuring a recreational fisherman will call? How long after catching and keeping the fish will the recreational fisherman have to report the harvest? I am for the rule for commercial guys who hold a commercial license but do not sell. This allows these guys that are just giving fish to friends the ability to skirt the recreational rules especially flounder giging. I still wonder how this will be enforced. If you think that people will do it voluntarily, I feel as though your actions are in vain and a waste of time and resources.
792	Ryan	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Absolutely ridiculous! It's none of your business what people catch. More laws do nothing to promote a healthy population of fish. You let commercial fisherman harvest flounder but recreational fisherman can't. Your legislative garbage needs to stop.
793	Marshall Rich	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am against recreational reporting. I know of no other states that I've fished that require you to register a trout or legal red drum. As for commercial catch, I'm actually in favor of reporting because it is their line of work and not recreational.
794	Leslie Bundy	South Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is ridiculous same for flounder season last year we had 3 fishable days with the guys with smaller boats because of the weather. While South Carolina has flounder as 5 per person per day not to exceed 10 per boat per day 16 inches. Virginia .16 inches Jan-May; 17.5 inches June-

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						December . The question is what have yaw done ? You guys are just making our state breeding grounds for our border states to harvest the fish we cant keep.
795	William Wilken	SOUTH MILLS	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an unnecessary burden for recreational anglers, this survey provides no background on how it would be implemented and although legislature provides that there is a fine, it is on its face not enforceable. How much time to report, daily, annually as is case for duck harvest. Additionally what is the non electronic reporting method. This needs to be better explained before asking for feedback
796	Brad Seadore	Bolivia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It has been obvious that the Board that manages Fisheries no longer has Commercial Fisherman representatives. And it is a shame that the Biologists that manage fishing are even afraid of touching fish (personally experienced one last season). If funding would spend less on biologists and administration and more on patrolmen who are On The Water then NC would not have a problem managing fisheries. SC and VA don't seem to have a problem only NC
797	Zachary Dodson	Hillsborough	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have a lifetime license that includes coastal recreational fishing. I work a full time job and farm part time. If I get to go to the ocean and fish more than twice per year it is a small miracle. The last few years have seen many increases in regulations to saltwater fishing. Whether they are needed or not is not something I am qualified to speak about. However imposing these rules on recreational fishermen and women in addition to the many length and creel limits already in place is burdensome to average people. I would think that commercial fisherman and paid charter services have the most impact on the fishery and are most likely to limit out everyday of fishing. These folks also have a support staff in most cases that could handle all of the extra regulatory things. I am a pretty low tech person (still use a flip phone) if I manage to catch my one allowed red drum, having to stop fishing and figure out how to report the fish and punch a tag or something of that nature is a little over the top in my opinion. I appreciate your time and do think most of the programs implemented are working. The flounder and red drum seem to be much more plentiful than in the past. Thank You, Zach Dodson
798	Charles Webb	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	How will this reporting data be used? How will this law be enforced? Will the reported data be used to ban netting by commercial fishermen in the sounds? Will The data be used to place more restrictions on recreational fishermen? To my knowledge, none of these questions have been addressed prior to this legislation being enacted. If they have, it hasn't been publicized. My first thought is that it's a burden and it's unenforceable. However, if the data will be used for productive changes to protect our ecosystems, then I don't mind. If so, This needs to be publicized and done adequately. Obviously, since few are aware of the law at all to this point, the state has failed and needs to rethink it strategy.

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799	Bill Haithcock	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Good luck with enforcing that cause I can guarantee you that most will not report there catch , now I know it's to help the population of these species of fish
800	Sammy Creech	Kenly	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Seems to be a costly tracking system needed for reporting harvest. Not all folks have a system in place to report (phone or computer) until they get home. Who's to say that they will report.
801	Herbert A Sauls	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Until you get commercial fishermen out of legislatures pockets, NC coastal fishing will never improve. Remove gill nets from creeks just as neighboring states have done and fishing will improve. It takes an idiot to think recreational fishermen are depleting stocks. Totally against the new reporting laws.
802	Dave Warder	Bolivia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Recommendation: Create harvest months, just there is for Founder season. MD has a Crab season. Thanks
803	Kyle Garrou	Lenoir	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too much. Low compliance would provide limited data while further burdening the angler. Would discourage angler recruitment.
804	Kim Byrd	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I think reporting would be a wonderful idea. To make sure everyone is following the rules and not taking more than allowed or smaller sizes. So all can enjoy fishing for many years to come. Definitely on board.
805	William B Ward	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Most retarded rule since the flounder rules. I don't even like fishing in N.C. anymore.
806	Pete Boelte	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	For	It seems to me that it might be a way to cut back on over harvest and get real numbers on actual harvest but it will be very hard to enforce with the limited amount of enforcement officers out there
807	Aaron	Granite falls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Absolutely ridiculous to keep making laws when states both north and south do whatever they want, And the commercial industry gets increased every year. And I can't even keep but one flounder a day, if I get lucky enough to get to the beach for whatever weeks yall decide to pick year by year! Get it together NCW!
808	Matt Wilson	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I have zero problem with reporting, however stop limiting our resources to the point that only people who live at the beach can take advantage of harvesting. If you want to allow all anglers

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				Harvest Reporting		who live across the state please allow more then 2 weeks for harvest. Issue flounder tags just like Deer. Keep season open all year, but only a few tags per angler.
809	Thomas Brent Daniels	Merry Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Mandatory regulations are not necessary. The enjoyment of doing something you love and relaxes you does not need the burden of more regulations. People will stop hunting and fishing because of one regulation after another. This is the tip of an iceberg, you only see a little bit on top of the water the big part we cannot see but we see where you are going, more regulations and it needs to stop now.
810	Ralph Lee	Bayboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too much government intrusion. I seriously doubt many will report catches. Any numbers gathered by this method will be as flawed as current numbers.
811	Kevin Phillips	Oak Island	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm against the mandatory harvest reporting legislation. It will be very difficult to enforce and the \$5 million to create the reporting tool could be better utilized to support stocking efforts and enforcement of existing laws. In addition to the initial \$5 million investment in the tool creation, there will be millions more required to provide upkeep and support of the reporting system.
812	Mitchell Wood	Zebulon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I truly do not believe this is the answer to the database issues we are having. How is it going to show true numbers when commercial fisheries only reporting poundage while non-commercial fisheries report each fish. There is a lot changes that needs to happen in our state as far as two different agencies regulating fishing. We have to many commercial fisheries members on the board making rules that is cutting non-commercial fisheries from enjoying our God given resources. Let's take one fish as an example. The commercial fisheries has one month for flounder season, and the non-commercial having only two weeks. Commercial fisheries are aloud 11,000 lbs per vessel or one month whichever comes first, 11,000 LBS!!! Now take an average weight of 2 lbs per flounder. At 2 lbs each and non-commercial are only aloud 4 flounders per day, it would take 98 non-commercial fisherman catching thier limit every day for 14 days to reach what one (1) commercial vessel is aloud for its season. Now how many commercial vessels are harvesting flounders and how many of those are licensed under the same license? Now tell me how that is fair across the state for both sides. You promote take a kid hunting/fishing but are making it more as a commercial industry. Let's get back to seeing families enjoying the God given resources and how they pass down generations how to fish. Like the old saying " give a man a fish and he eats for a day, teach a man to fish and he eats for a life time."
813	Juan Arizpe	Wilson	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	

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814	William P. Dunn IV	Fort Lauderdale	Florida	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an OVERKILL , we all know the commercial fisherman kill millions of by cath every year , but they have lobbieest who protect them
815	Wallace Swaim	Sophia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	In approx. 1960, NC passed a ""TEMPORARY" tax on food. Just how ""TEMPORARY" is this new fund raiser? You want to catch and fine first time or novice fishermen and women for catching fish they don't recognize and add to your pockets. Another shameful way to rob NC citizens.
816	Ben Hull	Matthews	North Carolina	Both rules	For	100% onboard with harvest reporting. Anything at this time will help with the decline of fishes
817	Brian Mann	Richlands	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a great discouragement to father's like myself who get a few opportunities to take my children fishing, and when I do, the last thing I need is to have this mandate. It takes the fun out of fishing for families. I oppose the restriction for recreational fishers like myself. Thank you.
818	Tracy	Swanquarter	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Another example of government intrusion. Absolutely will not comply
819	Joey Brown	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This will drive recreational anglers away from wanting to come to our beautiful state to fish. Putting limits on fish is fine but having to have everyone report what they catch it too much oversight. Please vote down this legislation in favor of us recreational fisherman who want to join our time on the water and not be burdened by this oversight.
820	Dan	MOREHEAD CITY	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Yeah, how many "nope, caught nunya today" "Gonna catch nunya tomorrow"? I'm sure mandatory is not going to sit too well with most fishermen. Commercial guys should report everything and, bring all that dead bycatch in for y'all to count if you need something else to do...
821	Joe Fincannon	Vale	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is another example of arbitrary government overreach. The state doesn't have the resources to enforce this overreach to any appreciable outcome. Most hunters abide by reasonable regulations that clearly help conservation. The inverse of that is noncompliance with overreaching regulations.
822	Gary Roten	Millers Creek	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	Commercial fishermen yes. Enough restrictions already especially with the trout and flounder for the recreational fisherman.

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				Harvest Reporting		
823	Christian A. Smith	Roper	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I think recreational fisherman should be required to do trip tickets just as commercial fisherman have been required to do for years.
824	Jeffrey Godwin	Grifton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Every thing gets blamed on recreational fishing. These proposed rules will not make a bit of difference to anything. Until the gill net fishing is changed or banned. We the recreational fishermen are for the most part are living by the rules, but the commercial fishermen don't, they catch more fish of all kinds and no accountability. They sell their supposedly quota and then the fish houses buy the rest in cash and no records are being traced. I know commercial fishermen and they tell me what goes on . Ban the nets and we could have the best fishing in the country.
825	Mike Van Scoy	Winterville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I don't mind reporting if the info is used, and used correctly. I have fishing in eastern NC for over 50 years and have seen both sides. If things don't change for recreational fisherman I will sell a \$50,000 boat, no more fuel, baits, rods, food,gas, licenses and everything else. Sooner than later you will need to do the right thing about commercial fishing and the damage they are doing to the fisheries. Everybody knows it and why??
826	RANDY CAROON	LOWLAND	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why are recreational fishermen having to report our small amounts of catch? Makes no sense. It's not like we're taking hundreds at the time. I personally catch and release, but for those that fish to eat, shouldn't have to report a couple of fish. There needs to be a restriction for those catching bigger amounts, not us small catch fishermen.
827	Ronald Cobb	Reidsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Are you intentionally trying to keep fishermen from traveling to North Carolina's coast to fish!!! You have already placed the most stringent regulations on coastal fishing and now you're trying to mandate the to report!! How many times must North Carolinians tell you that the recreational fishermen are not the problem!! People are now traveling to Virginia and Siurh Carolina where it is worth their while to fish! This is just another ridiculous law to cover the real problem!! It is commercial fishing that is allowed to take place in all our bays, especially during crucial spawning seasons!! Not only are thousands of tons of fish(all sizes and species) are taken each year, but millions of eggs cannot be laid for future generations!! No netting with 3 miles!!! Do this and the problem will be resolved for ever!! Period! People are NOT going to report harvest because they are already fed up with the regulations that have been set forth!! Question: If flounder populations are so dire, why are fishermen seeing the most and largest flounder now??? It's time to think about the majority of citizens and not just the select few who are making the money off of the fish resource!! Just look at the fishing license, fuel cost, bait and tackle, dining,

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						lodging of people who travel each year!! Coming from someone who has fished our waters for 35 years, South Carolina and Virginia are looking better each day!! This must stop!! All you are doing is just making good North Carolinians refuse to travel to our coast!
828	Ronnie Jarvis	Granite Falls	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>RECREATIONAL harvesting of coastal game fish should not be required to be reported, it should be voluntary (1)The logistics of an enforced reporting system will siphon off valuable resources better spent enhancing habitats and other means that could increase fish stocks as well as further clogging an overworked court system. (2) enforcement would be spotty at best , do you really wish to criminalize some grandpa and his grandson on their first fishing trip together unaware of the reporting requirement? COMMERCIAL fishing and bycatch destruction seems to contribute much more significantly to depletion of coastal game fish stocks and should be more closely monitored and regulated. While I have sympathy for local family based fishermen , I believe we should regulate and reduce the harvest of non game bait fish (ex. pet food protein) and penalize harshly the commercial poachers that would over harvest that resource if you wish to increase coastal game fish stocks. Recreational, charter and family based , "small time" fishing contributes much more economically to coastal areas and our state overall than "come and go" commercial fishers. That ain't rocket science!!!</p> <p>Your last question " ARE YOUR COMMENTS FOR OR AGAINST....." is unfair since there are only 3 choices, I am opposed to RECREATIONAL enforcement while I support COMMERCIAL enforcement. Clearly "undecided" does not apply to my responses. In that question, I am not given the choice to support one and oppose the other . When responses are counted, to which choice will my responses be assigned?</p>
829	Danny E. Johnson	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>You are not allowing recreational fishermen to harvest many fish as it is. You're dropping limits, adding slots, and even keeping us from harvesting some species completely. We were given a two week period to keep flounder and even changed the dates on that and for only one fish! Of the two weeks, the weather was so bad there were only a few days you could get on the water. And now you want a report of our harvest. Commercially, I know they were allowed to keep 2000lbs each, per day. On top of that, the time frame was extended. I know several commercial fisherman and they kill more fish, as bycatch ,than will ever be reported. You've limited the number of flounder recreational fishermen can keep because some can't distinguish the difference between them. That's not fair to those that can. Someone should do a study as to the amount of revenue lost in NC due to your regulations. So, do I think we should have to report our harvests, sure. If you allow us to make it worth while to go fishing. The commercial fishermen should be checked closer as to their catches and reports.</p>
830	Mark Long	Oak Island	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Do you really think this documenting the pronounced fish caught will work? I don't!</p>

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						<p>NC needs to quit allowing gill netting in tidal creeks for speckled trout. I believe NC is the only state that still allows this type of fishing. They come in different times at night and early morning and rape the fishery. Hook and line recreational fishing does not hurt the species. Gill netters kill all fish that use the creeks for breeding and food source. Have witnessed nets being unattended for long periods of time.</p> <p>People will fill out the survey with made up or not listing catches they catch.</p> <p>Marine fisheries is responsible for the decline in numbers.</p> <p>I don't recognize a decline until gill netters have netted creeks that I fish. One day fish are there next day nothing (It's called rapping the fisheries) that y'all allow. So sing that song to someone else.</p>
831	Allen	Riegelwood	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>You all are overstepping on every privilege we have. You just sit there on your little pedestals and make rules for people you have no business making rules for. We pay a lot of money to fish and use something that was God given and at every turn yall are taking our freedoms away just like this government. Y'all don't have our best interests at heart you only care about making people pay more for something. It's all money to you money wasting people. Nc has the worst limits of any state and the worst lawmakers ever. Blue fish for instance: I eat these fish and I can only keep three while you can use them for crab traps and bait for other fish, totally ridiculous. I guess yall are experts and know how many fish are out there, funny thing is every other states limits are better. One drum are you kidding me with as many as their are. I know our limits will never come back and now we either start fishing other states or stop all together and that's probably what you want us to do. Nc is the only state that allows gill nets what the heck. I wish there was someway to replace all of you ! I know this will not make a difference but I will not comply with your stupid rules anymore and you will not be getting anymore of my money after this year. Signed a very concerned person. # yall don't own the fish or the water and taking our god given rights #</p>
832	Steven Pittman	Winston-Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Why don't you guys leave us alone? The ones were destroying the Fishing are the commercial fisherman. You keep implementing rules on us. We're just trying to enjoy our fishing and we're not the ones that are netting everything that comes along no matter how big it is, and we're not the boats going out and taking all the flounder.</p>
833	Kerry M Danger	four oaks	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>As a recreational fisherman, I have abided by the current rules and regulations. I am opposed to anymore regulations until I feel accurate data is being used to monitor the viability of species. I believe this rule will only hinder recreational fishermen and again ignore the commercial fishermen. I personally know several quote commercial fishermen that have taken advantage of the current rules by not reporting or selling their catches. Until the commercial fishermen are</p>

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						actually made to follow the current rules, no more should be placed on the recreational fishermen. How about not renewing the commercial licenses to those who won't follow the current reporting or selling of their catch first.
834	Richard Davis	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am amazed at how you are making a fun filled recreational individual and family activity into a more arduous and cumbersome task. I have a lifetime hunting and fishing license and enjoy partaking in both activities during the appropriate seasons. I can see reporting for various species when I hunt and even for limits on a few fishing species. But you are taking the joy out of fishing our coastal waters. I hope our lawmakers will reconsider.
835	Steve King	Burlington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have been a recreational fisherman all of my life. I have made a few trips every year to the coast for flounder. You have ruined recreational fishing for the average guy with your limits. Now you are adding reporting for one flounder a day. Ludicrous!
836	H. Robbins	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an invasion of privacy for personal collection of food goods that could discriminate against any person who fishes for food/ recreation and does not properly report. You should not have to go through red tape to be able to provide yourself food within our nature that we are taxed to live in. This is the stripping of a freedom. Do all the commercial reporting you want, but this is ridiculous. If you're worried about the fish populations, do something actionable about it. Stop trying to gather information from your citizens who are worn out by your policies to start with. We are not your data collectors. We are humans providing food for our families as it should be. Do not put any further restrictions on this human right. You want us all to grocery shop and consume, consume, consume, at the cost of our rights. The government is not here to control, in America the people are here control the government.
837	Chris Winpigler	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fishing is not the problem, commercial overfishing is the problem with all of the wasted byproduct especially nets
838	Dawnn Saul	Elon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I go to the beach once or twice a year. I occasionally like to fish in the surf or off the pier. I honestly don't know if I could accurately identify the types of fish in this reporting regulation. I would like to see an addition to the regulation indicating that if you harvest more than 3 of one species, the harvest must be reported.
839	ROLAND G KINLAW	Chocowinity	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I have fished the creeks of the Pamlico, Pungo and Neuse rivers for over 40 yrs. I have observed the changes that have occurred during this period. When I first started fishing this area, I was the only boat in the creek fishing and now there are many boats. Things have changed now. I hope that people today can experience the joy that I have all these years. For this to happen I believe conservation is required.

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840	Chip Phillips	Belmont	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	My dad is almost 80 years old. He's fished his entire life. He's been involved in conservation the entire time. He eats everything he catches and ethically releases the species he's not going to eat. He fishes every week and brings home fish every week. I am afraid these reporting rules will be difficult for the older fishermen who are not tech-savvy and might find it to be yet another instance of government overreach. Please don't make it difficult for our older fishermen to enjoy the only sport they can still enjoy.
841	Mike Harvey	RALEIGH	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Way to much government control and bureaucracy. Can't a man just go fishing and have some peace? No trust that the "rules" will be "temporary." "Rules" like this are made by politicians that have never caught a fish!
842	Chris	Givson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule will be overly burdensome on both fishermen and staff. NCDMF does not have enough staff capacity to count these harvest reports in a timely basis that will make any sense or scientifically useful data fields because it will be 2-3 years behind much like NMFS's commercial catch reporting. I also think that asking the average Joe to report every fish they keep of these major species is just asking for non compliance by folks that rarely fish, but enjoy it. When my friend from Raleigh comes down to fish off my dock, he's will be required to call in a catch. I doubt that will happen. So you are going to end up with inaccurate data.
843	Theodore Okon	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Non harvest don't catch enough fish to actually make a difference.
844	Trevor Brown	Statesville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fishermen should not be included. More rules would deter more people from taking their families fishing.
845	Terry Seyden	Fairview	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I had no idea that this legislation was even being considered much less passed in the state legislature. I have a lifetime nc fishing license and am 75 years old. What a bureaucratic nightmare you have been given by the legislature. Not only will it be an unnecessary burden on the recreational fishermen but it's going to create a ton of useless recording of every fish caught when there are certainly other less impactful methods of obtaining reasonably accurate harvest numbers for the species in question. If the concern is over harvesting if these species then a combination of harvest limits and sampling of catch numbers would yield

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						<p>similar results without creating such a burden on the individual angler and the nc wildlife resources staff.</p> <p>Whatever you end up doing make it as painless as possible for the angler recognizing that not everyone will have access to the internet and having to drop off or mail catch data for every fishing trip will become a royal pain in the neck for the fishermen of North Carolina</p>
846	Marc Mitchum	WANCHESE	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There are already limits in place. The spotted seatrout limit should be be 16 inches. The flounder fishing has been shut down in spite of numbers. There is way too much government overreach. If you want to fix things, clean up the water, which is the real issue. I have been working on the water since 1984, and I feel like I know a little about what is going on. Most red drum and spotted seatrout I have ever seen, and lots of flounder. Also the sea turtles are very abundant and tearing up our crab pots, it is an insult to tell me that they are threatened. Go after herbicides and pesticides along with untreat waste water. Thank you for reading my comments. Im a 60 year old who has fished in NC all my life and I see the need for some regulations, but this rule is government overreach.
847	Worley R Liles	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	From a recreational fisherman perspective, we already have a significant amount of rules and regulations governing how we fish. Through the massive limits on size and bag limits, locations on where we can fish, and limited or closed seasons, this seems like an overreach to add this NAZI tracking system to regular everyday fishermen. Commercial fisherman kill thousands of these fish species every time they drag nets in our coastal waters, are the commercial folks going to count and report each and every one of these fish they produce as bycatch. I feel as though the recreational fishermen are being targeted way too much already, our state rep is Mr. Bell, we might have some questions for this guy, IMHO
848	Randy Guyton	Garland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Sad day in North Carolina for recreational fisherman
849	Charles Barfield	Seaboard	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are already too many rules and regulations. You shouldn't need to take a Lawyer fishing with you to make sure you don't go to jail for trying to harvest what God put here for us to harvest. I understand the need to protect from overfishing from commercial fishers, but I believe putting these types of restrictions on recreational fishing are unnecessary, and burdensome to the point that it takes some of the enjoyment out of fishing. Where does it stop?
850	eric d pahl	RALEIGH	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	For	I think it would be beneficial to the numbers count but my biggest complaint would be on the flounder.

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				Harvest Reporting		I understand the numbers may be a little thin and commercial fishing should record their numbers but it should NOT be closed for recreational fishing ever! 1 per day per person (reported) should be more than sufficient to maintain stock numbers. Other wise you have more people poaching any size limit just to have one.
851	Sam Sharpe	Denver	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I believe these rules will present first, a burden on businesses that engage in commercial guide fishing, and second, will not be understood, nor really realized that they are in effect by the general public. As to the commercial aspect, this is just more government regulation and burden, that will at the end of the day punish the small business person who brings money into the state of NC. Our NC fishing guides deal with clients from all over the country. They bring in money, we should support these people and not punish them with more cumbersome and burdening red tape. As to the non-commercial harvest reporting, do you think it is fair to punish a person, as well as their family, who are out fishing and may not even be aware of the rule? The government should not be in the business of creating "rules" that the casual fisherman may not even be aware of, and then punishing said fisherman and their family for basically enjoying our great waters here in NC. One does not need to be burdened with reporting after a day of fishing, when there are children to raise, and things to get done. Our economy is tuff enough anyway, the government should not be in the business of penalizing people on a monetary scale for something such as this. I would suggest that the reporting be voluntary without the penalty of fines. I believe the government will achieve the data needed, as well as not punishing the citizens from an adversarial position. Thank-You.
852	Barney Stephens	Hickory	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why are you targeting the recreational fishing for reporting catches when we are already regulated on what we can catch and keep ? This is just another reason for nc fisherman to start fishing in sc or other waters to get away from the commission to think they are someone
853	Paul Szychowski	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Since I've been a resident of this state it is my opinion that the Marine Fisheries Commission has put obstacles in place to discourage the general public from fishing. My opinion about commercial fishing is another story.
854	Dwayne Phillips	NEW BERN	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I have never seen where they temporarily implement a rule and then retract it the first thing we need are people sitting on these boards and making decisions are people that are actually sportsman and not just college trained and read it in a book some where that is the why fishing in these rivers and tributaries are as bad as they are plus the inlets to the ocean needs cleaning out so the water can get out and help clean up the rivers

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855	John Hill	Apex	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Session law 2023-137, section 6</p> <p>I would like to see some explanation of the goals for this new law. This places a burden on recreational fishermen that should be supported by a reasoned goal in order to gain buy-in. Otherwise it appears to be another way for the government to collect personal information about private individuals. If the goal is to collect information about gamefish harvesting, the process should be voluntary, easy, and anonymous. All real fishermen should be more than happy to comply with this, especially recreational fishermen. If the goal is authoritarian, this will lead to resistance that will make the law useless for tracking recreational fish harvesting, especially considering that I cannot see how this could be policed. Is a fish harvested fish defined and to be reported only after it has been eaten?</p>
856	James Frye	Browns Summit	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I'm thankful for NCDMF but they are doing a terrible job managing our coastal fisheries. Stop punishing recreational fishermen when the core issues revolve around the commercial guys. The netters are the problem. Not just the legal ones. There is a serious lack of enforcement on both sides. I've been checked and the DMF. Officer didn't look at my creel Make the commercial guys report EVERYTHING THEY CATCH. if the fisheries are in this much trouble, close the season</p>
857	Albert Bridges	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>I am wondering how this will be monitored and also how consistent this will be up and down the East Coast of NC</p> <p>Thank You</p>
858	john partin	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>While i agree that the fishing resource is distressed, I think this rule fruitless. It will do no more than size and catch restrictions to attempt to solve the problem</p> <p>I live in Pine Knoll Shores..have a boat and am a fisherman of all these species. The in place rules make the god given right to fish almost not bearable. I know many that attempt to actually adhere to current limits but i can promise there are many that do not.</p> <p>So if you had to carry a little reporting sheet and i guess submit it to DMF...the idea is it would be a deterrent...I submit it would change nothing and is a silly rule. The recreational fisherman even those inclined to subdue to this idea would likely not fill out or discard the report rather than take the time to report online of create a mail in.</p> <p>True ..if checked by wildlife ...you could display the form..but again a useless idea.</p> <p>Since the pandemic..the boating public has exploded and the inland waters where most fishing is done in the Morehead City area are limited. On any given good day ..the new public boat ramp at Radio Island has in excess of 1-200 boats placed in the water...just one place..and I imagine the spider web of lines that dot every known fishing spot...think how many fish are taken.</p>

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						<p>My point concerns the total blame that is constantly placed on the commercial fishing families. I counter that the number of recreational lines in the water far does more harm that the smaller number by a large margin of gill nets..pound nets..small tralwers...meaning the large ones generally troll the ocean.</p> <p>Bottom line ..i agree the resource is below the constant barrage but this reporting idea is worthless..</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>John Partin</p>
859	Annette pierce	Laurel hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>WRC ██████████</p> <p>I'm a recreational fisherman . We take our own boat out, not a charter. It's usually just me and my family. We don't take 20 people with us if I'm lucky and might get one flounder season. But I'm gonna be penalized if I'm lucky enough to catch two a day but it's OK for a commercial boat with its nets to go by me on the way back in to the docs and throw out everything that they don't want in their nets. Flounder that are too small but they're floating all sorts of fish. They don't have any that they should be required to take the whole net in but instead as a ride by Castle Beach lighthouse heading towards Southport they're going through the net being hauled in chucking out what they don't want to watch under size and it's already dead and the seagulls just pick them up. That's OK though don't crack individual fisherman until you take a hard look at that commercial, you should also look at how many out of state I'm not talking from South Carolina, Virginia from Texas or coming up here recently Oakland had a situation where pelicans were being found with one broke that same boat that was doing. It were going all the way down the coast down stop outside commercial boats come in take care of the boats and our local fisherman that are operating commercially . I don't mind having a limit on mine a little bit, but the little local fisherman with a ride to hooks even if he's got three rides is not hurting nearly as much as some of the commercials. And my family starting to a little bit more on what we're able to catch because I can't afford it in a grocery store and most of it is frozen and brought in from another state anyway so I've definitely not buy it and it's cheaper for me to catch it But don't penalize the recreational fisherman who goes out on a Saturday morning to do a little bit of fishing, especially if they have their license up-to-date</p>
860	James Davenport	Bath	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I don't see how this will help prevent over fishing or how it can be enforceable. When will and how will the reporting take place? If the NCDMF and WRC wish to do something to prevent over fishing, they should put enforcement officers on the water enforcing existing laws. I have been checked once in about three years and I fish about two days a week. More enforcement presence on the water will do more good than more data processors and fish counters. I am willing to comply with what ever laws are implemented but this does not make sense.</p>

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861	Lonnie Foreman	Winterville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I don't mind reporting my harvest but I would recommend making the process as simple as possible.
862	John Benson	Salvo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Mandatory reporting of recreational catches of fish is the dumbest and most ridiculous thing I have ever heard of. You should be ashamed to even consider such a requirement.
863	Christopher Presnell	Climax	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The proposed rule for reporting fish that we catch is a nonsensical rule. The small amount of fish that I catch each year has no real impact on the environment in comparison to the commercial fishing vessels that are netting right off the shore. The last time I went fishing at Cape Lookout we fished all day and caught one red drum, but we had a commercial fishing boat netting so close to the shore that we could see the fishermen on board throwing excessive amounts of dead fish over the side of the boat. So you are out of your mind if you think that the few fish we catch makes any kinda difference compared to commercial fishermen.
864	john twiggs	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting limits on residential fishing: At out all the years I've been fishing at the coast, I have never been able to max out the legal creel limit on any of the fish that be you have reported a change to as of the coming December(except for red drum, and that was one). All I know is over the years, the daily creel has decreased and the size of flounder has increased for residential license, while neighboring states have not!! I'm sure South Carolina and Virginia has a comparable number of recreational fishermen, but no change to their regulations! Maybe we should look at what other states are doing to sustain the fishing population in our state, because I'm sure the fish aren't swimming around us!! I personally feel politics and money has a lot to do with this!!!! I don't fathom the commercial fishing rules, because it goes down a rabbit hole while trying to read them, but maybe they need to be looked at more closely, especially the use of gill nets, and reporting catches! I can see my day of coastal fishing coming to the end, and non existent for my grand children!! Respectfully Submitted, John Twiggs
865	Randy Cruse	connelly springs	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Only the honest fishers are affected by more bureaucratic red tape. We no longer fish NC coastal waters because of regulations that are over the top. VA, SC, GA, and FL have enforceable and fair regulations that make sense...fishers respect...and abide by.

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866	Dennis DeLong	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We the individual angler 100% disagree with with all the overreach and your proposal. You are pushing the private angler out and in no way regulating the commercial fishing industry enough. We are starting a forum that if you push these absurd regulations we will stop supporting local and marine recreational fishing which will in turn destroy local and coastal tourism . Your regulations are already pushing us to fish in other states like VA. and SC. Stop the overreach and fix what you are screwing up for local recreational fishing and hold commercial fishing more accountable.
867	Scott Pritchard	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Ridiculous idea. Instead of requiring me to tell someone I caught a legal sized drum for my dinner, how about our coastal fisheries be managed properly? Other states seem to be doing a good job of that. And get the politics the h*ll out of it!!
868	Mark Jones	Easley	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Completely unreasonable to require recreational fishermen to complete a harvest report on these fish.
869	Doug Hink	Cary	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Not providing thorough reasons for creating this registering of caught fish is not enough justification for such action for NC fishermen without first giving said a opportunity to vote on it. This new law is ridiculous and adds extra pressure on law abiding nc fisherman. NC waters are hammered by out of state commercial fishing and there are no measures to monitor by catch or over all catch. We used to have a great fishery here in NC. Let's take care of what we have by not letting outside commercial fleets fish our waters, and put more monitoring systems in place for our NC commercial fishing businesses. If it means less fish at the restaurants, so be it! Our waters are being destroyed by the commercial industry. Protect the by catch for a period of time to enable the bycatch to mature and reproduce as the gulf states have done. We can all enjoy fishing, if all parties participate. It won't work if you eliminate/pressure the regular non commercial fishing guys who spends thousands of dollars annually. This rule is not smart and should be tabled. Just look at what Washington is doing to our country. If you know the law is wrong, we have the obligation to make it right. Thank you, and God bless
870	William Kelly	Lilburn	Georgia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have been coming to North Carolina to fish for flounder twice a year for 54 straight years. Each trip is from One to two weeks. I caught the North Carolina state record flounder (13 lbs 6 ounces) for the 1991 season. Now I cannot even keep one flounder for neither trip because my grandchildren who always come with me are in school in September. I know that the restaurants and all other vacation businesses are suffering because of the present regulations. I would propose a one flounder limit for no more than one week each trip would be a reasonable option for out of state visitors. My North Carolina fishing license number is [REDACTED].

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871	Ron Binetti	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is over regulation, you are going to need a legal degree to comply with all your changing rules, just keep it simple. Fishing is supposed to be fun.
872	Matthew A Veberes	Merritt	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More regulations great! Thanks for making fishing Unenjoyable. If your goal is to make it illegal to fish you are doing a good job. Recreational fishing pumps almost \$2 billion into North Carolina's economy on an annual basis, according to reports issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the American Sportfishing Association. Reporting at docking adds to an already busy time(How about 24hrs to report). Good luck getting a fisherman to give accurate locations. Fisherman rarely share especially with the Government.
873	Peter pecori	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is idiotic. One more hoop to jump through for anglers.
874	Dominic Bianco	Catharpin	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Mandatory harvest reporting. I think this is absurd. You spent 5 million dollars on a program that already exists nationally. That you yourself say it's still the best way to obtain the data needed. There are already too many rules and regulations. Fishing is supposed to be a relaxing, enjoyable sport. There are many people in NC under the poverty level. And you guys waist 5 million dollars. I doubt anyone will report their catch. Possibly you could get charter captains to report and commercial fisherman. But no way recreational fisherman.
875	Richard Bender	Clover	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Does or will this cover catch and release? How will tourists be able to participate?
876	Ronnie Allen	Lumberton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We already have too many rules and regulations in place. Nobody wants extra work when out to relax by fishing. Just leave us alone.
877	Thomas Cimino	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Reporting for commercial and recreational is a reasonable request. I've done reporting for hunting for many years. The real issue with harvesting fish is allowing commercial fishing in inshore waters where juvenile fish are generated. Florida is a great example of how good fisheries can become when commercial overharvesting of nurseries is prevented.
878	Kenneth Broadwell	Knightdale	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I realize the DMF is just trying to obtain accurate data with which to justify their fishery management actions. I do have to ask anyone that reads this to name one DMF success story. I know this current action was initiated by the DMF and they talked to lawmakers into passing the law without input from to public. So I am against this mainly for that reason. Also...

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						<p>1. Older commercial fishermen (over 65) should not be made to do this because they are way behind technically and likely still own rotary land lines at home and one flip phone they share with a spouse.</p> <p>2. Out of state vacationers will struggle with this.</p> <p>3. People under the age of 16 should not be required to report ANY fish they catch.</p>
879	Scott Shonhor	Daleville	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	stupidest thing I have ever heard of !!!!!
880	Jeff Parsons	Mechanicsville	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The regulations are out of control, its as if you do not want us to fish (I am starting to believe thats the goal). 5 million for a reporting system that is not needed for recreational fishing in particular. Could be spent elsewhere.
881	John Mark Tollefsrud	Richlands	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am 68 years old born and raised in Richlands, I have owned a boat and sometimes as many as three boats at one time since I was 8 years old. I don't know why you include stripers in this "you want let us keep one" , only one gray trout, one red drum, four speckled trout, and maybe two weeks in the year a flounder. You could learn a lot from SC regulations. No trawls in inland water. Maybe we could keep a bucket of blueback herring. You do know i was on the Chowan River three years ago and from Tunis to the sound every bank was being washed by herring,stripers are becoming a nuisance, blue fish are also plentiful, trout are plentiful. I own a small business in town, deal with hundreds of people a day and opinion DMF is very low, you could relax your regulations instead of making ridiculous regulations. I have to quote 'Forest Gump' on your new rule, ARE YOU STUPID OR SOMETHING
882	Howard Brad Tetterton	WINTERVILLE	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I think it could be a little inconvenient but it would provide more data on how many people are catching and keeping fish and how many fish in total are being harvested. Some recreational guys go almost everyday. Me myself I may go 4 or 5 times a year and keep fish.
883	Barry Thomas	Oriental	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
884	Tyler webb	Tobaccoville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe the rule Session Law 2023-137 is yet another overreach of government. The requirement to report harvest is yet another way to try and catch law abiding citizens in a loop hole to gain tax revenue by the way of fines. I believe the need to report will also give unnecessary power to law enforcement to do more searches of private individuals. Its also a gateway to having to buy harvest tags for fish just like other game species. The issue lies with commercial boats netting further off

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						the coast, not the weekend fisherman whose on vacation and fishes the coast two weekends out of the calendar year.
885	Art collier	Rural hall	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Get the trawlers out of our sounds so that the fish numbers can increase. The fish populations cannot stand the by catch pressure
886	N Toler	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The use of state funds to further regulate the recreational fishing industry is a crying shame to see. The majority of us are weekend warriors and don't need another hurdle to jump through in trying to enjoy the 1 or 2 days a week we get to fish. This 5 million dollars could be used much better by the division of water quality to do something about the nearly weekly raw sewer spills in Slocum creek or the hog waste run off that happened in Grifton this past week. Why are we more concerned about new regulations due to population numbers instead of water quality which is the main issue with population numbers.
887	Buck Harrison	Cedar Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think it is a terrible idea. It is just another way to to money from writing fishing violations
888	Clegg byerly	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	How many cam you have
889	Mark Willis	Garner	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is just more ridiculous overburdening of people trying to fish and enjoy themselves. Yall keep reducing the fish that you can catch to start with and now this ridiculous crap. Keep this crap out of our outdoor enjoyment or you will continue to lose our young people from wanting to participate in the outdoors!
890	Gary Ridley	Whitsett	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Mandatory reporting recreational harvests seems like a ridiculous idea. Surely the Department of Wildlife Resources and the State of NC in general can find a better use for \$5 Million. If this is implemented I suggest that we change the name from "recreational fishing" because it is taking the fun out of fishing and turning it into a chore. This is the worst idea I have heard of in a long time.
891	Gordon R Sumerlin	Belhaven	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Session law 2023-137, do not support and should never happen. You are destroying the commercial fishermen's ability to provide as these rules subject them to too many unnecessary bureaucratic rules and the recreational fishermen can no longer enjoy time on the water without

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						fear of getting a citation because of the encyclopedia of rules and regulations already in place. Thank you for any consideration as to my response.
892	James Edward McGlinn	Asheville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Good idea to keep track of harvests. Should help to manage the fisheries.
893	Denise Zangara	Burgaw	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Enough with the Nazi BS.. we arent california.. we the people are going to start voting you guys out of office and get some people with common sense in.. I don't purchase fishing licenses for myself and my family so that we need to report what we catch.. it's absolutely ridiculous and will lead not only myself but hundreds of other people who finish will stop buying licenses.. once we ban together it's going to be over.. the commercial and recreational fisherman need to vote all of you out...
894	BARBARA BANKOVICH	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I understand the need for conversation. With the rules changing, we don't know from one day to the next what we can and cannot keep.
895	Rob Bobinski	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Enough is enough. The ocean, fishing and the ability to help feed one self has way too much regulation already. This is just another way to extract money from residents, increase government control over citizens and restrict basic human rights to food. The rules are already far too restrictive for the average person.
896	ron parr	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	simply put.....have you lost your minds....absolutely stupid Which of you educated Raleigh folks came up with such an insane idea
897	Barry	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is government over reach. The recreation angler does not pose a threat to the fish. It's the commercial netting and the killing of by product. The rules are already so strict that recreation anglers are extremely lucky if they can even catch a fish in the slots. It has already almost become impossible to surf fish in NC due to the rude tourist who visit the beaches and walk right through our lines or complain that we are attracting sharks. When are we going to catch a break?? We aren't, because when it comes down to it certain groups pushing agendas are 100% against outdoor sportsmen. TO MUCH GOVERNMENT CONTROL ALREADY!
898	Ron Moore	Chocowinity	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Waste of time. Marine fisheries spends time at many of the launch sites in this area and should have a good idea of what is happening. I don't believe you will get the response you hope for since I believe a huge number of folks will just return to their dock and not call you. There a way too many decisions based on political strength of affluent rec fisherman and not science.

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899	JACK IPOCK	WASHINGTON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	THIS IS CRAZY TO HAVE TO REPORT FISH YOU CATCH
900	Hodge Jordan	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>While I agree with collecting data to help calculate the number of fish mortality it appears unenforceable. While the information recreational fishermen will comply. The uninformed will not.</p> <p>The commercial fishermen (shrimpers) absolutely will not comply truthfully. I realize I am making a general assumption. All you would have to do is follow a shrimper and see the massive discarded dead fish it is in the thousands. How would you ever know unless you had observers on each vessel who counted them.</p> <p>Integrity is at the heart of this issue. I am sorry but having seen so many unscrupulous actors I can't imagine they would tell the truth.</p> <p>On the recreational side I would want no only to know what they kept but how many they caught and how many they released. Along with the release how many they thought would die.</p> <p>I know I have killed red drum both above and below the slot limit unintentionally. No matter how much I tried to revive them.</p> <p>In summary I would gladly support this rule if in forced. I just have my doubts about the ethics, and integrity of so many commercial fisherman and some recreational fishermen as well.</p>
901	MATTHEW WHITAKER	Carthage	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How do you expect people to record their catch to a web-based system if they are fishing in remote areas. We fish Cape Lookout and there is little to no internet available. We camp for 5 days at a time so we technically would be breaking the law by not recording within 24 hours even if there is no possible way to record the catch. If you want the data for harvest, send out surveys or have employees checking fishermen. It's not the recreation fisherman's job to do your research.
902	Al Asby	Battleboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Requiring mandatory reporting of fish harvesting is another over reach of government. You have rules in place now to govern fishing. If you want to provide protection for future generations find a way to streamline regulations and prevent confusion between inland and coastal applications. Find a way to increase the number of field officers and increase their salaries/benefits to retain qualified employees. I support common sense limits to protect all wildlife and marine conservation. Your field officers and related professionals are the backbone of conservation.
903	Ron Baran	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I think this is a great proposal! If everyone sticks to it, then the true numbers will come forth. This way everyone knows that some fisheries, flounder and striper restrictions are not needed.

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904	Barbara Thomas Seamster	PROVIDENCE	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	<p>I am writing to add comments to the required reporting of fish for commercial and recreational fishing in NC. As a NC resident that enjoys hunting and fishing for over 4 decades I want to expose the real detrimental issue to the fish population along our coastline. I fish the hard way, packing gear and traveling across state to spend money on motels, bait and piers to fish. I use the basic rod and reel and follow creel limits and regulations.</p> <p>My feedback comes from a documented encounter with pictures (how to attach I am not sure? can I send you please advise) on Nov. 17, 2020. I have attempted to report this issue a couple of times but gotten no interest. While surf fishing at Nags Head, NC a Dory boat being pulled by a truck proceeds to launch their boat into the surf and totally encircle the one spot we were rod fishing with their gill nets. I had not caught anything that evening, but they must have thought it was a good spot to launch on top of us, the only people surf fishing for a half mile. Needless to say our surf fishing was over for the day.</p> <p>The next morning after sunrise the trucks appear and hauls in the gill nets. My pictures that show the wanton WASTE of Hundreds of fish species that are included in your research. They toss the few keepers to the left and leave the rest on right for the incoming tide to wash out and the gulls. I was SHOCKED and Horrified at the total destruction of the resource. I was thinking if I could only have caught one to eat and here are hundreds being wasted. Yet I am under a strict creel and size limit? Commercial fisherman using gill nets are destroying the resource. Any vessel using nets are allowed to purge the entire area of All that it ingulfs. Why aren't there limits and regulations on nets waste, there should be? Why is this being done and no tracking of fish waste? There was no fisheries agent on site that morning, so you will never know the impact.</p> <p>I would like some consideration of increased restrictions on commercial fisherman (or anyone) using nets and gill nets. This is one instance of HUNDREDS like it that happens all along our coastline and out at sea. How many fish are wasted in shrimp nets and otherwise - how do you know? You are pissing in the wind to ask a recreational fisherman to report their harvest. I had caught zero that day. Will net fisherman count their waste truthfully? doubtful</p> <p>I am a very concerned recreational fisher person that wants more attention spent of helping the resource from commercial destruction. I understand powerful people make a living selling fish, but they are ultimately hurting the very commodity they rely on for a living.</p> <p>Thank you, Barbara Seamster Providence, NC</p>
905	Charles Stancil	Whiteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Undecided	<p>What about people who has no internet service and/or knows how to use it. I know it's hard to believe but not everyone has access to the internet</p>

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				Harvest Reporting		
906	Larry Grsdy	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have had enough of your regulations .I am 63 and have lived in nc my entire life.I can't keep anything to eat except a croaker.Im selling my house and moving to South Carolina and all my fishing aquatences feel the same way.I bet the commercial fisherman in North Carolina all have freezers full of everything you are regulating for their personal use.
907	sacqjuae	barvania	Virgin Islands	Both rules	Against	yoy screwing up the world
908	Phillip Fox	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't see how this reg can be managed, enforced, audited, or in any way practical, gather truthful, complete, accurate, or in any other way truly sufficient data to make useful decisions about the fishery since there is no way to ensure all harvests are reported both honestly, and accurately. I guess I don't fully understand the purpose of the reg, especially since there are official regulations governing harvesting, in particular species that are "unlawful to possess".
909	Dale	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I cannot believe this rule. This is absolutely the dumbest rule that I've ever heard. Who are you idiots who propose something like this. I cannot believe how the criminal commissions get away with this. Oh yeah, because they're corrupt. Go figure. I've said my peace. You dumb corrupt will be remembered and hope every one of you and everyone in the state legislature who voted for this rule get voted out as soon as possible. We will make all the names public and make sure it is known throughout the state.
910	Shaun	Surf City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Y'all are freaking on a major power trip. This is more absurd than the mullet ban and the recreational flounder season. I'm not reporting s*** to you b*****.
911	William E Preast Jr	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Re: Sports and Commercial Harvest Reporting Rule I am totally against your proposed "collection of catch data" on every fishing trip. This data will be misrepresented and twisted just like all data collection in the past. There is no shortage of fish stock in NC except in your mind. I served on the Fin Fish Committee several years ago. At that time you reduced the Drum catch to one (1) fish with a promise that the limit would be reversed after two (2) years to allow the large females to increase in number. We know how that worked out. It's always the same, you only know how to take and never give back. What we need is good common sense with size and limits by people who know instead of those behind a desk who think they know. A whole lot less of Marine Fisheries would be a good start.

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						William E Preast Jr [REDACTED]
912	Roderick Hedrick	Lexington y	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I can't believe you are even considering making it mandatory to register these fish in North Carolina!
913	Brady roberts	Warsaw	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
914	NB Ward	Williamston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It will be a failure, though the Commission will never admit it. Liberals cannot successfully micro-manage the public on this issue without killing the sport of recreational fishing. Or maybe that's the goal. Like most things that just don't make sense, follow the money trail. It will be on the commercial side of the equation.
915	Kevin Martin	Snow Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	No just let people fish and stop trying to tell people what to do
916	alan r murray	morehead city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Use the funds and manpower to start restocking program. More fish, more revenue, more jobs. Does this work for trout in the mountain streams?
917	Connie Mercer	Elizabeth City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The rule would impact coastal and inland fishing by imposing undue burdens for reporting on a uniformed general public. This does not seem to be a conservation measure but another loophole for creating revenue.
918	John Conner	Wilmington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The new rules for recreational fishermen are utterly ridiculous especially when the fish stock damage is coming from commercial fishermen catching and killing over hundreds of fish per boat versus a single fisherman keeping one fish per person. So why in the h*** would we have to report our ONE fish; we shouldn't have to, it's not even one percent as detrimental as a commercial boat. Not only that, commercial fishermen have a lower size and slot limit allowing

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						them to keep smaller fish while recreational fishermen have a higher limit. Any recreational fisherman following the rules wouldn't be able to keep much of anything within a year so why bother? It's not like it's astronomical data per the fish count that will have to be reported.
919	Quin Diinne	Harkers Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	As a recreational fisherwoman and NC tax payer, I do not want to report the minute number of fish I catch. Often, I'm fishing from my kayak and writing down, calling in or filling out an online form with my phone while trying to catch a fish, deal with the equipment and be safe on the water, is not something I want to do. Once I return from my fishing trip, I am then dealing with equipment, hopefully cleaning some fish and then cleaning my boat. I again do not want to have to call, fill out an online form or do any kind of fish reporting. I follow all the fishing guidelines and regulations and usually only keep 1 fish for dinner. This should not have to be reported. The definition of recreational is "an activity done for enjoyment when one is not working". We already can't fish for flounder, except for 10 of 365 days a year and sometimes the weather isn't even conducive to fishing in those 10 days. You have established the regulations for slots and number of fish that I, as well as most recreational anglers adhere to. I completely disagree with the proposal that recreational fishermen have to report their catch. Please help keep fishing in NC fun. Thank you, Quin Dionne
920	Jamie Worthington	Ayden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Every year it gets more and more expensive to hunt/fish buy license. I used to enjoy trout fishing even tho the creel limit was lowered. Now we have to report catching a fish. To much control and this is a joke. Makes me never want to go fishing again!!! Thank You NCWRC!!! You make the one thing in my life enjoyable miserable as well!!!
921	Dwain Dart	Camden	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am ashamed of the agencies and rule makers. Commercially yall have devistated families and their lively hoods making it impossible to earn a living because of fictatcious data, and now you want to make recreational fishing a chore instead of fun. Its bad enough we cant keep a big drum when one pier can catch 30 to 40 a night.
922	David W Menius	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	If we had a complete ban on gill nets we would not be having this conversation. Ban netting period.
923	Joseph Edwards	RALEIGH	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am 68 years old and have been an avid sportsman both hunting and fishing in North Carolina all my life. The idea of having to report fish catches is the most ridiculous overreach I have ever thought possible. Stop this totally Orwellian idea from becoming a law.

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						Enforcement of size and bag limits has already become so intense that most fishermen I know have completely gone to catch and release. Already far too many rules.
924	Ann Rose	Havelock	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is creating bureaucracy and spending \$5M tax dollars to destroy an important hobby and livelihood in the state, and penalize everyone for the actions of a few. Also, it is a complete LIE that it is temporary. Nothing government does is temporary. I live on the Neuse and fish there. If you are concerned that I am going to take fish I should not, then beef up your Wildlife officers and fine the people that are not following the rules. If this is passed, I will give up my license (which is your revenue) and find a hobby that does not involve the state looking over my shoulder the entire time.
925	STUART Forrest FIELDS	Carthage	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	unreasonable requirement. should be voluntary if any. enforcement though limits. release of data will put undue pressure on productive locations and habitats.
926	dale simmons	washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
927	Mike Yesunas	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This policy is lacking some important elements; 1. Educating the public and soliciting enthusiasm and support for the policy, 2. The ability to gauge if reporting is factual or complete, 3. The ability to reasonably enforce the rule since the resources to ensure compliance are very small, and self-reporting is only sporadic at best. We all want a sustainable fishery, but the "solutions" over the past years of ever changing rules that only make the public more skeptical and resistant of the Marine Fisheries Commission. Policy makers should find ways to ensure the public is educated and brought on board to understand and support its benefits to all parties.
928	Gregory Holland	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	This reporting requirement will make already congested launch ramps even more congested as boats sit at the docks while the anglers fill out their report card. "If fishing from a boat, this is when the fish reach the shore/dock." This increase in congestion will also impact recreational boaters trying to use the same ramps.
929	James	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Are these rules also going to be applied to the shrimp trolley that kills thousands of fish a day in bycatch? Or are we just making it more difficult for the recreational guy? A harvest report card isn't going to do a lot of good until you realize the damage that the commercial fisherman cause.

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930	Howard J Tucker	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>In my opinion, this seems to be a tremendous waste of tax payer dollars. From the public perspective have any surveys been made of license holding fisher people to ask if they would participate or thought that this program was a good idea? I cannot think of a single fishing buddy that would embrace the thought of some type of reporting of their catch. If I take 3 others on my boat for a fun day on the water and we each catch our limit of speckled trout and red drum am I responsible for reporting as the boat owner or should my last words of the day to them be "Y'all make sure to login and report your catch first thing when you get home"?</p> <p>The other side of the coin is the logistical nightmare that this will create. My first guess is that about 50% of us good & law abiding citizens will participate. That leaves a huge amount of room for statistical error. Some will not know to report, some will not have the means to report (computer or smartphone) and others will simply ignore or just flat refuse to report. Based on my experiences in the past, things like this usually result in a reduction in the already low creel limits that we are already dealing with.</p> <p>My advice is to hire more law enforcement that can better enforce the current rules rather than trying to impose a cumbersome process that will have highly questionable data results.</p> <p>If it's about the dollars in ticket money that this will bring in my suggestion is to better enforce the no wake rule in the turning basin as that would probably generate millions of \$\$\$.</p>
931	Matthew Turpin	Havelock	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Commercial fishing interests have claimed every recreational fishing license holder catches their full limit of fish every day and they are depleting the fishery. I believe the vast majority of recreational fishermen catch much less and reporting will help prove this. I also believe commercial fishermen do not care one bit about preserving the resource and only care about short term profit. Inshore shrimp trawling, gill netting, and greed destroying the fishery. A thriving recreational fishery would employ more people and benefit the state more than a few legacy fishermen who only get to commercial fish because their parents did.
932	Charles Meacham	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is absolutely ridiculous !
933	C. Bolton H. Boney	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	First of all, no one believes the reporting rules are "temporary". Secondly, when are we required to make the report? While we are still fishing? When we get back to the dock?

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934	Jim Stokes	Avon	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	doesn't seem right to me.
935	Kris Mullenberg	Apex	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is unclear as to the reasoning behind the proposed new requirement to report harvests of this nature. Is there going to be a means of reporting such harvests through systems like the new NC Fish and Wildlife app on persons phones? Is it going to be a requirement to do so after the harvest through some online portal? Is there going to be a means for folks to do this same reporting through a mail in system (not everyone is on the internet, has a smart phone or other technical means to self report).
936	Tyler	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe that this new rule will put an undue burden upon both Wildlife Enforcement and the angler. Many recreational fishermen, especially near Camp Lejeune, are disabled Veterans who use fishing as therapy. To ask them to remember to report that they harvested a fish is a burden. Suppose the fisherman does not report the harvest. How will it be enforced? Would you ask enforcement officers to go door to door to see if carcasses are present for these particular fish? The whole idea just seems absurd. Next, we will have to purchase fish tags and tag our fish before putting them in a cooler. Having a harvest limit is sufficient enough. It's bad enough that commercial fishermen have ruined flounder fishing for recreational fishermen in NC. While I understand that protecting the resources is paramount, fishermen should not be required to report their harvest unless they are fishing for profit ie charters, and boat owners who are fishing with multiple people who are harvesting much fish during trips
937	Rosemary Foster	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	GS 113-170.3 (d) As a frequent visitor to Cape Lookout, I will attest that frequently my phone is not able to get the signal that will be necessary to report recreational harvests at the end of the day. Additionally, visits to Cape Lookout, a barrier island, last for several days to a week. If this reporting is mandatory there needs to be a way to accomplish this without requiring daily reporting, i.e. upon return to the mainland.
938	Michael Edney	Hendersonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I oppose the rule to require non-commercial reporting. I can only fish for flounder 2 weeks a year. I have to plan my trip to the coast in this very narrow window. If I'm lucky I will keep 2 flounder. Commercial fishermen can keep up to 2000 lbs. While not reporting threatens me with a fine for my 2 fish I hope the data will show that commercial (big money) fishing is, the real threat to certain species.
939	WALTER JAY WHELESS	MANTEO	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Yet again, just another regulatory, bureaucratically misguided, burden on the end user. I guess 100 people needed jobs in Raleigh so "let's impose a burden" and then, two years from now, "let's increase license fees to support the 100 jobs we didn't need to create." You folks always find a way to make every aspect of lives some sort of regulatory compliance exercise. If you fine bureaucrats in Raleigh want to do something productive, then outlaw running dogs

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						during turkey season. I've had more opening days and youth days destroyed by such abusive and trespassory activities than I can count. Do something to help rather than burdening us further.
940	Damon Whitaker	Trinity	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I feel this is MORE government overreach to have even more control over the general public. We have rules in place, if the politicians aren't happy with that, maybe they should require the field officers to do their job instead of forcing more laws on the general public to do the work for them. I guess it's just a bonus that it will generate more money for the state to squander on unnecessary political agendas. NC law's are already more strict than neighboring states, and now they want more control. STOP creating more work for me to simply go fishing. It won't be as easy as the politicians sitting in an office think it will be. It's easy to run your life on a computer/phone when you're sitting in an office... not so easy in the real world. Abandon this law! Stop forcing control onto tax paying citizens trying to enjoy a natural resource that you already have to much control over.
941	Dennis Alexander	Monroe	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The proposed rule changes. For harvest reporting on reds flounder trout etc.is the biggest bunch of bulls*** I have ever heard of we can't keep flounder anymore so no need for a law enforcement for harvest of them If I didn't already have a lifetime n.c sportsman license I wouldn't buy one we need to keep a app now to know what you keep and what days of the week you can fish for certain fish. The flounder laws for Recreational fisherman are are unfair probably half of flounder not caught by Commercial fisherman are caught in s.c waters where they can keep 5 a day year round I have reed where flounder were tagged in n.c and caught in Georgia I'm going to look into whom in Legislation are passing all these stupid a** laws they sure want get my vote I think me my friends and family will be buying s.c License
942	James G Wallace	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Less than 10% of the public who catch fish are not going to report what they catch! You have no way to police this proposal, so that means you will be making decisions based on incorrect data! The bottom line is that your commercial fisherman in this state, are not going to report even close to what they catch and then once again you are going to make decisions and put regulations in place based on incorrect data! Until you stop the shrimp trawlers dragging nets on the bottom of our inshore fisheries and KILLING everything they drag up our fisheries are DOOMED....
943	Joseph Outen	Lexington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The most "hare-brained" proposal I've ever read! The recreational fishermen have a very minimal impact on the fish harvested from the beaches! The rule proposers need to go out and fish every day for a week and get a first-hand reading of the impact the rec. fisherman have! You probably won't have enough for a meal for four! The commercial fishermen kill or throw away more in one day than a rec. fisherman will catch in a whole season if they fish every day! Unfortunately, most rec. fishermen can only fish 3-4 days the whole season!

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944	DOUG WYNNE	POWELLSVILLE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	IN REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSED REPORTING RULE FOR TROUT, FLOUNDER, STRIPED BASS IT IS A HARD NO FOR ME. NOT THAT THIS COMMENT IS GOING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. YOU KEEP TAKING EVERYTHING AWAY FROM US TO CATCH AND KEEP, YET MY LICENSE ARE NOT GETTING ANY CHEAPER. I KEEP SPENDING THE MONEY BUT CANT KEEP ANY FISH. THERE ARE PLENTY OF ALL THESE FISH THAT YOU ARE TRYING TO RESTRICT, AND PERSONALLY I AM NOT REPORTING ANYTHING JUST SO YOU CAN MAKE MORE RULES AND TAKE MORE FISH AWAY. I AM LUCKY IF I CAN FISH 1 DAY A WEEK AND FOR PEOPLE LIKE ME THAT DON'T GET TO GO OFTEN, IT REALLY SUCKS THAT I CANT KEEP HARDLY ANYTHING. IT AMAZING ME HOW SC AND VA HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THESE FISH BUT HERE IN NC THEY ARE ABOUT TO GO EXTINCT ACCORDING TO ALL THE DATA. SO LET ME BE CLEAR I WILL NOT REPORT 1 SINGLE FISH THAT I CATCH
945	Kirk Franklin	Morganton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's hard to imagine that recreational fishing is the issue here. I understand and see the need to regulate and monitor commercial fishing with quotas, shortened seasons or even closed seasons, but this is too much of a burden and feels really "clunky" at the recreational level. I mostly fish for saltwater fish in SC and that won't be changing soon.
946	KEM frink	Supply	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I just don't understand the current flounder Rules for NC I drive to CherryGrove SC TO flounder fish can you please help me with This same body of water
947	Patrick Wood	Chocowinity	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I feel all of reporting will have a positive impact, but how many of us will be honest in reporting?
948	KEVIN C WHITENER	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	why do I have to do your job for you no matter what is reported it will be used to restrict my right to harvest fish if I dont report any fish then it will be used to close the season if fish are reported it will be used as over harvesting and the season will be closed North Carolina needs to get the politics out of marine fisheries
949	Tim Gibson	Mooreville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't trust the marin fishiers, they will take the Total harvest and add it to the estimate rec. harvest, they have proven countless times they are pro commercial fishing, , also when they make a net that quits fishing when it catches it limit I will stop catch and release.
950	Wesley Deal	Granite Falls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fishermen should not be required to report fish harvests.

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951	Braxton tutor	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am speaking on the reporting of fish. On both sides this is completely unreasonable. You can't expect every fisherman regardless of commercial or recreational to report all fish kept. There is too many variables that go into this for example a live release after weighing the fish a local shop to get a citation do we have to report that if we get stoped by wildlife because we didn't kill the fish but we had it in our possession. We have kill limits and most of us follow them. This new proposal is simply not fair to our fishery.
952	Andrew strout	Burlington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
953	william walters	macclesfield nc	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	keep up the good work . not only will you drive people to sc and VA to fish but all the cost necessary to do this will just keep making the license fees go up. And we all know it's not temporary. did you take the time to count the smaller rock that died and were flouting down stream because of hook trauma, it may kill 3 or 4 to keep one, or to keep none now. and the flounder are even worst. I'm disappointed in the wildlife commission and div. of marine fisheries
954	Jon	Mt aity	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	In my opinion it's is crap another way for government to make money and not do leg work and take advantage of people's whom may be ignorant to some of the regulations but most importantly the daily limits and season already established should be enough just another way to make it harder on people
955	Shane Lee white	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I am for the implementation of this law, but it will make it tedious for you to report every single harvest of the fish that are in the law also for people who illegally harvest these species how will you force them to report the harvest in the first place? I understand keeping track of what is taken form the waters, but this will only effect fishermen who actually care.
956	Tim	Fairview	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	So, flounder have already been reduced to a two week period for "harvest" and now you want everyone to report what is harvested? Now trout are being "restricted" and require some kind of system to report a catch if it is kept? I think I'll start scheduling my vacations in South Carolina or somewhere else. Are you gonna require tags like used for deer or bear? I'm all for managing fisheries and natural resources but it seems NC has gone over the top. I don't see how this will make things better.
957	Caldwell Holbrook, Jr.	Albemarle	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I love to either go pier fishing or surf fishing along the NC coast. It looks to me like you are tryinf to stop sport fishing and commercial fishing along our coast. especially commercial. They are the ones that will suffer. You know that you do not have the equipment or man/women power too take care of all this reporting. It was/is rediculas to have put a band on mullet last year. Hopefully you learned from this. Fishermen are not going to enjoy spending time trying to report

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						a catch or catches on the species that are listed. Please consider other ways to invest the Commissions time and money. Thank you, Caldwell A. Holbrook
958	David	Sanford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	When does it stop??? Give the government an inch and they become a ruler. Do you even understand how much recreational fishermen and hunters contribute to wildlife? You're encouraging non-compliance by listening to the Eco Lobby.
959	Patrick Whitfield	Rocky Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If the already onerous rules around these fish species are not having the desired effect, then perhaps recreational fishing is not the problem. Many will call you stupid for even daring to propose this. You are not stupid, you will impose this rule despite overwhelming opposition, and this rule will have your desired two effects. More confrontations between law enforcement and law-abiding citizens, and driving taxpaying licensees off of public resources. You're not stupid. You're evil.
960	James Saintsing	Sparta	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	No more rules and regulations are needed to suppress hunting and fishing! Regulate the commercial fishing industry!
961	Stephen Wagner	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I'm fine with reporting the catch of the proposed fishes the only problem is that the recreational fisherman will probably report their harvest but there's no way the commercial fisherman will!!! We need to get a more accurate count of the fish being caught because estimating like in the past is not working!! We are the only state that has such a limit on red drum and flounder, at least the creel limit and 3 bluefish when it's been 15 for a long time. If someone would go out on a commercial boat (undercover) and get a count on what they're throwing back DEAD then you would understand why I say they would never report their real catch!! The commercial boats are running up the beach now and they're catching everything from the sandbar out and when they dump their bycatch they wash up on the beach!! Me and my wife saw it a couple years back and they were strowed up the beach for a long ways. Someone just posted on Facebook the other day asking why so many fish were dying and floating up on the beach! If we don't stop the netting in so close we're not going to have any fish left!! That's a fact!! I hope people wake up before it's too late!! I grew up fishing here and I've always loved it but the fishing has gotten worse the past 3 years. They refurbished the beach and made it more flat so most of the fish that used to come in close won't now and they stay at the sandbar where the netters are scooping them up! It's really frustrating to see what's going on but seems like no one else is!! Thanks

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962	DARREN MORRIS SAUNDERS	Hertford	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>For starters I feel like the DMF has inaccurately managed the fisheries in NC for years. they have not listened to the fishermen in the past (the ones on the water all the time that know what is out there) and now want to make MANDATORY reporting rules when I don't believe that that information will be accurately processed and will cause more restrictions on fishing in NC. They have not listened to us in the past why should this rule change anything. I used to enjoy fishing more when I could go out and catch a few fish to enjoy at the table. Now I through back more fish than I have ever ate. I have fished NC waters in and offshore for more than 40 years. Both Recreational and Commerical. I enjoy fishing for all species of fish, I understand the purpose for size and creel limits but most of the time it seems that when our fisheries are good, with good numbers of fish is when we are not allowed to keep any. It always seems that DMF has worked against the fishermen and not for them. All you have to do is ask a fisherman and they will tell you what they catch, instead you want to start issuing fees and taking fishing privileges if we don't report everything we do on the water. Soon you will not have anyone that wants to fish in NC in fear of breaking one of your numerous rules.</p> <p>For Example: The striped bass have been numerous all year long in the Albemarle Sound and have been for the last couple of years (I can go out there most anytime and catch a rock, January through December), we have only been given a short season with small creel limits or no season at all. I was told that they were not the wild rock fish but were the ones released and it was to protect the wild rock fish from being harvested. If that is the case than DMF should educate fishermen on the difference and allow the numerous released rock fish to be harvested. The Flounder are very numerous and yet the creel limit is low or none at all. I could go on and on about the drum, trout, herring, and others like tile fish offshore, but I am sure that you are tired of listing to me or have stopped reading altogether.</p> <p>I have always tried to help Wildlife Officers and Marine Fisheries Officers anyway that I can, I abide by the Law even when I disagree with it. My whole thing with this Law is HOW do YOU enforce it when most of it is catch and release. I would do my part to report my catches but can promise you that most fishermen will NOT and your numbers will be as wrong and inaccurate as they are now or worse. So, then you will be making LAWS from inaccurate information. How about the Marine Fisheries go out on the water and gather information by talking to fishermen on the water and fishing themselves?</p> <p>If you are still reading this THANKS, I just want everyone including myself to be able to enjoy Gods creations without have to take a notebook with us every time that we get a few hours to go fishing or worrying about what law will be made next to make our day on the water a little more stressful.</p>

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963	Marc Lozier	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>In my opinion, focusing on Non-Commercial (recreational fishing) mandatory harvest reporting is not the answer to observed declining fish populations. I would recommend focusing on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The vast, negative ecological effects of net fishing: Commercial Shrimp trawling, Saine; drift net, etc. These methods indiscriminately kill fish and wildlife. * Gigging. <p>Thank you for your time with this matter.</p> <p>Respectfully, Marc Lozier</p> <p>Email: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED]</p>
964	Wayne	Belhaven	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I don't have the entire picture yet. It's hard to leave comments when I don't know all the information, such as how I will have to report. As far as the harvest reporting law I am still undecided due to lack of all the information. Thanks
965	Lisa Owen	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Impossible to enforce the law with any sense of equality amongst recreational fishermen/women/children
966	Harry Hager	Atlanta	Georgia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a ridiculous burden on the recreational fishermen and does little to address the transgressions of commercial fishing. It is virtually unenforcable and a waste of taxpayers money. You will not get the compliance that you expect nor the conservaton you claim to want.
967	AVW	Efland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Re Law2023-137</p> <p>Just another senseless regulation to incentivize people to plan their vacations in SC. Stop inland shrimp trolling instead!</p> <p>Rule :“recreational fishermen will be required to report harvests of red drum, flounder, spotted seatrout (speckled trout), striped bass and weakfish (gray trout), to the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, or DMF”</p>

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968	Mark Guess	Claremont	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	What idiot thinks a man with a pole impacts flounder fishing. They migrate and no other state does this stupid crap. Want to help the fish population then regulate the nets of commercial fishing. Those 6" flounder in the stores are the ones that need it. Pitiful but lobbyists paying you off.
969	Bob Hooven	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Harvest reporting is burdensome and unnecessary. Periodic Harvest checks , by the DMF, at various landings and piers would provide the necessary information required to determine laws.
970	Robert Keyser	Moyock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Needing to report a fish harvest by the time you get back to the dock is ridiculous requirement. This will be used to write so many tickets and add one more tax to a recreational fisherman's enjoyment of the outdoors. If NC is trying to end outdoor sports like fishing, they are on the right path. There are already laws for enforcement on seasons and sizes and numbers a fisherman can catch and keep. This new regulation is just more of the same wasting money on extra enforcement for existing regulations. What if the State police required mandatory reporting of speed traveled for each trip one drives on the interstate as soon as one returns home each day? This is the same thing in my viewpoint. Wasted money and resources The State should ask for help from fishermen for info if that is what they are looking for. Adding more ways to make a day on the water less enjoyable is not going to help the state or the sportsman. Regulations like this is what is going to eventually kill any new generations of sportsman no one wants or needs more government in their recreational time.
971	Stafford Taylor	Hertford	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Before government officials, marine scientists, and statisticians implement these reporting laws they should FIRST personally whiteness all the bycatch of shrimp trawls discarded and floating belly up after every drag. Here you will find your biggest culprit of declining fish stocks in North Carolina. Have that reported too...
972	Johnathan R. Hughes	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	No where in the Constitution of the United States of America does it say that the governing bodies have in fact rights to monitor fishing/ harvesting of the general population at all. This is unconstitutional. There is no jurisdiction for these empty words
973	James Carrick	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel the inherent inaccuracy, overhead and cost of such a proposal does not justify it. Other existing methods of monitoring fish species populations have shown over many years to be effective in setting appropriate seasons and daily limits and thus maintaining healthy fish populations.
974	Jay Bair	Coinjock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	

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				Harvest Reporting		
975	Lydia McKeel	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There are still fishermen who don't have a smartphone, printer or daily access to internet outside of work. This requirement puts undo pressure on those individuals to find a way to stay within the requirement. I could be wrong, but I wonder if this will put permanent limits on the harvesting of fish listed. This has happened with herring and nothing has changed in nearly 25 years. We were told the moratorium would be for 10 years. Instead of focusing on individual non-commercial fishermen, please look at the damage that gill nets are doing in NC. Why are still allowing this when other states around us have outlawed it?
976	Janice Fletcher	Hendersonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm 62 years old it's already to the point you can't take your kids or grandkids up to a river to have quality time with out rules changing on a daily basis. And it's not for the fishes good and more in Transylvania and Henderson you have fishing guides to our area and taking up all the fishing areas while pushing out the locals who pay taxes and keep these rivers and streams up I realize we have to preserve our trout and all fish but it's has gotten ridiculous. Anyone who knows fish knows once a fish shallows a hook of any kind they normally die the same with touching them. I always go by the rules but some of these are just crazy and takes away from quality time with the local families.
977	Randy Hanner	Kernersville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	My wife and I head to the coast two times a year in the spring and fall to fish for Red Drum and Flounder with rod and reel. She and I are native Tarheels been fishing a long time at the coast. This new reporting law is the final nail in the coffin for all of the rule changes the recreational fishermen have had to endure. We won't be renewing our licenses when this new law takes effect. The State of NC has taken all of the pleasure out of fishing.
978	John W Williams	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule would make fishing very burdensome, it's one think to report a big game harvest but this rule would be very challenging to people wanting to fish and enjoy themselves. I am citing the mandatory reporting rule.
979	Todd Davis	Cliamx	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This will create extra work for those who may not be familiar with the electronic side of reporting. Also putting them against the regulations more frequently when they only fish periodically to begin with. Seems as though we want to regulate everything the recreational fisherman is doing now days while that is a small portion of the fishing as a whole. Looks like we would review/reduce the commercial harvesting and reduce those numbers first as they greater impact the fishery as they fish daily. Most recreational anglers are lucky to fish a few days a month. I think it would be far better to see size increase limits rather than continuing to regulate numbers and seasons for what the departments have done recently.

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						Not a fan of what I have seen lately from these two departments and regulations made against the fishing community here lately.
980	Paul Wright	Charlotte	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Our inshore fishery has been devastated by the continued legality of gill net fishing. It is horrific that we are the only state that allows it. These proposed rules while helpful really dont put a dent in the problem. Outlaw inshore gill nets immediately. Put a thoughtful slot on speckled trout and flounder. Narrow the slot on red drum by establishing the upper slot at 24" NC geographically should draw world class destination fishing and all the associated economic benefits. Act now on gill nets
981	David M. Sedgwick	RALEIGH	North Carolina	Both rules	For	You guys gotta do SOMETHING to address the decline in fish populations! Do something, even if it's not perfect. Keep an eye on it. Make it better over time. Have a goal. You guys gotta be responsible.
982	Emily Smith	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We can already only get 1 flounder per person and the season is so short. Please don't make us do one more thing. It's like NC doesn't want anybody to enjoy flounder gigging. It's literally the best time of year for me and this is just one more stab in the back (first 2 stabs are the # of fish and the ridiculously short season).
983	Davis Canady	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I am writing to vehemently express my opposition to the proposed regulation requiring the reporting of every flounder caught. As a recreational flounder gigger in North Carolina, I find this additional mandate not only unnecessary but also deeply frustrating.</p> <p>We, as anglers, have already adapted to increasingly restrictive limits on our catch and the shortened fishing seasons. These regulations have been challenging, yet we have complied for the sake of conservation. However, imposing yet another burdensome requirement feels unfair and punitive. This new regulation threatens to sap the joy out of recreational fishing and seems like an overreach that will not significantly impact the conservation efforts already in place.</p> <p>Please reconsider this proposed regulation and seek alternatives that do not unfairly penalize recreational fishermen who are already doing their part.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p>
984	Jeff West	Harkers Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>15A NCAC 10C .0218</p> <p>Section (c) Individuals using a Division-issued report card shall report the information electronically at https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries by midnight the day after harvest is complete.</p>

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						<p>This is impractical for fishermen who are on multi-day trips where internet connectivity is poor. If you are on a week-long 4x4 trip at Cape Lookout, this does not work. Connectivity is poor in numerous areas. Even cell phone service is not always reliable. And frankly, I do not have a smart phone...almost dictates that I have to get one.</p> <p>Section (d) An individual shall not remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of the fish to render it impractical to identify, count, or measure while fishing or afield and until harvest has been recorded or reported.</p> <p>If I can't report it because I don't have connectivity, I can't fix a fish for a meal when I am in the field is what this seems to say.</p> <p>This regulation places an additional burden on older, less technologically aware fishermen who are honest and try to do things right. Pretty easy if you are going home or staying at a nice hotel...and you brought your computer along. That is not how I have ever been able to fish.</p>
985	Tim Gray	Mcleansville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Confusing rules and why is it that the recreational fishermen have to pay for the commissions bumbling mismanagement and incompetence.</p> <p>Makes me want to stop fishing and supporting the economies of the coast.</p> <p>Do the shrimp trawlers have to report their by-catch of these fish every day?</p>
986	Douglas R Elliott	OCEAN ISLE BEACH	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>A few background comments first. I have been a recreational angler for 50+ years now beginning as a boy. I consider myself a pragmatic conservationist who believes in following logic, statistics, and facts over politics and greed. Fisheries must be protected so the people of NC are afforded the pleasures of the outdoors and the opportunity to raise our youth to enjoy and appreciate Mother Nature. I hold fishing licenses in five states and have seen fisheries destroyed in NY and watched them be saved in Mississippi and Louisiana. The latter was accomplished without destroying economies and in many ways has created sustainable jobs as the fishery became sustainable. The conversation and balance of commercial vs recreational harvest is different for each species thereby allowing for different conservation methods to be applied. The use of each harvested species differs as well. One size does not fit all</p> <p>I have read the Flounder fisheries document and this new proposal as well. I am a retired fortune 500 Exec with three degrees and I cannot come to any logical conclusion as to the rationale of recent and proposed actions. Peripheral information heard through grapevines add to the confusion.</p> <p>A law must meet certain hurdles including;</p>

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						<p>1. Protecting the common good 2. Enforceable 3. No negative impact to a citizen's rights</p> <p>Wrt the proposal to monitor take; it is not clear to me what the true end game is and the methodology is just plain flawed. Let us look at the data to likely be created;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I "catch and release" 99% of fish caught and I catch more than most other recreational anglers. Data never seen. • Obviously, there is the 75-85% of anglers who just will not comply. Data never seen. • There are significant numbers of people who are technology challenged or have no access to electronic communications. Data never seen. • I am certain there is a longer list with worst outcomes on the commercial side. • In ten years, I have had one DNR enforcement visit and I am on the water 1-4 days per week almost year-round. Never see them around launches. Evening or night, you have a better chance of having dinner with Ben Franklin and Abe Lincoln tonight. There is little to no enforcement today but now you are going to ask them to monitor and report on potential harvests? • I regularly put fish in the live well and release later for a host of righteous reasons. Witnessing a take does not mean a harvest. Good luck with that in court. <p>So were down to obviously harvested fish brought onto land. Fish that an angler believes might have been recorded by a DNR officer. Please read above again.</p> <p>So, let us recap and summarize;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data; statistically and numerically useless. 2. Enforceability; not enforceable and will be so small it will be statistically useless. One can see the court challenges already. 3. Requires what could be perceived as an onerous task on a citizen. Up to hours for each day of "relaxation". 4. History tells us that any law creating Government jobs is ever temporary or repealed. Please do not lie to the citizenry of NC. <p>The law proposal does not pass muster for any of the three above hurdles: common good, enforceability, impact to citizens.</p> <p>If you desire to make the fishery sustainable. Stop the gill netting and inshore drag netting. Small job loss, minimal economy impact, and huge conservation gains.</p>

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						Douglas Elliott
987	Hubert Hamilton	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I have previously submitted a brief comment that I would be okay with the reporting if the department can provide an easy to use app to submit the required information. Upon further reflection, I want to add a suggestion that might encourage anglers to use the software and increase compliance. If you can make the reporting software/app useful to the anglers you are much more likely to get cooperation. For instance, give the angler easy access to a record of all the fish he or she has reported, including species, length, date, etc. Such a system could be very useful to the angler if you also include optional information that he or she can use when planning to fish again, such as location, time of day, tides, wind conditions and so forth. A detailed log of fish caught can be very helpful. I keep a log by taking photos and occasionally adding notes. An easy to use, easy to access record of fish caught would be great, particularly if you allow us to include additional optional data about tides, wind, etc. and give us access to our own catch records.
988	William C Meacham	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am for Commercial Harvest Reporting, but not Non-Commercial reporting. Even if the non-commercial passes, more time needs to be allowed to report. I really don't think recreational fishermen are hurting the stocks. It is the trawling in the sounds that is hurting some of the stocks you target. You need to be focused on that versus hitting the recreational fisherman. I'm part of the drum tagging volunteers and want nothing more than to protect the stocks, but your proposed rules are missing the mark
989	Donald Stillwell	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Dear Sir or Madam, I have bought a fishing license in NC since the early 90's. My son has a Life Time Sportsman License. I do not complain that the fees continue to go up. We abide by the rules and I have taught him to catch and release. We can't keep a flounder. We can't keep a rockfish. We can keep 1 drum and the rules are so stringent on trout we just let em all go. Do you want to know why we don't have a boat? Because of these rules! Its not about the gas, or the license or the registrations. Why does SC, GA, VA, NJ, FL, AL and TX not have moratoriums on fishing for these same species. The answer is quite simple. TRAWLERS DON'T DECIMATE THE INLAND FISHERIES TRYING TO CATCH A SHRIMP. We all know the reason but we continue to see the Pamlico and Albemarle dragged to catch a shrimp and the bycatch just thrown over the side. I hope and pray the trawler have to fill out the paperwork. I understand the history of the waterman but their practices are no longer sustainable. Pay the trawlers out like we did with the Tobacco Farmer. Leave the estuaries alone for two years and than tighten up the regs. We did that at our

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						Deer Hunting Club and the wildlife rebounded with-in two years. Mother Nature will always find a way if you give it a chance. The Agency is asking a lot of the general public. I would rather just have my licnse fee go up 35 dollars than have to report every time I get a bite. The State of the State of Fishing NC is sad.
990	Terry Neal	Granite Falls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Temporary government rules rarely are temporary. Once the millions of dollars are approved for a program, they will have to be maintained for the additional people hired for the positions. These people will not be wanting a temporary government job. Many people will have to be hired to enforce the reporting. Many times I have heard that the park services and wildlife enforcement officers are under staffed. They are unable to catch the folks that break the creel limits already in place.How will you educate new fishermen who don't know what a weak fish is? This law may have good intentions but will prove to be unenforceable. It will no way be temporary. I would not take a state job short term. I seriously doubt there will be time to read all the negative comments sent in concerning this short sighted regulation.
991	Patricia Piland	Belhaven	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	No amount of restrictions or monitoring will help the fish pollutions until you address the real issues, which are development, habitat destruction including inland trawling, farm runoff of chemicals, residential runoff and loss of natural shorelines. People still use fishing for sustenance and many will find these forms impossible to use. We have many illiterate citizens in NC. Using counts at fishing tournaments and large events is reasonable. This is ridiculous!
992	Darin Farmer	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	For	While I am generally “for” this proposal as any amount of data is useful in making future decisions. I did have a few comments/questions. On commercial, is “by catch not sold, dead etc” accounted for in what they record? On residential, while yes people will disregard, it should be possible to extrapolate what’s not recorded etc from the data over time based on what enforcement you can do. The question is if the 5 million can’t be used for enforcement, what is it designate for with this specific rule change. I can’t imagine data analysis costs that much.
993	CHIP CULLER	WINSTON SALEM	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have 2 questions. First, have any of the legislators that passed this rule ever stood on the beach or a riverbank and fished? Second, were the wildlife resource officers involved or consulted about this prior to the enactment by politicos? They will be the face of enforcement. Thanks.
994	Chris Shockley	Winchester	Indiana	Both rules	For	I have fished in several states. While in Oregon in 1984. I reported voluntarily, fish caught . For obvious reasons of conservation. And proud to be part of it.
995	Michael benton	Mint hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why are the marine fisheries trying to make it so hard on the recreational fisherman? That they do not even want to go fishing anymore!

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996	Joan Kennedy	Surf City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Will folks who rent our beach house need to fill out a form for their fish????
997	Johnny A Hill	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Minor convenience for the intended longterm benefits.
998	Richard Magee	Sunset Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Play silly games win stupid prizes. You can't expect people to pay for license and never get to harvest even enough for 1 meal for a family. God gave us domain over the animals and fish. Not government officials.
999	Duke Geraghty	Manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	And for those who dock their boat at their home are you going to be waiting in their yards for them. This is a ridiculous rule. Recreational fishing should be just that, recreation and I have no intention of filling oout paperwork. I do enough of that on my job. I haven't spoken to anyone yet who thinks this is a good idea except my senator. How many more employees are you going to need to hire. Five million to implement this stupid program??? Give us a break and leave us alone.
1000	Don Gilbert	Connelly Springs	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The rule on non-commercial harvest reporting,is a joke,because recreational fisherman are just out there to catch a couple to eat or just have fun fishing.Ya,ll want to make it hard for someone to relax and have fun.Now having a season on flounder and 1 per a day,it's not worth fishing for that fish.Yall are wanting to cater to the commercial fisherman.
1001	Dan George	Winnabow	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against recreational harvest reporting because I don't think the participation will happen, thus making the data collected worthless.
1002	Jesse A Oxendine	Lumberton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	15A NCAC 10C .0218 Harvest Reporting Requirements - This needs to be voluntary. When the boat ramp is full, anglers and boaters are doing their best to get out of each others way so the next person can launch or recover. We cannot be expected to do the unpaid job of a wildlife biologist while we are trying to relax and have fun. This law we deter many people from fishing which will hurt the economy that is driven by inshore fishing.
1003	Russell Choate	Glade Valley	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I do not believe that the data collected will be accurate enough to serve any real purpose for making management decisions. I am convinced that anyone possessing an illegal fish is not going

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				Harvest Reporting		to report it. It is already driving (no pun intended) many recreational fisherman like myself to SC for vacation, where the limits are less restrictive.
1004	Mae L Davis	Bath	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe these proposed changes will just go by the wayside with fishermen. You are telling them that if they go to the creek to catch a fish to eat, that they have to report it first. Trust me, many people do still catch fish to eat during this high price inflation and I doubt seriously they are going to take the time to report it if they know they have their fishing licenses and are following the existing laws of size. You can overburden a system when you have too much regulation and that is what I see is happening here. To many regulations for anyone to try to keep straight. Money is at the head of this with the grant of 5 million: but if you want your recreational and your commercial fishing industry to die, the sure fired way to do it is too much regulation. Consider the people that still depend on these fish to feed their families. You may not think there are many, but there are many indeed, and not all go to buy the fish; they catch it. This is my opinion on your new regulation proposal. I hope you receive many more like mine.
1005	Dan DiCicco	Willow Spring	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>You want us to do your job for you? Why?</p> <p>We caught polluters dumping experimental PFOS's in the Cape Fear and then, more or less, you let them walk. You did the same for Duke's coal ash? You've let the 20 year building boom devastate the coastline and increase pollution. You're reducing and closing some seasons completely. You keep increasing length limits and reducing catch limits. And if you took the warning over a decade ago and quit catering to commercial fishing interests this wouldn't be an issue.</p> <p>You make it next to impossible for an angler to bring back table fare after spending \$100+ on a trip to the coast. Recreational anglers are already the red headed step children in NC. Now you want to give us with warnings, threats of suspension, and fines for not doing your job? Let me think about that? "NO". Last straw. Make all the foolish laws you want. I won't be renewing my coastal license. I'll give SC my license & tourist money. A state that knows how to protect coastal game species from commercial greed.</p> <p>You didn't need a law to get anglers to help? All you had to do was implement an incentive program for us to volunteer at the ramps with clip boards and surveys. You took the low road instead.</p>
1006	Steve Taylor	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	This is a crazy idea to make a recreational angler report the 1 grey trout that he is allowed to keep . And we can't keep flounder any way so why put this in ? This is just another way to hurt a man

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				Harvest Reporting		who wants to catch dinner . Stop allowing nets and numbers will return . I have been fishing at our coast for over 50 years and this is the worst idea ever .
1007	Michael Lombardi	Bolivia	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe we already have too many regulations and oversight. Fishing is mostly a recreational activity, in which adding MORE rules takes away for the fun and FREEDOM of such.
1008	Steve Proctor	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am very much against the requirement to report in this proposed rule. It would cause undue hardships on the recreational fisherman and the enforcement would be nearly impossible. There are already creel limits imposed on all these species and under the new rule if I keep one specked trout and forget to repost I am subject to a fine? No thank you.
1009	Mick Brown	Bogue	North Carolina	Both rules	For	This reporting will enable better species management and regulations based on more scientific data.
1010	Scotty pierce	Salter Path	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I vote no to fish reporting for both commercial and recreational.
1011	Nelson Wiggins	Angier	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	When is enough enough? I think you have done enough with the size limits and creel limits on practically every species of fish recreational fisherman would like to keep. I have not been able to keep any of the fish you have listed in twenty years due to your regulations. It appears that you merely want to deter recreational fishing on our coast altogether. Terrible idea.
1012	john s bell	lillington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	WHY IN VIGINIA and south carolia they don,t have same rules and thats because they are not in bed with legistlators and commercial fishrmen.commercial can kill all the fish they and thats ok .hope and prey the next governer fires all 19 of you wildlife people and you are a embarssment to this country
1013	DOUGLAS C BLEDSO	wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	seems to me you don;t have any idea how to police the fisheries... You throw something out to see what sticks.....get your sh.....together
1014	Allen Hegarty	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I have always been catch and release recreational fisherman. Additionally I have raised my children now adults that way and they respect our environment. I adhere to the rules for fishing but to be honest these restrictions are really becoming ridiculous. Flounder season which used to be open all year long is barely open for one month each year with a recreational limit of 1 per day total length of 15". We used to be able to a few for dinner while fishing. Red Drum bag limit one per day open most of the year. slot is 18"-17" total length. The limits and open season on some of these fish like flounder for recreational fishermen seem to me to be getting a little ridiculous in my opinion. Is this really necessary?
1015	Kent Barefoot	Dunn	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	The continued restrictions on Red Drum and Flounder has caused many fishermen like myself to limit fishing for these two soecies. Before the prior restrictions came into play (short season and

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				Harvest Reporting		1 fish limit) I would make 10-15 trips a year just to fish for Red Drum and flounder. In the last 4 years only 1 trip per year. The Marine Fisheries says that the flounder populations are depleted however in the years of 2021- 2023 on a single fishing trip I was catching as many as 30-40 Flounder and Ref Drum a day on the only trip I made all year . It just stands to reason that with the continued restrictions that more fishermen like myself will give up fishing for these two species all together and stop buying a saltwater recreational fishing license resulting not only in revenue loss for the Marine Fisheries but revenue loss in those areas being fished .
1016	James Emerson Ashburn	Waldorf	Maryland	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is harassing the honest general public. It does nothing to address poaching or/an overfishing by those with bad intentions.
1017	Barry Gardner	Youngsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Making it tougher to enjoy the outdoors. Commercial fishermen should be required. However, the novice fishermen should not. You can take statistics from large catches.
1018	Clyde Deaton	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reference 15A NCAC 10C.0218. You are punishing the recreational fisherman who takes his 1 week vacation from work to go to beach with family and occasionally wet a hook. He buys his temporary licence and is teaching his kids how to fish just like his father did for him. He's already got to keep up with what's in season, the size limits and what number he's allowed to keep and now he'll have to fill out a form online of what fish he or his kids caught. How do you tell a 12 year old that, #1- "you can't keep as it's not in season", #2 "you can't keep because it's to big or to small", #3 - "you can't keep the second fish because of fish limit rules". I think you guys would be better served by concentrating on the commercial guys rather than the recreational guy. Have you forgotten the once a year recreational fisherman on his family vacation? I buy fresh fish occasionally from local fish market as I live close to coast. He admitted that he shipped 6 tons of flounder to New York the week before. I have hard time rationalizing why I can only catch 1 per day during a 4 week or less season and have to keep up with the season, the size, the type of the catch and now you want me to fill out form and report the 1 fish I was allowed to keep? Please rethink this and other rules. Remember the kids learning how to fish..
1019	Jerry Beasley	Jackson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just when you think nc fishing regulations can not get anymore ridiculous you all come up with this.More government overreach.

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1020	Ken savage	Kill devil hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1021	David H Pethtal	Alcolu	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It seems like the recreational fisherman is being put in a place where like I am catching more fish than that of the commercial fishermen, the commercial fishermen are the ones that are depleting the fish population and they should be required to record All their catches. If this law takes effect my family and I will no longer take outer banks beach vacations and will vacation at one of our own freshwater lakes where we don't have to abide by this BULLS*** LAW !!!!!
1022	Eddie White	Sherrills Ford	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm opposed to any reporting of daily catch of any of the fish listed in Section 6.(a). G.S. 113-170. Presently there are creel limits on all of these. Why would anyone with any brain function at all believe that a daily report by the person fishing would give an accurate count of fish caught and kept? As for the commercial fishermen I don't know anything about their rules or laws. I can't understand how they can keep an accurate count of their catch or bycatch every day. The whole idea of all of this makes absolutely no sense to me. Thank you, Eddie White
1023	Norris McConnell	Mount Ulla	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Well here we go again... You took our founder fishing away for us Fall fisherman... You charge us to drive on Our Own Beach (North Carolina tax payer)... and now you want us to report what we catch. How many of those fish caught up in the creeks, off piers, do you think will get reported? But yet we Visitors get the blunt of this new regulation. Well at least I have a year to enjoy my Surf Fishing without this.
1024	david stout	Asheboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am 78 years old and do not have a smart phone !!! I think that having to report game fish caught every day is a form of harassment by the fish and game people . You have Rangers on the Islands let them report !!!! Dumb rule:::
1025	Walter Scheffe	Cedar Island	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Any increase in non-commercial harvesting restrictions must coincide with the elimination of the requirement of the possession of a salt water fishing license.
1026	Jeff	Hendersonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	Why does North Carolina want there nose in everything? I tried to read up on this in your email but your telling me I have to take time out of my day to buy a license pay for my boat registry pay

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				Harvest Reporting		taxes for the fuel to put in my boat pay for a tag for my boat trailer.... An now I have to call an report a flounder like I just killed a 180inch buck.. 🤖 what you should do is figure out how to make kayakers/bicyclist pay permits to use the state's property's like us fisherman an hunters have to it's not fair yall worry about putting more fish in the ocean will worry about catching them
1027	mike Teachey	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I would be in favor of this as long as there is compliance /participation from the commercial fishers. As with all things related to our coastal fishing regs, be it size, limits, or closures the burden will fall on recreational fisherman. Don't believe the commercial guys would ever agree to this and/or report accurately.
1028	Ira VanBuskirk	Wilson	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I feel these rules and regulations will hurt our economy because people will stop fishing. I think it is an inconvenience to sportfishermen and commercial. I think it is a slap in the face to recreational fishermen who feed their families. The time required to report the catch is unreasonable. I feel it will hurt North Carolina's fishing industries.
1029	Bryan Daugherty	Cedar point	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I believe us fishermen are regulated enough.
1030	Orlando Brown	Creedmoor	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	These proposed harvest reporting rules are absolutley ridiculous. So basically, the North Carolina Wildlife Commission wants to punish the average everyday non-commerical or recreational fishermen. In my opinion the problem is, and has always been the commercial fishermen. I get it! NC Wildlife doesn't have a plan, or has never had a plan or personnel in place to check and verify the different types and amounts of fish caught on commercial vessels. They catch everything under the sun, moon and stars, NC Wildlife and the average recreational fisherman knows this. We have a flounder season, but for myself, living in the RDU, It isn't worth the hassle to drive to the coast. Surely, commercial fishing vessels are catching more flounders that the recreational guy, right? I don't think they're selling their catches to restaurants and taking on losses at the same time with fuel prices so high and paying the crew. I think there has to be a better way to implement rules changes to the fishing industry without hurting people like me. It seems like you guys are missing the point and making the commercial fishermen and the charters the only option. I hope you all can come up with something better than the proposed changes.
1031	Andrew Cherry	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	15A NCAC 03I .0124 Part (a) provides perhaps the cleanest definition I've seen of "harvest". That this definition is uniform across both statutes is welcome, though I wonder whether a separate statute defining "harvest" and referenced by these statutes would be cleaner. Part (b) of this statute does not read clearly, however, making it difficult to parse the deadline for reporting, especially when Sundays or federal holidays are involved. Additionally, the statute does not enumerate who is responsible for providing the report cards or managing the web

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						<p>interface. What happens if the site is overrun with web traffic and rendered inoperable? What happens if the URL changes? Who supplies the report cards? Is there available reference material on the report card for species identification to assist visiting or junior anglers? Are the classifications of tackle used by the division going to be printed on the report card? Are there any exceptions or allowances for subsistence fishing? Are there third party locations for picking up report cards (eg, tackle shops)? How are the report cards submitted, directly to the agency or via mail? If returned by mail, does the card need to arrive by the deadline, or will a postmark within the required timeframe be considered in compliance?</p> <p>Some of these questions appear unanswered; others may benefit from a clearer structuring of the rule or its subparts.</p>
1032	Kent Barefoot	Dunn	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Issue flounder tags to every person who buys a recreational saltwater license. If the daily creel limit is one fish per day then issue 14 tags that can be used one per day anytime during the license year instead of just during a 14 day season. This would increase opportunity for the licensee and also take the heavy fishing pressure off during the two week season. Once a fish is tagged then you could report the catch prior to cleaning the fish or within 24 hours if in a remote area with no internet service.
1033	Matthew Jones	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm against it because u should not have to report every fiah I catch. License and fuel is already to high, so I should be able to catch a fish of legal size with out having to report it.
1034	TRAVIS M BARFIELD	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	It is difficult for me to form an opinion when I do not know all of the facts! Simply stating that we will have to report the catch to a governmental authority without stating what the Reporting Method will be is absurd! Considering the fact that it is now law, it really does not matter whether we are for, or against, the requirement! This is the kind of approach the Fishing Public has learned to expect from your agency!
1035	Patrick Butler	Nashville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The recreational fishery has been devastated by commercial entities and this is obvious to everyone that has seen it. However, the state government can't comprehend this for some reason. Greedy commercial entities have ruined the fishery. Inland trawling must be ended if there is to be anything left for future generations to enjoy. Commercial "by-catch" alone is deplorable. I have fished the Roanoke river since the 70s and personally witnessed the herring vanish and now the rockfish season is closed because their ain't hardly any left. I am sick and tired of commercial entities that blame recreational fisherman for what they have caused and the government backs this ruse. NO MORE reporting burden or otherwise additional restrictions should be imposed on recreational outdoorsmen. Recreational outdoorsmen are being punished continuously by disproportionate rules already. Stop excessively burdening outdoorsmen. I have a lifetime CRFL,

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						yet have not kept a salt water fish in years because fishing at the coast in NC sucks. I can imagine at some point taking a grandchild to fish at the coast and by some miracle catching a fish they want to keep, but being ticketed because I forgot to "report the d*** fish". What's next, would you like us to issue a set of tags for us to use like it's some sort of "big game" baloney? Perhaps some more scare tactics like fish with COVID, PFAS contamination, high mercury, or climate change sea level rise will run off the last person with a cane pole. Take a look at what lead us to this! It was not the once in a blue moon recreational fisherman like me. H***, I can't even afford the gas to drive to the d*** coast now or even buy groceries! Obviously it is the day in day out constant commercial fisheries killing tons and tons of fish for money. Commercial fisheries have the funding to bully the little guy and you guys are allowing it because you are scared of them and their big money! One day perhaps someone will stand up for the little guy! Sad that it has degenerated to this lowly situation.
1036	Jared Snell	Plymouth	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Non-commercial harvest reporting is not needed. Most recreational fisherman are honest people following the current marine fisheries regulations. Those who choose to break the law by keeping illegal fish will continue to do so, regardless of what laws you make. This is just one more obstacle you are putting out there for an honest fisherman to have to deal with. I honestly believe that me leaving this comment is a waste of time anyway, because your mines are already made up.
1037	Charles Askew	Stokes	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	1) Rarely are any NCWRC/NCDFM restrictions temporary. In my 53 years on planet earth, I can't remember any changes being temporary. (Restrictions on herring, stripped bass and most recently flounder) They may lift them, but often bring them back when they "deem it necessary". If I recall correctly, the stripped bass and herring restrictions were enacted in the 90s as a fix. Here we are 30 years later and they are still in place. Either they haven't worked for sustaining & growing these populations or we the people are getting lied to. Either way, something has to change. 2) If there actually is a problem, recreational fisherman are not the reason. Why are we allowing trawlers in our sounds and mouths of the rivers? These are the estuaries where life begins and occurs for a lot of juvenile fish. I am on the Neuse River/Pamlico Sound about every other weekend in the summer and I see numerous (too many to count) trawlers out there & many of them from out of state. This needs to stop but I doubt it will as long as the commercial industry lobbyist exist.
1038	Ben Beagle	Belhaven	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe these rule changes (non-commercial harvest reporting) to be another overreach on behalf of our government. Citizens holding valid licenses and complying with the myriad of regulations already present should not need to bother with reporting recreational fish catches. The rule will likely only serve to encourage unlawful fishing by recreational anglers.

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1039	Jeremy Penny	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are so many rules and regs that it's making the sport no fun. I follow the rules and abide by the law. But it's becoming that everything done recreational is becoming work. Why would younger generations be interested? Spend more time and money on educating the 'why' behind all of this and help the general population understand.
1040	Josh Kennedy	Snow Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I understand we need to be good stewards of our waters but when I follow trawlers and they have miles of dead fish floating (by catch) something isn't right. Those boats need to stay out of estuaries. It's not the weekend angler that is hurting the so called population.
1041	Danny Ollis	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	When will you do something to stop Netting Boats from using their nets inside 3 miles where so many fish species have their nurseries. They even Trawl in the inland waterway areas. I have witnessed many times shrimp trawler boat workers shoveling large coal shovels of dead fry fish of almost every species with thousands and thousands discarded as a waste product of their operations. We the recreational fishermen will likely not catch in several years what they destroy and discard with each shovel full. Stop netting the nurseries. Recreational fishermen are not where the problem is.
1042	John	Asheville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is about one of the craziest things I have ever heard of for recreational fisherman. There have been many times I have been fishing and have not had cell service on the Outer Banks. You have commercial trawlers destroying fish and their habitat, but you want to know if John Q Public has caught 1 slot red drum at 10:39am? NC Coastal fishing is going down the tubes and has changed drastically over the past 25 plus years. More regulations upon regulations aimed at the recreational fisherman, and soon others like me will be spend money in neighboring states. That also means future generations will be fishing out of state too.
1043	Kenneth Montgomery	Riner	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Everyone knows that the shrimpers are destroying the fish beds. They line up staggered and sweep back and forth. You all are in bed with them, acting like you need more information, bs!!!!
1044	John Heubi	Fredericksburg	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Between the slot limits and short seasons and now we have to report what we catch. How much harder you going to make this. You have made fishing so hard that you need to be a lawyer to desern between what is legal and what isn't now.
1045	Jeff Cooper	Asheboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am strongly opposed to any further regulation being imposed on the recreational sportsman of this state. Reading through the legislation I have yet to find the reasoning behind this new law. I would like someone to explain this sentence to me. "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FURTHER REGULATORY RELIEF

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						TO THE CITIZENS OF NORTH CAROLINA". How is implementing another law in any way REGULATORY RELIEF for the recreational fishermen of this state? With the creel limits and season already in place this new MANDATORY REQUIREMENT is only going to affect the honest sportsman and the ones that disregard the rules now will continue to do so. I personally think the Division of Marine Fisheries and the Wildlife Resources Commission could make better use of the \$5 million dollars allocated for this project given the limited amount of information you will obtain from the very few fishermen that are likely to take part in this Harvest Reporting Program. Thank you for the opportunity to let the sportsman of the state voice their opinion and hopefully these commits do not fall on deaf ears.
1046	Robert W Edwards Jr	Iron Station	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this is just totally uncalled for for anyone to have to report any legally caught fish in North Carolina waters for recreational fisherman who only get to the coast a couple times a year!
1047	John	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against this for non-commercial harvest reporting as leisure fisherman following and abiding by the law do not need additional regulation enforced upon them. This feels more like another revenue generator for North Carolina and NC Wildlife, who are making it more difficult for recreational hunter and fishers to enjoy their sport and discourages others to want to learn how to partake in the sport. I am pro Commercial Harvest Reporting as they have a much greater impact on fisheries than civilian leisure fishing. This is another governmental overreach that burdens the public more than it "states" to protect.
1048	Josef Himes	Emerald isle	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	In regards to Session law 223-137, I believe that mandatory reporting electronically of fish is something that is not feasible for recreational, or commercial fishing will not be able to be enforced properly, do to the vast numbers of fishermen alone.
1049	Gregory D Hunt	WAKE FOREST	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You want to fix the fishery... stop gill netting inshore! Might look at Florida... What the sportsmen keep isnt up for your counting you set the bag limits we follow it. You seem to prefer to run off hook and line fishermen, and only let commercial fishermen keep fish so they can pay you for their quota. Yall better take a step back you dont control Gods people.

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1050	Dan Hodnett	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too onerous to report non-commercial catch.
1051	John Tollefsrud	Richlands	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	By doing this you are turning the public against you even more than they already are. Also your speckled trout population will be low next year because of the big bluefish population in the estuaries this year. Your fault again with the regulations on bluefish. You try to make things better I think but all you do is make things worst
1052	Michael Henson	Sylva	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Instead of the fishermen having to report all their catches, how about you hire more people to ask the boat when it comes in and document it yourself and stop punishing people for doing what they enjoy.... Fishing. Tell the people in Raleigh if they want to know, get off their leather chairs and get down to the coast and do it themselves.
1053	Wilson	McGraw	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Reporting could be done via an app just like big game harvest is done through Wildlife Commision GoOutdoorsNC app Update the app and use the same one. Punishment should increase during the phased approach if someone receives multiple verbal or written warning in a single year. 2 warnings in a year should be enough. This information should be published almost real time and be used for fisheries management decision to save our resource so it's here for the future.
1054	Rory Adams	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Commercial fisherman have been making it hard on us recreational fisherman, especially as relates to flounder, for years. I agree they should have to report their commercial harvest. And I don't think I would mind reporting my recreational catch. But how do you enforce it? Do you really think when a fisherman gets on the fish they are going to stop after every catch to report it? How will that work?
1055	Susan McGrath	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My comments are restricted to the portion of the proposed rules applicable to recreational anglers. • Neither the State nor the Commission have described the purpose of the proposed rules, and how the data collected would benefit conservation. The need for and effectiveness of the proposed rules have not been demonstrated. • Neither the State nor the Commission have demonstrated that the benefits of the proposed rules (which have not been articulated) will exceed their cost in terms of angler time, taxpayer dollars spent on implementation and enforcement, and diversion of Commission efforts and resources from its other missions.

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed rules are not clear as to when use of a Commission-issued reporting form and delayed reporting is acceptable. The Commission’s FAQs accompanying the proposed rules seem to suggest that delayed reporting (up to midnight of the following day) is only acceptable when the angler does not have internet access upon return to the dock or the termination of fishing from the shore. The Commission must clarify whether delayed reporting hinges on internet access. • Any immediate reporting requirement would be burdensome and impractical. After a long day fishing, there is often a lot to do – perhaps trailering the boat, washing it down, and cleaning the fish. Some may have a long drive home. At a minimum, a 24-hour reporting window post-harvest would be far less onerous for the angler and would not have any effect on the Commission’s data collection. • The requirement to download and print, pre-trip, a Commission-issued reporting form for delayed reporting serves no purpose but to aggravate the angler and make recreational fishing more difficult. There is no reason that the angler should not be permitted to record the details of the harvest on his or her own piece of paper prior to submitting the information online. • Finally, for many anglers, recreational fishing used to be a way to take a needed break from work and the administrative responsibilities of modern life, such as bill-paying, tax reporting, and other paperwork – often a way to connect with family and friends in the great outdoors. While most anglers are deeply concerned about the environment and the health of our fisheries, in addition to the annual licensing requirement, adequate mastery of the ever-changing restrictions on harvesting different species already takes considerable time and effort and has become so complicated that it is difficult for even the most well-intentioned not to make mistakes. The proposed rules represent an additional layer of administration heaped on an already burdened recreational angler without an articulated benefit.
1056	Barry Parks	Walkertown	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Dear DEQ, Marine Fisheries, and NCWRC,</p> <p>After reading the GS on Harvesting Reporting of the finfish listed, I find it sad that our costal fishing is so unregulated, poorly enforced, and being totally depleted that no wants to go fishing at our coast anymore. The problem is and will always be our commercial industry killing more fish in a month that recreational fisherman kill in a year. I chartered a trip in Manteo for 1/2 day shrimping and crabbing in the sound we bagged, 5, 16# ice bags of juvenile spot, croaker, red drum, and pin fish. We killed another bag of flounder, and weakfish that the crew discarded for sea gull food. One half a day trip with 3 tows of reduced size shrimp net hundreds of fish that will never mature to catching size. Now multiple that number by 5,000 because we were one of three trips that day and the crew had six days of that scheduled that week and their all many other boats doing the same thing! We are killing our estuaries for many generations by the commercial fisherman!</p>

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						Now back to this ridiculous GS that is supposed to make a difference in the catching and reporting and management of our coastal raping. Yes, we need reporting for management, but you will need 100 more marine officers and 20 more NCWRC officers to patrol and check the coastal areas effectively. Why have these regulations, and any for that matter, when you don't have the enforcement to the rules? It is not stated how the reporting is to be handled. Does the recreational report the harvest at the end of the day or at point of harvest. At point of harvest will complicate the procedure and open the door to unwarranted warnings and tickets and push more recreationalists from fishing. The commercials will not care about a \$35 ticket. With the way they kill and discard in the water, the quality of the fishery will continue to decline in that non-commercials will not be able to catch any of the fish listed to need to report them. My suggestion is to stop all shrimping, trawling in sounds and within a 2 miles from shore. I would send this bill back to increase the fine for commercials to \$500 per ticket. I would stop the NC commercials from leasing their commercial license to out- of- state commercials. Why do you allow this? I know the commercials give you a sob story about they are trying to make a living and feed their family, but so did the buffalo and passenger pigeon hunters until they put themselves out of business. Real, lasting change is not with the recreational fisherman reporting 1 flounder, 2 drum, 2 weakfish when they go to the coast once a year with their family. Real change is stopping the commercials from kill a thousand fish per day in the name of business. Look what is being done in other states, VA, FL, SC. Our state has the biggest and best estuaries in north America, yet we allow the worst, unenforced fishing practices in the country. We can do better or we can do without?
1057	Carl e mosher	JACKSONVILLE	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Our God and Creator is in control of the waters of north Carolina. Government is trying to make it about restrictions, rules.so they can collect more money from hard working people just trying to put a little food on the table.put your limits on the fish and check what being caught at the dock . just feels like it already cost to much to go fishing something I have done my entire life ☐
1058	Stephen	Morehead city	North Carolina	Both rules	For	For the future of good fishn
1059	Al Adam	Bath/Salvo	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	From: Al Adam, President North Carolina Beach Buggy Association To: NC Department of Marine Fisheries, NC Wildlife Resources Comm. Ref: House Bill 600, Sec 6.(a), Phased in mandatory Commercial & Recreational Reporting of Certain Fisheries Part of the mission of NCBBA is to respect and help protect our resources including the fishery that most of our nearly 4000 members enjoy. We participate in various conservation efforts, and partner with other associations with similar values and goals. As recreational fishing is one of the

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						<p>main activities of our members we're pleased to see that there is an effort to obtain additional pertinent data to improve the accuracy of current collection methods and provide the additional information necessary to apply informed management policies to protect our fish stocks. However, the approach taken by your plan is ill founded and doomed to fail. As many have commented prior to me the additional work placed on an already understaffed enforcement division is not only unfair to those tasked with checking fishermen to see that the reporting is complete and accurate but burdensome to the degree that many feel it is harassment of your customers. The questions and challenges are too many to detail however I believe you have a viable option to collect readily available catch information that will be accurate and can be provided on a regular basis.</p> <p>Fishing tournaments take place in NC from March through November and the catch information is maintained and accurate by judges and tournament officials as required since prizes are involved. I cannot speak for other tournaments but I believe that we are not the only ones who would be happy to provide that information IF it would relieve our participants from doing so while participating. The likelihood that an angler in a competitive situation will stop to record any individual catch is almost laughable. The 3-4 tournaments that I am involved with annually all have judges recording the catches so anglers may continue to fish.</p> <p>Tournament counts would provide you with accurate information without requiring complicated and costly efforts on part of your agencies and include a regular and consistent data collection timeline through various stages of migrations and spawning periods. We urge you to consider this option as it will not only give you better information but do so at a greatly reduced expense and workload for your staff while at the same time removing the burden from your customers. It's a win-win situation.</p> <p>As for requiring more reporting from our commercial fishermen, already whom consider themselves overregulated, you could employ enforcement or other personnel to make periodic observers following patterns that would provide assure consistent collection and verification of the targeted species. The idea that our struggling commercial fishermen are going to spend a day or more on the water, return to the dock, process their catch and spend additional time completing paperwork is a lot to ask of a group that is already under tremendous pressure to keep their businesses afloat! Statisticians use regularly gathered data points to determine trends without the need to evaluate and collate every single detail or incident in order to determine accurate outcomes,</p> <p>I hope you consider these proposals to make the data collection smarter and better rather than more difficult and less likely to succeed. I'm available to meet and discuss at your convenience.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p>

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						Al Adam [REDACTED]
1060	Aimie Roberson	Williamston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1061	Mark Richie	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a huge overreach to require recreational people fishing to report their catches. By and large people follow the rulers and the additional information will not be much better than the current system. NC already has differing regulations than other states that are hard to explain. Learn how to do a good job by serving the citizens instead of burdening them.
1062	Robert L. Smith	Colerain	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I do not understand how requiring fishermen to report how many fish they catch from the ocean or bays will help. Seems like just another way to use public money to support a government over reach. I'm sure only the honest anglers will follow the rules. If I am on my way home and get searched before Midnight, I would still be "legal". Sooo, how do you think this will do anything to serve the public? More explanation needed.
1063	Charles R Knight	Eastover	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	And and all new rules by NC Marine Fisheries which place any additional requirements on sport fishing within coastal waters. Commercial fishing in coastal waters such as netting, shrimping, should be stopped to protect No more rules by a Marine Fisheries Commission who would like nothing better than stop all sport fishing to the benefit of local commercial fishing. Shrimping in coastal waters kills more young fish unable to flee the net being pulled by boat. Fifty years ago I pulled a net for shrimp and when I took it up several pounds of small fish were in it dead. I was catching shrimp for consumption by my family. I stopped pulling shrimp net after three years.
1064	Lee Patterson	Carrboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I saw nothing in the legislation that even hinted at the proposed rules even being contemplated. If they are adopted as now written (requiring citizens of NC to immediately report electronically a fish being caught) all my future recreational activities and dollars will be spent in South Carolina.
1065	Brian Skipper	Tarboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is one more hoop to jump through, we go fishing to relax enjoy ourselves and get away from problems of life and maybe take home a decent meal for our family. make it more fun and enjoyable not red tape burdened just like Rock fishing and now Flounder. Against

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1066	Charles T Beatty	Winterville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational limits of one fish per day on Red Drum, Flounder, Weakfish should eliminate need for extra harvest reporting. I used to be met on the dock by survey takers; this should suffice if continued.
1067	Kendrick Hooks	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The recreational fisherman is not the cause of over fishing. Like myself, I am lucky to be able to fish maybe 4 times a month depending on my work schedule and weather conditions and may not even put a fish in the boat during those trips. The commercial industry is on the water catching fish and/or killing the juvenile fish with shrimp nets and such and their limits and seasons are significantly greater than the recreational fisherman. Having said this, the money, time, and effort to implement this for recreational fisherman is absurd.
1068	Renn Thomas	Elizabethtown	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This reporting requirement will create a hardship for me . I am 79 years old and do not have a smart phone to report with. Also why put another burden on the recreational fisherman? First we have to purchase a salt water fishing license now days and then every year you put more restrictions on what we can catch or keep. Leave us alone and do something about the commercial fishermen that are killing millions of baby fish of all types every year. We are not the problem!
1069	John R. Green, Jr.	CARY	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	While I work hard to follow game laws, I simply refuse to comply with reporting requirements for hook and line fishing. What's more, I read where a lot of other recreational fishermen aren't going to either. You people won't fix the real problem, which is huge nets in the sounds. Don't blame and saddle the little guy with your nonsense rules.
1070	William F McRainey	Shallotte	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Concerns regarding the effectiveness and potential burdens of mandatory reporting requirements for fishing activities are valid and warrant careful consideration. The imposition of such regulations has the potential to generate skewed data due to limited participation, which may undermine the intended purpose of protecting and managing fish populations effectively.</p> <p>The shift towards a more rigorous reporting framework could inadvertently detract from the recreational aspect of fishing, transforming it from a leisurely pursuit into a burdensome obligation. This transformation could particularly impact weekend anglers, who often engage in fishing for relaxation and enjoyment rather than as a structured undertaking.</p> <p>It is essential to recognize that government intervention and regulatory measures are intended to serve the interests of the populace by safeguarding resources and ensuring sustainability. However, it is equally imperative to strike a balance between conservation objectives and the preservation of recreational pursuits.</p>

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						Efforts should be made to minimize bureaucratic complexities, and engage stakeholders in constructive dialogue to develop regulations that are both effective in achieving conservation goals and considerate of the diverse interests of fishing enthusiasts. The aim should be to foster a regulatory framework that upholds environmental stewardship while preserving the recreational essence of fishing for all participants.
1071	Frank Grady	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Noncommercial reporting. I am 75 and have been through enough of this Give the recreation fisherman credit for following limit rules. We don't need this Additional burden It is called "recreational" fishing for a reason.
1072	David Teem	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I think this is a great idea as long as it is easy , quick, and simple to access and use. There should be a section - either optional or mandatory - that asks the question if the person or persons caught anything at all during their trip ?? To find out if the recreational angler is catching fish at all and if so, what kind, how many, inshore vs offshore and what size ?? This would be in addition to the harvest report that you are looking for and would help tell the whole story of the current status of the recreational fishery.
1073	David Burt	Stanley	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am a very conservative recreational fisherman and will do my part should the reporting legislation take affect. #1 A punitive reporting system (with eventual fine \$35) will not increase the percentage of recreational fisherman that will report their catch. #2 There has to be a reporting method required & legislated for shrimpers so that the hundreds of thousand of pounds of bycatch each year can be factored into the harvest reporting equations. This state and, specifically the state legislators cannot continue to turn a blind eye to the damage that shrimping industry is causing on our inter-coastal fish breeding grounds.
1074	David Bunger	Cape Carteret	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	If you can't enforce the existing commercial fishing rules why go to a stupid new rule attempting to get a recreational fisherman to report his catch. You can't hire enough folks to check everyone as they catch a flounder, red or trout and I seriously doubt the state wishes to spend enough for their salaries and benefits. First why can commercial fishermen still harvest flounder and trout well below the current size limit and sell them to restaurants and stores for resale. Many restaurants have baby flounder on the menu even in off season....why isn't this enforced? And now you want a recreational fisherman to be forced to report their catch holding on the phone for who knows how long. Someone is not thinking right. Come on folks, get real. I can just see 100 new reps going up and

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						<p>down every creek at dusk daily for months just to check someone's catch.</p> <p>Please nip this thing now and move on to enforcing the commercial laws now ignored.</p> <p>Dave Bunger</p>
1075	Kim Tavasso	Winterville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	If a harvest reporting system becomes a requirement, I suggest that a recreational reporting system just like the current NCWRC big game harvest reporting system be used. There's no need to reinvent the wheel.
1076	John Mark JONES	Graham	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	To many rules
1077	John Robbins	Belhaven	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Impractical. Creates a new bureaucratic tier to further complicate failed Marine Fisheries rules and policies that have failed to address resource issues at the carrying capacity level holistically and are rather attempting to to argue for singular management strategies that have regularly failed.
1078	Jason Hart	Wilkesboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I just got back from beach stood on one dock and caught 29 flounder from 15-23". The shortage of fish is coming from netting within 3 miles of coast and in waterways and canals. If y'all would stop this we could have plenty of fish. ALL fish should be reported where they are kept or released because the netting KILLS way more than is kept. If they were made to stay off shore there would not have to do these laws and exactly how many are going to do this considering there are a lot of illegal people fishing and no consequences.
1079	Russell Salisbury	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a waste of time. What is the percentage of catch non--commercial vs commercial? These species will be gone by the time this is implemented. And the commercial fishermen will keep putting gill nets across the creeks.
1080	Chuck Gordon	Topsail Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The current rules on flounder are already too restrictive and are totally unnecessary. The added requirement to report all harvests are absolutely ridiculous. With current season, creel and size limits, there is no need to report each individual fish. This is excessive in every way. I, and all of my fellow fishing friends are totally against this legislation. Also, I have never seen "temporary" legislation like this that were ever temporary. We will be stuck with this awful rule forever.
1081	Dwayne Lewis	Nashville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Gill netting is still allowed in in-shore fisheries. This kills an unprecedented amount of these fish. If you are trying to increase fish numbers, why don't you deal with the biggest reason the fish numbers are down rather than continuing to impose restrictions on recreational fishermen? If this isn't about fish numbers is it simply about control?

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						If I am not mistaken commercial fishermen can still use gill nets, net hundreds of fish at a time that they are not allowed to harvest or choose not to harvest and leave them floating dead with no requirement to report it. Why don't you have them report each fish that gets killed in their net?
1082	Davie Waggett	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I am a recreational fisherman and fish most days in creeks off of the ICWW in New Hanover county. Mostly I fish Pages Creek, Howe Creek, Hewlett Creek, and marsh islands behind Figure 8 Island. I fish for Red Drum, Flounder, and Speckled Trout. I also tag the same fish for Marine Fisheries. I am ok with one Red Drum per day, as I rarely keep more than 2 per week for consumption. One flounder per day for 14 days each year is kinda' nuts because I catch them all year around, tag them, and release in good condition. Speckled Trout season is short and the 4 per day is more than plenty. As with Red Drum, I only keep a few on any given week for personal consumption. I see no way to accurately enforce this proposal or to know if information reported is even close to accurate.</p> <p>Regarding Commercial fishing, I believe that all creek fishing should be banned for netting by Commercial fishing. These nets catch all breeds of fish and I see many tossed back in dead and floating. Netting also prohibits the natural movement in and out of creeks by the same species of fish. I have seen a drastic decline in creek fish in the past two years from previous. I have no idea how this ruling could be enforced when commercial fishers bring in hundreds and maybe thousands of pounds of fish in one day.</p>
1083	wes williams	autryville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Recreational reporting is unnecessary, recreational fishing has been ruined by over harvesting of commercial fishing.</p> <p>Stop illegal commercial fishing, and the damaging drag, gill and pound netting and watch fish populations boom.</p> <p>Recreational guys are so fed-up with the BS rules and lack of fish that justifying the time and expense is not worth the effort. I will just release my fish and go buy some FARM RAISED polluted crap from Vietnam.</p> <p>I imagine you will be charging for wildlife boat ramps and imposing access fees to OUR public waters in the near future, as boat & trailer registration, taxes, license fees and other thefts for enjoying OUR waters will not support the bloated Government pig that has destroyed recreational fishing in North Carolina.</p> <p>I have Always been a responsible fisherman, but when I go out and see large dead Stripers floating because of netters, and inshore I see shrimpers dumping hundreds of pounds of dead juvenile cull fish overboard, all within YOUR rules, it makes me sick. Now you want me to report the ONE Flounder or Drum I was "allowed" to catch for dinner? X&@#*^T! you and your bureaucracy! \$35 fine? laughable buffoonery!</p>

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1084	Jeff Heath	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This bill will do nothing to advert dishonest fishing practices from dishonest people. For most of us who, if we are lucky to catch our limit, call it a day and go home. The whole reason I go fishing is to escape to my sanctuary. The last thing I want is to be burdened calling in my harvest for 1 or 2 trout. Respectfully, Jeff Heath
1085	Travis Hughes	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against this rule requiring reporting of recreational harvests of gamefish. There are other better ways to collect this data and the reporting is a burden on the recreational fisherman who catch way fewer pounds of these species than commercial fishermen. No other state on the east coast or in the south has a requirement like this. NC already has more stringent creel limits than any other state to our north or south on these species. I am fearful that like with other temporary rules in the past over time this rule will become permanent. This rule could destroy inland charter captains business and reduce commerce across the coastal portions of our state. I do not support this rule!
1086	David A. Black	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Mandatory Reporting-This appears to be not enforceable. How will a person at night be able to report after fishing at night.
1087	Gio Gallo	Harkers Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Go f*** yourselves
1088	Justin Mullinax	Hatteras	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is taking everything way overboard. The rules that have come out are ridiculous and don't even make sense. How do you think you are making a difference when both estates on either side have higher bag limits on their fish. Such as flounder where in sc you can keep 5 per person and va 4 per person. In nc I can only keep 1????? It seems the department has lost sight on what really matters and has turned political
1089	Gio Gallo	Harkers Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More specifically regarding, SESSION LAW 2023-137 HOUSE BILL 600 *H600-v-8* Section 6

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						GO F*** YOURSELVES
1090	Ricky ipock	Vanceboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	People work 40 plus hours a week and raise their families. When we get a chance to go fishing is to relax and maybe put some fish on the table. Buy the time we get home, clean the fish, clean the boat, feed the family, we don't feel like doing a report. Your reports are going to be a head ache and stressful. Please stop this nonsense.
1091	Peggy Lupton	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is too much of a burden for the men and women who fish. Many are older and not computer literate. Do you expect them to call in their harvest report?
1092	Ron Shaffer	Mogadore	Ohio	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I know my address is Ohio but my former residence was Fayetteville so don't disregard my comments because of the Yankee address.</p> <p>I am not sure what you are trying to accomplish by everyone reporting their catch to the commission but you are fooling yourselves if you think this will help the depleting numbers of fish caught. Have any of you been fishing? I have never known of a fisherman (or fisherwoman) to give any accurate information about their catch. Their is a saying " All fisherman are liars except you and me and I am not so sure about you"</p> <p>You know the problem of overfishing is not the person standing on the beach with a fishing rod in his hand. The commercial fisherman have been allowed free rein of the coast of North Carolina. I spent a week surf fishing last fall in North Carolina (won't tell you where) and I have never seen such nice sized blues and drum. The mullet never quit running all week they were amazing. Went out with a flounder light to catch some blue crabs and probably seen 40 flounder. I am allowed one flounder only on special dates. How many flounder would I be allowed on a flounder gigging charter with a person with a commercial license?</p> <p>There are only a few spots in North Carolina that that are overfished by single fisherman, the main one is the outer banks the point at Hatteras. Stop vehicles on the beach and you solved the problem. Leave the rest of the state alone. It's doing fine.</p> <p>Ron Shaffer</p>
1093	Valerie Ruth Korwatch	Carolina Beac	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is right on the border of communism! I would like to know why the state of North Carolina is so strict for these fishing laws while the other East Coast states fishing laws are not. I have been fishing commercially and/or recreationally my entire life and this is preposterous and unacceptable. You have taken the recreation out of fishing.
1094	Lin Klein	oxford	Pennsylvania	Non-Commercial	Against	This is a tremendous burden on recreational anglers. to expect everyone to be able to report their catch of the designated species ELECTRONICALLY within 24 hours or whatever the time was, is outrageous. there are still people who do not have smart phones, etc., and who do not live their

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
				Harvest Reporting		<p>lives on a computer. Some of these people fish (legally) for subsistence and lead simple lives. How are they supposed to report their catch? Are they going to go to jail because they don't know how to report their dinner electronically? There are also campers (not the kind who "camp" in rolling hotels- but in tents, and they DON'T bring all their electronic devices with them.) who visit these areas and and just want to enjoy a vacation and catch a few legal fish. It has already been pointed out in the IFP that this law is unenforceable given all the private docks etc., from which people fish. Are the "fish police" going to inspect every kayak with a fishing rod that lands on every beach? The money for this project cannot be used to hire more "fish police"?? you would need thousands of fish police to enforce this rule. Impossible to enforce, and a waste of money. I don't think the data from a project that cannot work is going to be of any use.</p>
1095	Donald Smith	Apex	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0124 - Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting</p> <p>At the time of this comment, the proposed handling of the rule on the DEQ Marine Fisheries website indicates that in the situation of a fisherman not having a smart phone or cellular connection at the time of the harvest will need to print a report card. Given that cellular coverage, connectivity or the web-based reporting cannot be guaranteed or predicted to always be accessible, then this would require all fishermen to carry a report card at all times to reduce the risk of receiving a warning or potential future fine. It appears a report card will essentially be mandatory to ensure compliance at the time of harvest according to the current proposed handling of the rule. This should be made absolutely clear upfront with this rulemaking that lack of smart phone, cellular coverage, or accessibility of the web-based reporting service at the time of harvest is the burden of the license holder/fisherman to prevent a warning or potential future fine.</p> <p>Rules need to be clear on whether someone else other than the person who harvested the fish can electronically report the harvest for someone else.</p> <p>For non-commercial fishermen, an over the phone reporting system should be established for the segment of the population that may not be computer literate or who may not have ready computer access or at times where the web-based reporting service is unavailable. After a year or two of implementation the phone reporting system can be considered for elimination if need or use is low.</p>

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
						<p>15A NCAC 03I .0124 - The definition of harvest for non-commercial fishermen should also include the reporting of fish species released that are dead or significantly stressed (mortality) and reported as harvested. If the goal of Session Law 2023-137, Section 6 is to obtain more accurate and representative data for fisheries assessments or use, then mortality rates should be required with harvest reporting. A more accurate representation of juvenile or released fish mortality is as important as reporting the proposed rule's definition of harvested fish. If fish disposition (mortality) is not reported or seen as equally important as harvested fish, it would be a missed data opportunity that diminishes the benefits of this law's mandated burden and would be half baked.</p> <p>Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0124 should include language and consequences for intentional falsification of reports in both under reporting and over reporting harvests. I understand that there is a repercussion if you do not report your harvest, but how will it be handled if someone knowingly falsifies harvest reports. I am not sure for what reason and would hope that this would not occur, but what if harvest numbers are intentionally falsified to skew data or trends.</p>
1096	Donald Smith	Ape	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0123 - Commercial Harvest Reporting</p> <p>15A NCAC 03I .0123 (a) - The definition of harvest for commercial fishermen should include the reporting of by-catch species released that are dead or significantly stressed (mortality) and reported as harvested. By-catch numbers and mortality disposition information will support more accurate and representative estimation of species mortality for fisheries assessments given this law already mandates a burden to report harvested fish.</p> <p>Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0123 should include language and consequences for intentional falsification of reports in both under reporting and over reporting harvests. I understand that there is a repercussion if you do not report a harvest, but how will it be handled if someone knowingly falsifies harvest reports? I am not sure for what reason and would hope that this would not occur, but what if harvest numbers are intentionally falsified to skew data or trends.</p>
1097	brian peterson	Willow springs	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>This proposed Bill of reporting a harvest of a fish is by far the most ridiculous thing since electing Joe Biden as president of United States!!! 🙄 Really</p>
1098	Cole W Sell	Walkertown	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>The additional rules being implemented in the recent years are making it harder and harder to enjoy the North Carolina outdoors. There is no way the recreational fisherman is depleting the fish in our waters so much as to start implementing such rules. Please stop making up new rules every year that limit us from enjoying our great outdoors. I will be happy to vote on heavy regulations for foreign fishing boats.</p>

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1099	Alfred M Griffin	Winston-Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The proposed rule requiring harvest reports from recreational fishermen is a great idea. If the goal is as it appears: to reduce tourism, there are few better ways to do it short of highway signs declaring: "TOURISTS AND FISHERMEN UNWELCOME". This plan must have originated in another state, wanting to divert NC vacationers there. Already, a lawyer is necessary just to determine what one has caught and whether it fits the guidelines. Requiring immediate mandatory harvest reporting will eliminate NC from my vacation plans. Vacation is designed to remove oneself from stress and excess and onerous requirements, not to add to them. Finally, my own fishing efforts show that there really are no striped bass, red drum, weakfish, spotted seatrout, or flounder to be had for the occasional fishermen like me. I therefore wonder why I'm even bothering to comment, as I will never have to report anything at all. I do wonder though, whether this just designed to give LEOs another reason to harass tourists. What's wrong with one-time annual reports?
1100	Eric Brock	Sims	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You the wrc have limited the fisherman to just a few fish I don't understand why you must now know about what we do keep. The economic impact that has already been impacted is enormous an yet you continue trying to ruin the recreational sport of salt water fishing wile letting the commercial fleet kill what we have to turn loose by the thousands. I have witnessed this personally. The other se states don't have inshore netting an have a abundance of fish an reasonable limits. Open your eyes an stop playing favorites
1101	Martin	Matthews	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Regarding the proposed mandatory reporting on 5 species of fish beginning this fall, I have several concerns. The first is, "Temporary" rules have away of becoming permanent. Second, this proposal will spend \$5 MILLION (really?) to expand governmental bureaucracy by implementing a new reporting system. To what end? What are the specific deliverables? And then what? Do we honestly believe the findings will be something other than what anyone with common sense doesn't already know? That being, recreational anglers do not cause overfishing. We pay license fees to legally catch a fish and now you propose to impose an additional tax (by fine) if we're lucky enough to do so and fail to report it. Meaningful species decline is intuitively caused by mass catch on a commercial basis, not the occasional recreational fisherman who brings home a couple of fish once in a while. This proposal is burdensome to working people who like to fish to relax and have fun, the once in a while angler who wants to follow the rules but finds the rules keep changing with no benefit to him/her. IMO the \$5M in funding should be used to improve habitat or implement restocking programs. The proposal's high price tag and questionable benefits make it an unwise use of sportsman's

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						money only benefiting the job security of the biologists pushing its passage. Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion.
1102	Rhonda Stallings	Aurora	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Seems a bit much to have to do.
1103	Salvatore Barletta	Blounts Creek	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Harvest reporting is not a logical way to control recreational fishing
1104	Richard Allen Hoppe	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Amazingly stupid idea.
1105	Christopher Duffy	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this is a bad proposal because it creates a higher barrier to enter the great sport of fishing for americas youth. We do not need more laws on fishing. A very small percentage of fisherman harvest fish and an even smaller percentage harvest an unlawful amount. It is much more fair to police those who do so more prudently and keep fishing as a sport that one can take up when they feel, and so long as they respect the environment and own a license, can easily avoid breaking the law.
1106	Craig Greer	Roaring Gap	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's simply ridiculous to require this reporting when it's obvious recreational fishermen are not the harvest problem. Who to report to? How to report? Seems to me just another way for government to hire more people to pass meaningless paper back and forth on the taxpayer dime.
1107	Randy Croom	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The DMF and the General Assembly are making almost impossible to enjoy fishing. If someone forgets to report a fish they are fined. This is going to the extreme in my opinion.
1108	Jonathan Austin	Lincolnton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an overreach issue and I assure you you all WILL be sued if this input not to mention all anglers should if this is passed ignore such overreach. You all are actual idiots.
1109	Nicholas Shoffner	Pilot Mountain	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is a ridiculous idea. People who already break the law are going to continue to do so anyhow.

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1110	Ben Meyer	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Tracking will impose unnecessary burden on individuals
1111	Thomas Haskins	Hope Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You guys are making an enjoyable past time more difficult and frustrating. This is a stupid rule. We have harvest limits and you people keep making these stupid rules that effect sportsman more than the commercial fisheries. This isn't communist Russia. Let us fish and leave us alone.
1112	Federico Villa-Miranda	Winterville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am all for conservation and will help in any fashion or means necessary to maintain a fruitful fishery for our future and future generations. However, I am not interested in having any type of governmental agency knowing my every move.
1113	Dennis Watson	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is absolutely ridiculous we have some of the best fishing on our coastal waters it's making people not want to come to our state to vacation an go fishing I guess the state wants us to buy Chinese Tilipia to eat
1114	Michael Addaman	Parkton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1115	Graham Barkley	Durham	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Controlling harvest to protect the future of fish stocks is imperative. Only with the information of reporting will we be able to effectively determine the correct means to save our fishery for the future.
1116	Michael Allen	Newbern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are too many regulations on recreational fishing already. Especially with all the daily limits. The average person should be entitled to be able to feed their family.
1117	Graham Barkley	Durham	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Controlling harvest to protect the future of fish stocks is imperative. Only with the information of reporting will we be able to effectively determine the correct means to save our fishery for the future.
1118	William Purvis	Morehead city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	What are the goals for attempting this? It's certainly another hassle for the recreational fisherman.

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				Harvest Reporting		
1119	Kade thompson	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop being idiots.
1120	Sherwin Davis	Merry Hill	North Carolina	Both rules	For	As fish stocks clearly indicate to anyone who observes honestly, to little has been done for many years to conserve fish in local and national waters. The longer we all delay, the worse correction will hurt.
1121	Garry Hood	Lincolnton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just seems like government over reach. What's next? Reporting everytime you catch a blue gill or the likes? I understand commercial fishing over fishing and having to report. Has the their been issues with regular people over fishing? I highly doubt that. I have friends who are game wardens in NC that disagree with it. I work in law enforcement, it just seems to add unnecessary bureaucracy to system that wasn't broken to begin with. Do the employees not already have more than enough work they are already behind on because some administrators want to justify their positions?
1122	Brandon	Oak island	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Think the rules about reporting are fine. Please just do away with commercial netting that punishes hook and line fisherman... thanks.
1123	Marty Hughes	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	A requirement for recreational anglers to report is unrealistic and does not address the actual issue.
1124	Joseph Wayne moore	Washington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Next there will be a tax on what you catch. I do not support any more regulations made by our government. It is no longer fun to try to feed your family. But then again the government seems like they don't want you to. I quit duck hunting because it became to much work and not enjoyable anymore for the rules y'all make. Maybe everyone should just stop buying fishing license. Make it fun again.
1125	Troy	Oxford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is going to make everyone outlaw's
1126	Nick Holliday	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You all are way too intrusive already. In the past I could get to the beach maybe twice a year and I'd get to keep maybe one flounder a year if I was lucky. Now you have made it literally impossible for me to ever keep a flounder. And you just keep adding new rules.

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1127	Alex Jump	Murphy	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	People are not going to report every fish they harvest nor should they have to do so. Instead of imposing stricter commercial fishing regulations and getting gill nets out of the creeks all DMF does is make it harder and harder for the average man to catch one or two fish to eat for himself. Slot limits for trout could be implemented and the limit could be reduced. Nobody wants to accept the fact that taking huge numbers of fish out of the estuaries by nets are a problem.
1128	Marilyn Wells	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is unacceptable and unAmerican. Why do recreational fishermen have to report their catch. How will you enforce it? I am against this.
1129	Thomas Mousseau	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule puts an unnecessary burden on recreational fishing. Additionally, it is not very realistic to expect your average recreational fishermen / fisherwoman to self report. The problem you are seeking to manage comes about from years of mismanagement of our fish populations. Place strict limits on the species of concern and enforce them. Fine the people you catch and the word will spread.
1130	Jonathan Gerdes	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe in the mission of the Marine Fisheries to preserve, protect, and be stewards for these valuable resources. However, I disagree with the continued rules that are put on the recreational fisherman who are fishing for pleasure or to provide for their families. I say this because there are still rules (i.e. commercial gill netting) in place that allow for commercial fisherman to decimate the population of fish in the Carolina waters. You want to make a difference, it starts there.
1131	Rj Goff	Watha	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	First of all I thought it was already a rule that commercial fisherman had to report their harvest. If that isn't already in place that is sad. And as far as recreational fisherman being mandated to report what little fish we can harvest at this point that is a joke. And I think you'll start to see the public push back at this point after so much regulation. Especially being as though as ridiculous as it is that we can't legally possess much as it is but it's perfectly legal to go buy as much from the market as we want. I really hope yall realize how ridiculous that is. It just goes to show this is never about the quantity or quality of a fishery it's all about money. If you can't go catch your own fish but you cab go buy them and they can still legally harvest commercially well that tells us everything we need to know.. no government entities care about the wellness of the wildlife... if they did trawl nets that kill hundreds of non target species and gill nets that kill thousands of lbs of juvenile drum and many other fish would be better regulated but they aren't so that again tells us everything we need to know. I've heard for years Comercial fisherman complaining about the juvenile black drum clogging up their nets and they just throw em out. The same can be said about the reds and trout and striped bass but we could never kill those fish yet I still see them at market all the time. I hope yall do the right thing. I'd hate to see the community overthrow this and it get ugly and everyone just stop following the rules period. You can't arrest us all.

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1132	Matthew Marslender	Belhaven	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think it is ridiculous that people are wanting to do this. We as recreational fisherman go out to enjoy ourselves and already get harassed enough as it is. For one all of the people fishing with no license on bridges keeping whatever they want rarely get bothered, most people also now have there boat on lifts so will cheat the system anyway. The cutting of the bag limits is already ridiculous as it is especially when you compare this fish brought in from recreational vs commercial is baffling. The system gets worse every year, maybe have people in the commission who do participate in such sport and there would be a substantial difference in the laws of wildlife.
1133	Ike Parker	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1134	Schuyler Wilson	Holly Springs	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The information that might be obtained this way could easily be obtained by voluntary survey. I can't see this as anything other than an attempt to reduce the number of people fishing, and a way to generate more revenue through fines. I am very much against these rules.
1135	Jennifer Fite	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Mandating harvesting of any catch should be unlawful. The family fisherman who enjoys fishing and eating his catch will no longer feel the same way. Furthermore those families who are in need know they can go catch fish for meals, mandating a harvest report or limiting the quantities will affect some families means of food. Commercial fishermen will be affected as their livelihood would be impacted. NC is sandwiched between 2 states that do not have such rules and a lot of our commercial fishermen are travelling to other states to fish for the catch they need because NC laws are too restrictive.
1136	sherman gambill	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	this "rule" is a waste of time, there's no way to in force it, charter capts. can easily report their catch as well as commerical guys, but no one fishing for fun is going to do this, if u want to help fish populations ban trolling in the sounds where these fish are born and killed by trollers, they can troll off shore or go out of business, idk
1137	Tim Gibson	Mooresville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't trust the marine fisheries for anything to do with non commercial rules, because they have shown time after time they are pro commercial.
1138	John Bates	Oak Island	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It is not clear as to the benefit of the rule. Additionally, the cost to maintain this associated system and the burden placed on fishermen (recreational and commercial seems to be overreach, without an explanation as to the benefit. Very Respectfully John Bates
1139	James Hayes	Oak Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	More unnecessary oversite. If you want to improve fishing in North Carolina , stop commercial netting and shrimp trawling in estuaries like other states.

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				Harvest Reporting		
1140	Angelo Baio	Pinehurst	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I am against making recreational self reporting creel surveys but I do support mandatory commercial catch reporting.
1141	Billy ward	Wilmington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I think the commercial fishing industry should keep a record of there catches. I personally have seen violations of the law by fishermen on several occasions. They just laugh and say that they have a rite to catch fish and they are not going to get caught anyway.
1142	michael c boyes	Rocky Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 No such thing as a "temporary" rule. 2. Recreational fishermen are regulated enough to the point that it's almost not worth it to go out. 3. Recreational fisherman to not "overfish". 4. We fish for fun, not money and not to fill our freezers. 5. You barely have enough manpower to regulate the commercial people. This is bureaucratic overreach.
1143	Catherine Perry	Washington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I find both rules to be ridiculous and I don't see the point behind them. Marine Fisheries and N.C. Wildlife are single-handedly ruining a centuries old way of life for this state. There is not a place I fish in N.C. That I could catch any of the species being monitored by these rules. Instead of allowing number crunchers and paper pushers decide the outcome of people's livelihoods and the ability to catch and eat fish like nature intended, why don't you actually get out and LISTEN to those of us that fish for sport or career?! Stop taking these comments to appease us and listen to what we have to say. We don't want to see the population of these fish deplete anymore that you (supposedly) do. Instead of strong arming fisherman into more rules, why don't your agencies work WITH us?!</p> <p>Signed, A pissed off fisherman</p>
1144	Daniel Mace	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It may look good on paper but how would you ever be able to enforce the proposed law?
1145	David Allen Thomas, Jr.	Louisburg	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	For the Marine Fisheries and and The North Carolina General Assembly passed Session Law 2023-137 in the fall of 2023. Section 6 of this legislation requires any person who recreationally harvests Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, and Weakfish to report that harvest to the Division of Marine Fisheries. Additionally, it requires anyone holding a commercial fishing license who is engaged in a commercial fishing operation to report all fish harvested to the Division of Marine Fisheries, regardless of sale.

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						The Recreational have not been impacting the numbers on fishing, but for a commercial fishing fleet to harvest what are allowable by the Fisheries are what impact the NUMBERS. You all have cut out one of the longest and enjoyable recreations that Americans have been able to enjoy for Centuries. One a Day per fish is unfair.
1146	Joshua Harris	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an unnecessary requirement and will add burden to recreational fishermen. This would be difficult to act upon on a boat because many do not bring their phone- especially on a kayak or canoe. This would prove ineffective because once off the water, many still would not report the fish. It will punish those that already abide by regulations and those that abuse will still unlikely report their harvest.
1147	Dittrell Dove	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is my opinion I don't think it's far the new rule I am totally against its hard enough time making sure you're fishing license are in order just a hassle on a fisherman that's just trying to feed his family the state needs to do the right thing.
1148	Jonathan Gamble	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is just another example of unnecessary over regulation on recreational fishermen. Stop making it harder for people to get into enjoying our state's natural resources.
1149	Sammy Routh	Franklinville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't know how this would be possible to do in all the different circumstances that could arise. Storms, boat issues and unknown things that come up could change your focus pretty quickly. There are also alot of folks that do good to use a phone to make a call and don't have/use internet at all. Sounds like another thing to add to our list that has drove us from even fishing in NC any more for these fish.
1150	Michael Sargent	wilson	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We don't need anymore government infiltration into our lives and especially the lives of commercial and recreational fishermen. I understand having some sort of catch rules but to have to report every single fish that is caught in NC waters is preposterous.
1151	Bryan Sprinkle	Clayton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Think it's a waste of time and money.
1152	Mark Perry	Zebulon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	

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1153	Scott yates	Snow camp	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>Recreational Harvest reporting</p> <p>I am undecided on how I feel about this simply because I don't have a full understanding of how this would be enforced, what the requirements would be and what is the overall goal of this new rule would be.</p> <p>I personally do not have a issue with reporting my catch to allow Marines Fisheries to use for their knowledge to improve our natural resources but I do not understand how it would be enforced. Would I have to register my fish before I return to a boat ramp? register my fish before I put them in a cooler? register my fish once I get home before I clean them? Etc.. I feel that the information that I have received is vague on how it would be obtained and enforced</p>
1154	Joseph Newton	Leland	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I believe that the reporting of Recreational fish catches should not be enforced. It is important to record fish catch data to keep an eye on the fish population being caught but no recreational fisherman is going to take it serious and actually do it. Also it would be almost impossible to enforce because of the limited amount of marine patrol officers. The NC DEQ should be more concerned about letting out of state trawlers come to Our Bays and estuaries and destroy the bottom and kill all the bycatch that is caught in the trawl net. By the time they haul the nets in all the bycatch is drowned. There is at least 2/3 bycatch if not more that is brought up from the bottom for every trawl and it consists of flounder, spots, drum, trout and every other bottom dwelling species and most are juveniles. So if you wonder why the population of flounder, drum, and trout have dwindled over the past few decades this is why. We shouldn't even allow out of state trawlers. No states north of us allow it so why should we. There are very few NC resident commercial fisherman compared to what there used to be. Give the local guys a chance.</p>
1155	Dennis Edwin Britt	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>This is an Overbearing Government, placing undue burdens on the citizen's rights to fish. Its net effect is to harass people who are trying to feed their families and mainly to Expand Government Employees, a direct Tax Burden on Working People of North Carolina.</p> <p>Secondly, it is an assault on recreational Tourist Fishing, denying the pursuit of happiness guaranteed in the NC Constitution and the US Constitution.</p>
1156	A D	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This is unduly burdensome on recreational fishermen and shifts the burden of enforcing the law from wildlife officers onto fishermen. This rule will not serve to punish those who do not intend to abide by rules concerning size and species but will only allow law enforcement to punish people who as often as not will simply forget to report. As in almost every state in this country, wildlife officers already have significant leeway to intrude beyond what the 4th amendment ostensibly allows every other agency to do without going through the courts first. This will simply allow them another pretext to intrude into citizens lives.</p>

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1157	Tony Langley	Nashville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think you have lost your mind. This is the most ridiculous thing you have come up with in a long time. This along with all the restrictions you have put on the recreational fisherman I think you are trying to eliminate recreational fishing all together.
1158	Robert Hogge	Plymouth	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	So now the law makers want us to report everything we catch. Apparently none of them have ever tried to count fish while using nets. We already have to weigh them that should be good enough. There is no way to accurately count every fish in the oceans or sounds which it sounds like they are trying to do. This is not going to help anything. Sounds like a way to ruin our fun time off, from work after paying all these taxes so the law makers can live above and beyond there means.
1159	Melissa Waters Melville	Maysville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There's no more freedom in America to have to report every little thing utterly crazy
1160	Terrence D Godwin	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Against a regulation nation which leads to socialism
1161	Jorge Figoli	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why would recreational harvesting reporting be mandatory instead of volunteered? Unless, the design behind this legislation's true intent. Is to use the mandatory requested data against the very people who submitted the data. This is beyond government overreach. I support the need for data to manage fisheries, but make it a voluntary program. All true anglers want these species to survive and thrive; why not use that as a motive instead of threats to fine and persecute.
1162	Marc Koker	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't do much saltwater fishing anymore because of the hassle of boat launching at any public ramp. However, I am opposed to this new rule because: 1- it is really vague as to methods and timing of the required reporting. 2- it is just one more hassle for those of us who abide by and comply with existing regulations. I'm about 100 percent sure that this regulation is going to be impossible to enforce. How will anyone know if I reported my catch??? This regulation is poorly thought out and I don't understand what is to be gained by it. It's just silly...
1163	Travis Dant	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	For	It's a great idea. Unfortunately it will be as effective as the hands free mobile device driving laws. There will never be accurate data collected. But a great idea.
1164	James	Havelock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Law is unenforceable. If someone gets checked on the water they'll report. If they don't get checked they won't report. So the only reporting that will get done is by those who are checked on the water. This will lead to inaccurate data, which in this case is worse than no data at all.

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1165	David Iannucci	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This imposition is simply absurd, non-enforceable, and will only provide skewed/inaccurate data if passed.
1166	David	Chinquapin	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It's not my job to do your job for you!!!! The math is simple and proven up and down the coast! Band gill nets and the fish population will boom! This has been proven in the neuse river with gill net restrictions put In place to save the striped bass restocking. The dmf is corrupt and it really is showing by their absolute push to put more fish in commercial for profit then the common man! Pass this law and there will be more outlaws because I pay taxes and a waste of them to have dmf when wild life could do a better job! I'm not paying taxes to do your job for you! Maybe have more than 9-5 people working! H*** I can't tell you the last time I've seen dmf except during flounder season. So no
1167	Charles Norman	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting is way too complicated and requires unnecessary data. If passed then the data should be confined to the number of fish caught and kept in each species. Also, it is often unusual for a casual recreational fisherman to know the distinction between the different species of trout.
1168	Mosely coleman	Florence	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I have no comments
1169	Paul Clarke	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Kayak fisherman here - any reporting system must be easy/simplified - when a kayak fisherman gets to a ramp or shore it's an ordeal to safety get done and out of the way of boaters - don't put unrealistic rules out and you will have a better shot at compliance
1170	Ronald L Bailey	Pikeville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You're s***** me. Sportfishermen having to report like big game harvest. You're s***** me. Commercial harvest a big YES. Because they are the ones depleting the stock along the NC coast. Recreational fishermen have set limits and are regularly checked while fishing . Commercial fishermen don't get checked or you wouldn't be proposing such laws.
1171	Scott Barbour	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Let me first say that I am 100% for doing what it takes to increase our fish population in NC back to what it was 25 years ago. The netting laws have completely decimated the fish. It is so difficult and expensive for a recreational fisherman to try and catch a fish in NC coast now days, that if you add one more thing to complicate the process, many of us will simply quit fishing. The recreational fishing is not the problem. It is the over netting. Just go to SC and you can catch way

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						more fish. Therefore, I am against adding an unnecessary burden on the recreational fisherman when we all know the Net fishing is the problem.
1172	Jeff Smith	Swansboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Harvesting of various offshore fish in NC waters was just enacted, and holy cow!!!! As someone who either trailers my boat or leaves from the White Oak river, compliance with the rules requires boating to a reporting station, at least 40 miles round trip, before I can put the boat on a trailer or return to my dock. Not only does that take more than 2 hours away from EVERY fishing trip, it will cost \$100 more in fuel for each trip. Please be more mindful of any implementation method you come up with for the near shore fisheries reporting.
1173	Phil Piaski	Claremont	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Harvest reporting? Good luck with that! I would also like to make a comment on NC'S flounder regulations: they suck! A lot of people from my neck of the woods have MANY years made annual trips to Ocracoke to drift for flounder. But you have cut those trips out by banning them from taking ANY flounder, so why should they go? They spent LOTS of their money on these trips and, Im sure, many Ocracoke appreciated it. My opinion is, why didn't raise the size limit and cut the amount of fish one could keep, instead of cutting it out all together! You have cut the 1st half of my comment.
1174	Brian Callahan	Winnabow	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm not against the reporting part. I think this is a good idea for fishery management. But I think the mandatory reporting and disciplinary actions is where I have the problem. I'm guessing the reporting will be done via the internet. Then being done before I leave the water on the day of fishing. Being mid forties myself its very difficult to see a cell phone on a sunny day. To the point my phone is only used to answer calls on fishing days. My parents, who fish with me often, are in their 70's and seeing a phone even if at home is a challenge. Being able to see a cell phone to answer or make a call is one thing. But to visit a website and input details on fish would be difficult challenge for most of the population. Has this even been done as a non mandatory from home from a weekend of fishing yet? I recall recently having to buy fishing license for my wife who happen to go fishing one day with me. We tried on the NC wildlife website 4-5 times without success. The site isn't user friendly. Most government sites aren't. Not your fault not my fault. This feels like a bad idea and goes down a road to punish average joe fisherman even if he has his license and correct limits. Bad idea in my opinion. However, For commercial fishing I am surprised that reporting hasn't been a thing the entire time. The high limits and profitably concerns with commercial netting is a tempting reason to illegally keep over amount of krill and size limits. Where as recreational we don't want to take a risk on a fish or two to eat on losing license or penalty cost. My two cents! -Brian Callahan

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1175	eddie dunn	Holly Ridge	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	All for recording information. just waiting for more details on how this will work for average recreational fishing.
1176	Natrone	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1177	James Abbott	Richlands	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I support the reporting of the harvesting of the fish species covered by this rule change. I feel it will make more people think twice about any illegal harvesting.
1178	steve	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1179	Rick Ashley	edenton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am against this new rule. I think both divisions overstep their boundaries by making new rules that we have to follow. All these "rules" should have to pass through NC Legal System to become laws.
1180	Kevin E Hendges	Fuquay Varina	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This still will not give you the accurate number of juvenile fish that are being killed by inshore trawling nets bycatch. What are you hoping to accomplish for our coastal fisheries with this new rule. This and the state of our coastal fisheries are why I've all but quit fishing for coastal fish in NC. It's not worth the money to only be able to keep 1 drum, 4 trout, and a few flounder at certain times of the year. Your political battles are not helping our states coastal fisheries.
1181	hal w stilley	hampstea	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The recreational fishing community is generally unhappy with salt water fisheries harvest regulations in NC. It seems to us that regulations are very much skewed to the benefit of the commercial industry. The proposed regulations feels like continued government over-reach with a preconceived goal of further limiting recreational harvest. I expect compliance with this reporting will be dismal, and therefore the data skewed and any decisions based on that data will be erroneous.
1182	Beverly Cobb	Hubert	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I fail to see the necessity of another government regulation. There is too much interference in the lives and occupations of citizens as it is. Some oversight is important for safety , but this change will make much more work for fishermen. I am against the proposed changes.
1183	Bob	siler city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	

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				Harvest Reporting		
1184	Jim ODaniell	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is sad that recreational fishing has to become burden instead of a pleasure all in the name of money for some study.
1185	Scotty wasson	Havelock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I love the addition of harvest reports this will truly answer the question of how much is harvested and give true value instead of plucking a number out of the cloud. I hope it is an easy system whether it's online, or/and an app. Maybe this could lead to opening flounder and striper as a tag program like hunting until it fully recovers.
1186	Ron	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1187	Tim Davis	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Government over reach!!! Set a season, set a limit, and enforce it!
1188	Tim Askew	Pinetops	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	If you can get everyone to follow this rule it could be a start but it will not happen, managing our fishery is simple but for some reason the powers to be are making it impossible. No one is more adamant than our rec/com fishermen in improving our fishery. There is a solution and it is a simple one to which no one wants to listen to reason.
1189	Michael Jones	Vanceboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Thank you for accepting my public comment. My words are on behalf of both parties of commercial and non-commercial harvest reporting, and are against the new proposed rule making. We have already had so much taken and thrown against us to the point that we are losing interest in our younger generations, whether if that's the exact reason for all these rules and amendments or not. We pay and pay, and continue to pay, and more is taken from us. We are harvesting the greatest numbers of fish to date on "catch and release" terms and punished, while every state around NC is hassled alot less. We have environmental issues due to waste from marinas and facilities putting waste back into our water ways that do much worse than a man and a fishing pole or net. We hope to be set free so our state can enjoy fishing again!
1190	Sam Hollingsworth	Holden Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Places an undue burden on recreational fishermen for as few fish as we ever take without releasing. We have already been virtually shut out of the flounder harvest so commercial guys can take all they want.

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						Commercial fishermen who keep or sell their daily catch should certainly report their take, by number and by species. They place a huge burden on the fish population- they should NOT be allowed to net fish inland waters or in any saltwater estuary. Commercial lobby is the reason recreational guys are limited
1191	William Woodall	Cove City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Its disappointing that outdoor enjoyment in NC has stooped to this level of bureacracy and government over reach. The focus sportsman want to have is on the fish or animal they are after. NOT the legal aspect after the catch or kill. I agree to most of our hunting regs, but fishing in NC has lost its excitement due to all the ever changing regs. I feel like I need a lawyer in the boat everytime I catch a fish.....whats the season, whats the slot limit, whats the creel limit am I coastal or intercoastal? Now on top of that you basically want us to call 1800 i got one. Our WRC is a joke compared to so many other State WRC
1192	Robert Charles Lands	Raeford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are already enough hurdles for Sportsman/recreational fisherman in North Carolina without adding/including us within this rule. Both the NCWRC and N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission need to apply and take a hard look at the commercial fishing operations as they relate to these matters. I can almost guarantee that the main source/cause of the issues noted as reasoning for these rules by these two bodies, are created by a lack of compliance and not following the limits that are already in place by commercial operations. There are already so many 'regulations' in place that affect North Carolina recreational fisherman/Sportsman that it has become a 'chore' for us to even try to get out and enjoy the sport. Adding another hurdle for most of us have to jump through every time we manage to get an infrequent and occasional 'day off' to enjoy the sport just places an unnecessary barrier that we have to deal with. Please actually consider us and our limited time to enjoy the sport in this equation. In my opinion, the overbearing nature of the proposed rule/requirement on the recreational fisherman/sportsman is well matched to this subject as using a large NCDOT Division 'Highway Mower' to cut a quarter acre of grass in someone's yard. Again, I believe that addressing this more on the commercial side of things will have a better overall net result/effect on the results that you are looking to achieve.
1193	mike	Bennett	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1194	Randy Midgett	Elizabeth City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It is a good idea scientifically, but will only give you flawed data. Continued over regulation is tempting normally rule following recreational anglers to consider breaking the rules. I can only imagine the pressure on commercial fishermen who are trying to eke out a living.

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1195	Charles V McLeod	COATS	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel like the Harvest Reporting should be for the commercial fisherman that's making a living fishing. I always abide by the size and creel limits, so making me report every fish that I harvest will be useless as I see it. The commercial fishermen are the reason that people like me are limited to very few fish that I can bring home, eat and enjoy. The DMF is making it harder and harder for an average Joe like me to even enjoy the fishing experience. Clamp down on commercial fishermen and move them offshore and we will have plenty of fish for all to catch and enjoy and you guys will not have to worry about me catching a flounder or a trout or a drum. Thanks for letting me voice my opinion.
1196	David Blakewood	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Probably will be a good thing- we for sure need more information about our fishing here on the coast- the fishing in my lifetime has deteriorated to the point that is discouraging to even try to fish- used to catch lots of fish in the 70's but now not worth the effort- please try and fix it for my grandkids
1197	GREGORY	West Jefferson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1198	Joshua Landt	Gloucester	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why are you acting like we have a say in it? I've never seen a law or tax anywhere not go in affect after proposed. It feels like a pain and very regulated. I fish to chill and eat not to report my day to policing .So when it goes into effect I will stop giving you my money and buy fish . Asking us our comment....
1199	Mike Oleksyn	Buxton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I feel this is way too much regulatory oversight. Now you want us to google our fishing activity. Are you going to sell our data too? How about going to good old statistic computations and sampling. Most fishing areas have a choke point for boats and beach access. You know what running and when. Do the math and leave people the freedom from unnecessary actions and oversight. It's not perfect but it does work to keep us as free as Americans.
1200	will	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1201	Justin Hill	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	

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1202	Stephen G parker	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	While I laud the lawmakers efforts in proposing and passing the law with the intention of perserving our fishing stock, I feel it will be basically unenforceable for recreational fishermen, and for those unfortunate few who actually get cited (ticketed), it will lead to a backlash by the recreational fishing public. I think it is a stupid law to include recreational fishermen with "record keeping and reporting" requirements of their catches. This law must have been passed by a bunch of people who do not understand recreational fishing (as proposed by some state agency/official with nothing better to do)!
1203	William Baker	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1204	JP Lapeyre	Knoxville	Tennessee	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	It's a public resource. Any commercial consumption has the responsibility to report harvest of a public resource.
1205	Gardner Williams	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Why can't the Division see that the Cormorants are part of the problem eating too many fish along with for every pound of shrimp harvested in North Carolina waters, four pounds of non-targeted species are discarded as waste? It's pathetic you can't get something passed to protect the sounds and estuaries. WAKE UP.
1206	Richard Scott	Marion	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The rules on non commercial fishing. I don't think you should have to report catches as long as the fish is legal size limit. The DMF has been taking the fun out of surf fishing and pier fishing for years every since the 1990's! It use to be free to drive on the beach in the 1970's and 1980's they changed all that as well! They should the DMF should just focus on commercial fishing not recreational fishing and leave the rules along. Best regards.
1207	Bo	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1208	Jose	Simon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this rule is absolutely asinine and ridiculous. How is it possible to enforce this other than adding staffing to Harass some innocent vacationing folks and possibly not others. I can ot imagine that the impact from me and others catching a fish now and then is going to be of any worthwhile value to determining the health of any fishery. Even though Commercial fishing boats have enough crap to deal with, considering tge magnitude and frequency of their take, perhaps the rule, if any, ought to be restricted to them. At least they have to go to a dock or port to unload making such much more Feasible to report.

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1209	Capt Dean Lamont	Raleigh/Emerald isle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Are you taking into consideration anglers that fish with guides? Opportunity to count same fish twice. You will have no idea if people are telling the truth. Both recreational anglers and commercial lie regarding their harvest of fish. After 23 years of guiding, I guarantee you that much of the data you collect will not be valid. When I was on central advisor board 3 years, the biologist told me that they did not consider commercial and recreational fishermen that did not abide by the regulations in their data. I understand what your trying to accomplish</p> <p>I just spent 14 days fishing for Stripers at Weldon and I did not see ONE wildlife officer or any one collecting Data other than the shocking boats and where they were keeping fish in a cage that had been caught on hook and line. Check their data. They told me 3 of 10 fish that had been caught on bait died within the first few days. If we are going to close the keeper season (which is fine with me if the biomass is low) then we should not allow anglers to use live bait and gut hook fish that will die even though released. I saw stripers floating down the river being eaten by eagles, asprey, buzzards, raccoons ect</p> <p>I know fisheries mgt is a tough job and accurate date needs to be obtained.</p> <p>If I were a recreational fisherman fishing a few times per year I would not be interested in filling out forms, especially when I wasn't allowed to keep any fish , Stripers, flounder, 1-gray trout</p>
1210	Dana	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>It is unclear what the infraction (charge) for not reporting will be, other than a fine. It also seems like it's just a way to receive \$ 5million. As an angler there are already enough boxes to check just to go fishing. You guys should just continue with the recreational voluntarily surveys and look for other ways to fund that program.</p>
1211	Carter Derrick	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Too much
1212	Tom Hayes	Asheville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Nowhere did I find the reasoning behind these regulations. I think that is a mistake. I don't think the information will be complete because compliance will be spotty therefore inaccurate, filing online reports at the beach, really? Who's going to enforce all this intrusion? It seems antagonistic and burdensome to fisher persons with fines and taking away a person's license, and the enforcers. It's going too far. At present, one has to leave any fish they catch whole which I agree with. You can check a cooler now which is sufficient. Leave it at that.</p>
1213	Joe Sensi	manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	what about poor people without phones or computers, sounds racist to me.
1214	Craig Allard	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	Are you freaking kidding me????? Not only can I only harvest one stinking flounder, not even enough to have a family meal and only do it during a ridiculously shortened season but now I

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				Harvest Reporting		have to tell you all the specifics about my ONE FLOUNDER! FRIGGIN INSANE!!!! I guess they all have swam to SC where I can actually go fishing and get enough for a meal and not spend \$100+ for a day of fishing in NC for the rare flounder that can be caught every 3rd cast. Unbelievable!
1215	Daniel Albert	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I can't imagine an effective fisheries management plan that does NOT include reporting of catch and bycatch - especially for commercial sector harvesting. I feel that infraction fines and other consequences should be GREATER than those specified.
1216	Chad Starbuck	Taylorsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This is an over reach and burdensome rule of the government and puts an undue requirement for sportsman. Even if this begins it should have be initiated before the oppressive flounder rule for just sportsman began. Maybe this would have been a more reasonable thing for the threatened flounder.</p> <p>Since the saltwater fishing license requirements began it was purported to give a voice to the sportsman but instead the Marine fisheries continues to pander to the commercial fishing industry.</p> <p>You have taken away the opportunity for my son and I to have a great time flounder gigging by the arbitrary rules.</p> <p>I make a suggestion to dissolve the Marine Fisheries or remove them from being able to affect the recreational fisherman. Allow them to only to continue the subjective regulatations to commercial fishing. Allow the NCWRC to regulate all recreational activities of fishing.</p> <p>CHAD STARBUCK</p>
1217	Angela Humphries	New Bern	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The government has made fishing and hunting incredibly cumbersome and restrictive in NC and should deregulate, thereby allowing people the freedoms to find and harvest their own alternate means of food in this terrible economy.
1218	Allyn jacoby	Moyock	North Carolina	Both rules	For	As a recreational fisherman, I support anything that can improve my chances of <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being able to fish and keep flounder for more than a two week season (factor in N.C. weather and small boat angling and this season approaches zero days) 2. Improving commercial reporting and by catch information
1219	Jeff Snyder	Cedar Point	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Reporting a fish caught? What degreed-up gen z yuppie thought of this idea? This is destined for failure. People won't call to report as it goes against long developed habits of putting a pole in the water just to ease stress, let alone FEED their families during a time of inflation. Chinese grown

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						Tilapia, thanks benevolent government, I didn't want to fish locally. People are increasingly growing tired of bureaucracy and b***** measures like this. NO ONE WILL CALL. People are tired of complying with stupidity. Trust me the people I know will not comply. If this is to manage population numbers or concerns from over harvesting, guaranteed you will not get good enough data to establish an accurate picture. Whatever statistical models your yuppie 25 yr old new-hire nerds with zero actual clue other than what their sealed off world of academia tells them like free palestine crap, make, will be worthless as the data will be missing significant chunks to actually be statically relevant. Then you'll take the hap-hazard models made from hap-hazard data and make more hap-hazard regulations that yet again will be oppressively bureaucratic, irrelevant and result in violence between the citizen and LEO attempting enforcement. This is stupid.
1220	Alvin Potter	Shawboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More bureaucratic red tape for the average guy just trying to enjoy a God given right. It's never enough! Another way to generate revenue off some poor soul that doesn't report and justify a job function for someone keeping data that you won't know if it's reported right or not. Law's, law's, law's!
1221	Joseph Lamm	Old Fort	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm not sure what the point of reporting would be. Honest people will be honest and dishonest will be dishonest. I support more tax dollars for law enforcement and more frequent checks. That is the only thing that will make a difference.
1222	JP Lapeyre	Knoxville	Tennessee	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting should perpetually be VOLUNTARY and made easy. Simply snapping a (geo-tagged to (boat) landing site) photo where an AI bot can accurately count numbers and estimate size/weight. This should perpetually be voluntary so that good stewards of the resource can help manage it. Let's use the commercial fines to reward the most active and helpful volunteers of reported tagged fish and harvested fish when release is not possible (gut hooked, etc)
1223	Thomas M Sellers	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There is enough reporting and documentation already and this requirement puts additional effort on an already laborious occupation. Strongly oppose this rule.
1224	Steven Andrews	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I would request a change that commercial fishing is required to report any known by-catch fish or fish kill regardless of sale. The requirement to only report fish catch is not clear enough to inform fish mortality or effectiveness of our fishing practices. IF WE DO NOT GET FISHING WITH HIGH-MORTALITY BY-CATCH UNDER CONTROL NEITHER COMMERCIAL OR RECREATIONAL FISHING WILL BE WORTH MUCH. (Gill net or other passive, similar high mortality netting)

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						<p>I would propose similar amendment for recreational fishing however definition of 'harvest' is possibly not a clear summation of the impact that commercial fishing poses to the environment. Recreational fishing volume is much lower gross volume of harvest.</p> <p>This comment is in regard to: North Carolina General Assembly passed Session Law 2023-137 in the fall of 2023. Section 6 of this legislation requires any person who recreationally harvests Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, and Weakfish to report that harvest to the Division of Marine Fisheries. Additionally, it requires anyone holding a commercial fishing license who is engaged in a commercial fishing operation to report all fish harvested to the Division of Marine Fisheries, regardless of sale.</p>
1225	Jeff Sparks	Mount Olive	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It amazes me that the states that border North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina have larger creel limits on the species that you want me to report. Get back to allowing the recreational fisherman the limits that at least Virginia and South Carolina have for these species and without the having to report their catch. Get real. Thanks Jeff Sparks
1226	Jeff Snyder	Cedar Point	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	And another thing, it's hilarious you're even polling people as if you'll give a s*** about their input and not just ramrod needless bureaucracy down their throats. If you weren't elected you don't get to make legislation. If you were elected listen to the people
		Bath	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The charter fishing community already reports their catches daily. This is in necessary "just one more" report to file
1228	Mark Capparelli	Garner/Newport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is ridiculous. It is unfair for the rec's when there is no way you can or will enforce the comms. They are depleting our stocks and nobody cares.
1229	Chris Sutton	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Our government continues to impede the ability of everyday recreational fishermen to provide food for their table. I feel like this data will Will inevitably be used to restrict what we can keep even further than we are already face.</p> <p>At this point a significant amount of us feel like we are not in this together with you. Y'all are no longer representative of the people</p>
1230	chris ragan	roxboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I see this as another way of hurting the recreational fisherman. This information will be used to further limit the amount we can keep. You limited flounder and bluefish at a time we were seeing numbers we had not seen in years and the reasoning was they were overfished. Most everyone knows the real reason behind the limits on non commercial fishermen is that the commercial industry industry is padding your pockets.

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1231	Gary rhoades	NORTH WILKESBORO	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The way I see it you're trying to take my freedom of lying to my friends about what I catch my fishing license pays for my freedom to catch whatever I please not happy with this at all
1232	Ashley Sutton	SNOW HILL	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop commercial netting and let fish come back naturally!
1233	Tracy Coggins	Stokes	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Typical regulations to make it less desirable for the hook and line fisherman to enjoy the outdoors!!!! 🙄 😞</p> <p>Good thing we can buy fish from the “commercial fish market”!!</p> <p>Tracy Coggins Lifetime License Holder [REDACTED] '95</p>
1234	Robert Grossnickle	Rocky Point	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The natural resource of the state, should belong to the people of the state and not the government . If conservation of the natural resources are necessary to protect the future availability, then certain size and creel seem prudent, along with the prohibition of sale of any species of concern. It's not right for the people to be prohibited from harvesting a reasonable Amount of natural resources for the sake of sustenance and tradition, just so governing bodies may collect taxes.
1235	Elizabeth Sutton	SNOW HILL	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop commercial netting!
1236	Roger A. Palmer, DDS	Emporia	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>We often have 5-6 people fishing on my boat. Does each person have to fill out the reporting form?</p> <p>I trailer my boat, does the reporting form have to be filled out prior to leaving the water?</p> <p>I do not have access to a printer at my vacation house.</p> <p>Why don't you just say that you don't want people to fish? This is a major inconvenience to say the least!</p>
1237	Eric Jones	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
1238	Mary Ann Simpson	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	The recreational catch has been excluded from harvest counts for too long. We need accurate statistics on the health of the fishery in order to plan harvest limits. That said, it will be a bit of a pain-in-the-rear to record our harvests. I'm wondering why we're not using a tag registration system like other states, i.e., you get your 2 drum tickets with your license and register them after your catch.

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1239	David J Moore	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1240	Willem Pet	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The problem is not recreational fishermen, it is commercial fishermen doing close to shore net fishing killing all the juveniles.
1241	Lee Hinson	Kill devil hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This will be woefully unenforceable for recreational fishers. The percentage of people that will go through the hassle to report their catch will be miniscule so whatever harvest data you are looking to collect will be inaccurate and have no truly quantifiable result.
1242	Angela Sutton	SNOW HILL	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Very stupid rule!
1243	Terry Troutman	CLYDE	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Totally against the required reporting. A man can't even recreational fish for a bunch of red tape BS!
1244	Tom	Calabash	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	With my experience with speaking to other that these reports are not accurate and most that I speak to "just submit something". I understand that accurate could help the planning, rules on limits, size, etc but since the reported number not being accurate I do not feel theses number will help and could possible lead to decisions based on inaccurate information that could actually cause harm.
1245	Hunter Sorrell	Grimesland	North Carolina	Both rules	For	More data is better for the determination of limits.
1246	James newcomb	Hubert nc	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I really dont understand our gouvrenment getting bigger!! Waisting tax payers time and money. What à joke!! What happen to America ?? Brunch of Dictaters.
1247	Kevin Foley	Apex	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This will end up being viewed as harassment of the fishermen. This is an overstepping of the fisheries department and I am sure being argued as a method for how they can study species population levels. Now if we compare this non-sensical report at time of harvest with the red drum harvesting in the fisheries of:

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						<p>SC (in-season, daily limit of 2, no reporting), GA (daily limit of 5, no reporting), FL (daily limit of 1-4 depending on region and method of harvesting, no reporting), and La (daily limit of 5, no reporting), we can see that our the DEQ is not concerned with the whole system that our fisheries plays a small part in and is more concerned about creating a hassle for fishermen. All of the info mentioned about is available on the Eregulations site. I believe that you all should be put out of a job instead of creating these new policies that are feeble attempts to justify your salaries.</p>
1248	Brandon D Lutz	Winnabow	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>A report system like managing deer is ridiculous. Until you guys figure out the real problem (if there is even a problem and or gill nets inshore just saying) reporting will not work. It barely works for deer management. SC doesn't di this and we share water with them. Please explain this crazy logic?</p>
1249	Holly Fine	Denton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Unless the wildlife commission can produce extensive research on the population of the listed species, I stand in strong opposition to the proposed mandates. As an avid outdoors family who spends the majority of our year hunting, growing, and gathering from nature we strongly believe in the management of our resources. When we travel to the coast to fish we .ake sure we have the newest regulations with us and tape measures readily available. Our opposition does not come from a place of not wanting to follow rules and procedures. Our opposition comes from the knowledge that last time that these types of procedures were put into place they severely limited the ability for an angler to be able to harvest a flounder for their household. In the meantime fishing companies are able to harvest by the massive. Laws for preservation purposes are necessary to ensure that our wildlife can sustain growing populations for years to come. Laws that are set to create barriers, limit access, and to generate fines for the governments pockets are laws that are intended for the government to limit its people. Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. I plan to send them to other representatives as well in hopes that they will also be willing to listen to their fellow North Carolinians as well.</p>
1250	Steven	Buxton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1251	Chris Wright	Collettsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>People who poach will continue to do so. Honest sportsmen will have one more thing to do after a good day fishing.</p>

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1252	James Baloch	Shallotte	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I would be for reporting on both rules if after the evaluation was done if both the recreational and commercial fisherman had the equal catch quota. If I want venison to eat I have to go out and kill it should be the same with fish if someone wants fish to eat they should have to go out and catch it.Fish stocks will come back in a couple years
1253	Douglas S Fulcher	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too much hassle and way to much government intervention
1254	Trenton Johnston	Mebane	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Its a lot of work to enter the number of fish and size harvested everyday. I think this is a ridiculous new rule.
1255	Otis J. White	Castle Hayne	North Carolina	Both rules	For	If it can be made easy for licensed fishermen using a phone app I think it's a good idea. You should build in an incentive (monetary) to get folks to comply. Could start as voluntary for non commercial with incentives.
1256	Timothy Cole	Elizabeth City	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I agree with the conservation aspect, but I don't see how members will be successful in reporting while attached to fishing charters. Head boats make multiple trips a day and their customers could easily harvest species for mandatory reporting. Also, people fishing through a charter are licensed through the charter. Who then is responsible for the report. The person who caught the fish or the charter?
1257	Chris	Riegelwood	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I think this whole proposal is insane. It seems every year rules are added, just go ahead and ruin the fun and some peoples way of life with all of your rules. Y'all want to keep coming up with more ways to make money off of us. Adding tags, more licenses, more rules, lower creel limits. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!!!!!
1258	David sybert	Nags head	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Charter captains are already required to log each trip in order to keep current permits. Since this information is already being collected why can't DMF work together with them instead of requiring an additional report. The data is alrwyd being collected. Use what is there instead of requiring more work from the working fisherman.
1259	lawrence hershoff	sunset beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	this is one of the most senseless rules I could ever imagine. If you are trying to make felons out of all fisherman, this is perfect. What are the odds that i am going to whip out a notepad while fishing? What are the odds that the commercial guys will do the same? and why would you create an imperfect set of data for some bureaucrat to knock around until they come up with more senseless regulation?

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						PLEASE BACK OFF.
1260	Jamie Hughes	SANFORD	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is just one more intrusion into the lives of private citizens by the wildlife department. One more way for them to weaponize their powers against law abiding license holders. Find something to help the fishery that doesn't place more burden on the people who purchase licenses, and purchase the items that get taxed an extra amount to support wildlife and fisheries. The amount of people who hunt and purchase licenses annually continues to drop, and fishing will follow suit if you keep making it harder to legally enjoy the state waters. If that is your goal, keep it up, you're doing great. Jamie hughes Nc lifetime license holder [REDACTED]
1261	Marshall Lilley	Pinetown	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	with all the restrictions on fishing now, your only going to cause more people to stop fishing altogether or just break the law by not reporting. Make it volunteer. For us honest people, it is just another haggle we have to go through to enjoy a day of fishing.
1262	Randy Cone	Scranton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is abuse of government oversight of recreational fishing in a country and state that is suppose to be free. Silly to require reporting on founder when it is illegal to possess. This is clearly government bureaucracy that will cost more than it will be worth. Save our tax dollars by resending this state requirement for recreational fishing.
1263	Steve Weaver	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	How effective have rules like this been in other states? It seems inconsequential after a day of fishing, when I can only keep 1 (red) fish and no flounders, that I need to submit that information, and I have to wonder how effective this program will be, although I will fully support your recommendation.
1264	Byron LAMBDIN	SMITHFIELD	North Carolina	Both rules	For	A great idea as it appears there was mostly estimates before.
1265	Matthew Kelly	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I see this is as a step forward in transparency and compromise towards utilizing data to drive decision making. As a 24 year resident of NC, avid recreational saltwater angler, and lifetime license holder, I have witnessed an over indexing in favor of commercial interests in this state and the destructive practices of gillnetting and trawling. I believe that we are behind in our efforts to protect our fisheries and to create thriving ecosystems free from these destructive and wasteful practices. We need to transition expediently towards improving recreational angling fish stocks in this state for the benefit of our sons and daughters and to reduce significantly the commercial activities in our waters and possible deconstruct that industry. If that means job retraining for

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						those affected, then the legislature needs to fund those efforts in eastern NC and the people need to be willing to evolve for a better future for everyone. I have had to evolve my entire life as new changes impacted my professional and personal journey and I know we can all do this together.
1266	RICHARD L ERNEST	Jonesville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If I read correctly, this new law requires me as an occasional fisherman in the coastal wateries to report my catch of these species. Is this a method to shift the population monitoring of different fish species to the recreational fisherman versus the wildlife commission monitoring population? I do not support this law and see it as another revenue generation tool from unsuspecting recreational fisherman unaware of this requirement.
1267	Joshua	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This law is a waste of money and time . You should all get better jobs then to sit around doing ignorant things like this .
1268	Garry W Musser	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's utterly ridiculous!!!
1269	Ryan Hilsinger	Asheboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The amount of resources required to truly enforce this rule will create a much larger burden on DMF than the benefit from the information. If stocks of these species are of concern, regulations on size and quantity for both recreational and commercial fishing can be addressed. There is a balance of sustainable commercial fishing, recreational fishing and government support that does not require additional resources in the same scale as enforcing this new rule.
1270	Phil Greer	Kill Deck Hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1271	Brandon Russell	Burlington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not support the proposed changes for a recreational harvesting report.
1272	Sandra Johnson	Ruffin	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1273	George johnson	Ruffin	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	

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1274	Jared K Owens	Denton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I just don't see what you're trying to accomplish with this law going into effect December. It's just another way for you to stick to any avid outdoorsman or woman that truly enjoys a the sport of fishing and it just takes time out of everyone's day to report their catch. Then if someone gets caught not reporting it you're going to fine them and probably take away the rights to even be able to fish. I'd just like it to be known that I'm totally against this bogus law and I really don't know what you are trying to accomplish with this, Other than wanting to infringe on people's god-given right to be able to provide food for their family or just have a good time it's not right at the end of the day. How do you take these words into consideration and at least think about not putting it into effect because morally it's not right or fair the rules that are intact right now are beyond strict enough. Have you even thought about what this is gonna do to the surrounding communities for fishing people probably won't even come to the beach to fish anymore. Have you thought about what that's gonna do for the revenue of certain communities it may take 5 or 10 years before it starts to take effect but eventually people are going to stop coming cause half the reason people come is to fish and if the rules are too strict they're not gonna fish anymore. I just think I've made a couple valid points and I'm sure there are plenty of other valid points why this SHOULD NOT go into effect.
1275	Breck Smith	Gloucester	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I do not agree with the mandatory reporting of any fish caught. This type of mentality is like communist would do. I think persons or officials that are coming up with these ideas tend forget that this is the United States of America home of the Free.
1276	Clarence White	Cameron	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Commercial fishing and over harvest of NC's salt water fish species is a major problem. I'm in favor of a moratorium on all harvest of species of concern. Each year gets worse and worse, it's not worth even buying a fishing license for the coast when you can't even harvest anything. My license has never been checked on the coast ever. I lived in the Outer Banks for five years and fished the southern beaches my whole life and I never once been checked by a Marine patrol Officer for licensing Or limit. We need to put on all harvest for several years and see if it works before it's too late.
1277	Kenneth Foster	Mocksville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Non commercial reporting, there are so many regulations now that you can't enjoy your fishing. The sport fisherman has been denied so many privileges already that I don't have any desire to go anymore. In my opinion is it already controlled enough, I am against any further regulations.
1278	Joshua carr	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Report of havest for data collection causes people to have unessary due burden! I pay my license that accounts for damage by harvesting the fish! Unless you wanna pay me for time this is unconstitutional and will not be adhered to by most anglers! Over reaching government practices!

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1279	Thomas Smith	Pine Knoll Shores	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>1. It is not clear to me the reason for launching such a comprehensive intrusive micromangement of a citizen pass-time.</p> <p>2. It will be tedious and difficult for anglers to do the required record keeping when there is no justification for the effort other than the penalty for not doing it.</p> <p>3. Enforcent will require additional efforts by our wildlife officers and probably require additional wildlife officers creating higher taxes.</p> <p>4. Let's allocate our resources where they will do the public the most good.</p>
1280	Jared K Owens	Denton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I just don't see what you're trying to accomplish with this law going into effect December. It's just another way for you to stick to any avid outdoorsman or woman that truly enjoys a the sport of fishing and it just takes time out of everyone's day to report their catch. Then if someone gets caught not reporting it you're going to fine them and probably take away the rights to even be able to fish. I'd just like it to be known that I'm totally against this bogus law and I really don't know what you are trying to accomplish with this, Other than wanting to infringe on people's god-given right to be able to provide food for their family or just have a good time it's not right at the end of the day. How do you take these words into consideration and at least think about not putting it into effect because morally it's not right or fair the rules that are intact right now are beyond strict enough. Have you even thought about what this is gonna do to the surrounding communities for fishing people probably won't even come to the beach to fish anymore. Have you thought about what that's gonna do for the revenue of certain communities it may take 5 or 10 years before it starts to take effect but eventually people are going to stop coming cause half the reason people come is to fish and if the rules are too strict they're not gonna fish anymore. I just think I've made a couple valid points and I'm sure there are plenty of other valid points why this SHOULD NOT go into effect.</p>
1281	Jared K Owens	Denton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I just don't see what you're trying to accomplish with this law going into effect December. It's just another way for you to stick to any avid outdoorsman or woman that truly enjoys a the sport of fishing and it just takes time out of everyone's day to report their catch. Then if someone gets caught not reporting it you're going to fine them and probably take away the rights to even be able to fish. I'd just like it to be known that I'm totally against this bogus law and I really don't know what you are trying to accomplish with this, Other than wanting to infringe on people's god-given right to be able to provide food for their family or just have a good time it's not right at the end of the day. How do you take these words into consideration and at least think about not putting it into effect because morally it's not right or fair the rules that are intact right now are beyond strict enough. Have you even thought about what this is gonna do to the surrounding communities for fishing people probably won't even come to the beach to fish anymore. Have you thought about what that's gonna do for the revenue of certain communities it may take 5 or</p>

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						10 years before it starts to take effect but eventually people are going to stop coming cause half the reason people come is to fish and if the rules are too strict they're not gonna fish anymore. I just think I've made a couple valid points and I'm sure there are plenty of other valid points why this SHOULD NOT go into effect.
1282	Jeff Baumgartner	Princeton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The commission is over stepping your legal reach. Please reconsider this proposal. I believe the commission is trying to take over the coastal waters on basis's that are not based on facts. A mandatory reporting will not help this situation as most people will not follow these rules. So again you will be basing your information on flawed information.
1283	sidney r lefler	albemarle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	stupid. Go by same laws as South Carolina for the fisherman of our state
1284	James E Griffin	Edenton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't think that recreational fisherman should have to report what they catch. It is the commercial fisherman that are over harvesting. Recreational fisherman do not catch enough of fish to be hurting the fish population.
1285	Wesley B Atkins	High Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Not sure what to put here other than this is insane.
1286	Wendell Craig Casteen	Rose Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm a hook and line fisherman. There's regulations already in place for us. Don't need to take anymore fun and enjoyment from my people. Don't let this be in forced
1287	John Williams	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational harvest reporting is yet another example of government overreach. Plus there would be more fish to catch if pollution was abated. I'm moving and fishing far away from NC.
1288	George K Haislip	Columbia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1289	David Enright	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Once again North Carolina has failed to see what the true problem is. We share the same flounder population with Virginia and South Carolina, yet you took the season from NC sportsman. The pure fact that a man can no longer catch a fish and feed his family is shameful to all those

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						involved in making the bogus regulation and flounder season. Now you want us to record/ tag a red fish and whatever else? Go to the turkey creek boat launch during net season and look at all the by-catch left to rot on a NCWRC Doc! 2 inch flounder, 6 inch speckled trout, and redfish just short of the legal limit left to rot but they were already dead or will die from the gill net scars, they were dumped to avoid fines from the commercial fisherman. STOP intercostal gill netting, stop trawlers within 3 miles of the coast! This is how you regulate the mostly false "shortages" of fish that we are reading about. We know these regulations have to do with research grants and political support. You all need to stop and think about a low income household that can maybe afford a fishing license but if they catch a founder they cannot enjoy the legal right to consume and feed their family. One Red fish is already a ridiculous limit as it is, NC is a sportsman's paradise and would only increase 10 fold as a destination for out of state guests that would pour money into the local economy, not with the pretend regulations. Not with the closed flounder season, not with calling in every red fish caught and kept like a deer harvest. Good thing Marine fisheries has a Brand new Onslow bay boat with twin 250s on it. Way to spend funds accordingly. End Gill netting inshore. This will solve your problems. No one wants to hear about the heritage of fishermen argument anymore, they are not getting rich.
1290	John Trull	Summerfield	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There is no way you will be able to enforce this. I haven't seen a marine fisheries officer in or around Ocean Isle or Sunset Beach in years. Meanwhile we watch the SC guys come across the line with clients and take flounder from Tubbs Inlet all day, everyday. Complete farce. Get rid of gill nets and hold the commercial fishermen accountable. As soon as we find redfish or trout working an area someone shows up at night with a gill net and wipes them out. Ridiculous. Now you want us to fill out a harvest report card like we do for deer or turkey?
1291	James Renas	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Extra burden on guides and recreation fishermen. Good way to discourage the recreational fishing business
1292	Mike Taffler	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Please stop making all these laws without having proper people in place to enforce them. A written law is only as good as the paper it is printed on. This sector has been a joke for years now. Plenty of paper pushers law makers no one to enforce. Because of the lack of enforcement, it has made most anglers no longer care about your laws and do as they wish. Your enforcement officers have told me that themselves. PS YOU DO NOT NEED ONSLOW BAYS TO PATROL WE NEED MORE PATROLS. \$350K would pay for a lot of smaller boats and many more fisheries officers. Sorry if this is wildlife but you all are state and funded by state.

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1293	Brooks Graham	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If you are going to require reporting daily catches then you should allow seasonal limits not daily limits. For instance if flounder season is 14 days and you allow 1 per day, then technically I'm allowed 14 during the season.
1294	Zack	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This new supposed "law" is against the people's constitutional rights. It over steps the privacy of individuals freedoms.
1295	Brian Mohr	Elizabeth City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Proposed rules will put undo stress and inconvenience to rec fishermen while enjoying the fishery. Especially when many rec fishermen don't use the fishery everyday or catch fish in volumes that would negatively affect the fishery.
1296	Sharon carpenter	Louisburg	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You have times & limits on these fish every year. Seems to me you don't want anyone e fishing anymore except commercials that feed restaurants. What about all the netting that goes on at the coast. How many fish do they kill if it's not there preference, & do you not think they go over the limit. You don't leave much for your average citizen to fish, or is that the whole reason for doing this. You have gotten too big for for britches. Leave it to the government & they will screw it up every time. Thanks
1297	Michael Stewart	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Enough is enough yall don't even have the ability to enforce the laws we have let's spend the time and money simply enforcing laws on the books already. All this is going to do is cost more money for operation which means the fishing license will of course go up!!!! Anyone that fish the ocean if they break a law they take that chance of getting fined for it so simply increase the fines and it will reduce the number of times someone breaks the law. Let's be smart about this action!!
1298	Christy P Johnson	Beulaville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1299	Catherine Taulor	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not see a need for reporting fish caught by noncommercial boaters, when guidelines are being followed regarding size and catch limits.

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1300	Ed Hendricks	Greensboro	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
1301	Ed Hendricks	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
1302	Chris Coley	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I think if this is implemented you will have gross under reporting! You don't have enough officers to inspect all the fisherman! I think random unannounced commercial boarding is a good idea!
1303	Jeff Williford	Wendell	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why is North Carolina imposing these new rules when states fishing the same populations of fish do not. It would seem that when migrating fish move into North Carolina waters from Virginia and South Carolina their numbers suddenly plummet. Now we're expected to report the few fish we can keep due to increasing regulatory restrictions. I and many others pay all kinds of fees from licensing, permits and other various charges just to enjoy our favorite pastime. It would seem that those of you making these decisions have little interest in doing the right thing for the largest group funding the recreational fishing industry. You must also remember that these same fishermen have family and friends that account for tourism revenue not just in the prime season, but throughout the entire year. You may soon have your wish and push all North Carolina residents interested in fishing to our sister states. Just remember when you do the money goes with them.
1304	Gray	Grantham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1305	Jennifer Dorton	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I am in favor of the recreational anglers being required to report their harvest. My concerns are related to NC DMF capacity for enforcement and the reporting process. Have funds been allocated to support the hiring for the increased number of DMF and NC Wildlife officers who would be required to enforce this new policy? Additionally, the NC DMF data management system and commercial harvest reporting online system are archaic. Will funds be allocated to bring the NC DMF online and back end data management systems into the 21st century? There must be easy online tools and phone based apps for non-commercial fishermen to use to report catch. Paper reporting, which is still used for commercial harvest data collect (e.g. trip tickets) are not appropriate for internet and phone savvy recreational fishermen. Without the right investment in personnel and tools, including backend data management and development of online reporting

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						apps, these rules will not be followed by non-commercial anglers. This will lead to the continued dysfunctional relationship between commercial and recreational fishermen.
1306	Tim Miller	WEAVERVILLE	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Leave it to government to suck all the fun out of fishing, while at the same time making criminals out of the uninformed. We don't need more government oversight, we need less.
1307	Rick Binkley	Mocksville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Reporting all Red Drum , spotted Trout exceedra to wildlife commissions,, I think it's a good idea, it will help in keeping up with who is doing what, Thanks
1308	Jason Johnson	Virgilina	Virginia	Both rules	Against	Why are you making rules that are unenforceable. No one will stop fishing to report that they caught a weakfish or red drum especially if there is more than one person on that vessel. Yes there are some people that will call and report their catches but if you are really trying to increase stocks then put seasons and size limits like you have for flounder. Speckled Trout could be fished for from April to December by Rec fisherman that is just a idea not my belief. You could have 2 seasons one spring and one fall or a rec season and commercial season. Some Commercial Fisherman do not weigh catches now I don't expect them to start reporting accurately all of a sudden. There are some that follow the rules to the letter and others don't know the rules or think they don't apply to them this goes for Recreational fisherman as well. The system is broken and you should really look at states that have fixed their problems not put band aids on it. I understand that you want to have a balance and you can but somewhere along the way there must be significant change in the way things are done as far as coastal fishing in North Carolina. Do poachers exist in other areas you bet they do however when they are caught the penalties for this are huge and most of them are not from the state in which they are poaching. So with that said I personally believe both rules are bad I am an avid recreational fisherman and have twin girls that I am teaching to respect mother nature. Only take what you can eat and put the rest back. I do not live in NC but my family has property along the coast and we use it regularly and we fish there usually about 60 days a year and no that does not compare to some but we enjoy it. Thank you for your time
1309	Brian davis	High point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1310	Jack Jarvis	Burgaw	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is the commercial fishermen destroying our fisheries and the government is allowing it to happen. Now the recreational fishermen are again getting punished unfairly.

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1311	Leo	Sothport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	First of all, it's a ridiculous rule that adversely affects recreational fishermen in that we cannot catch for our food what the commercials can to sell and further more, you arbitrarily make quotas that are not sustainable. What on earth makes you think that this is a good rule? What you really have done is turn honest people like me into outlaws. When I catch fish, I'm "not" going to go look for someone to report too, I'm taking my catch home cleaning it and putting it in the freezer if I'm not eating it right then. You let commercials rape our waters and then try to punish people who catch fish for food to feed their families. How dare you!
1312	Cindy Mclohon	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why? Fishing is a hobby to be enjoyed, not filled with beurocratic unnecessary actions. Leave fishermen and women alone to enjoy a day of fishing!!! Work on clearing out the channels and inlets instead.
1313	Frank	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Both rules	For	People are posting pictures and videos on social media anyway so what's the difference.
1314	Steven Stone	Harkers Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is the most insane rule I have ever heard of.
1315	Mitchel Callahan	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Rediculous to add yet another rule for recreational fisherman to report their catch. I personally dont harvest any of the fish listed above but still find it silly. For commercial fisherman I understand as they make the large dents in fish stocks.
1316	CHUCK W SHARPE	MOREHEAD CITY	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The lack of participation you will receive will mirror the flounder carcass process from previous years. It's amazing how ridiculous the NCDMF has become and departments from neighboring states continue to marvel at the depths to which things have sunk here in NC.
1317	chad Hord	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	if the DMF and NCWRC REQUIRED the SHRIMP TRAWLERS to REPORT FISH kill by-catch .. as part of this law .. i would whole heartedly support it.. I am 1000% positive that if the shrimp trawlers were banned from estuary/sound trawling .. our entire fishery would recover very very swiftly.
1318	Timothy Ashe	Cullowhee	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	What's next, will I have to get a purchase permit to buy a fishing pole. This is just more money grabbing nonsense by a bunch of politically driven idiots who don't care about the environment. Whoever is pushing this nonsense guarantee will be getting palms greased.

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1319	Sean	Hickory	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The regulations already in place for flounder are extremely based for commercial benefit. Not to any surprise, the government trying to regulate and control even more of the wildlife that sportsmen should be able to harvest to eat. Stupid rules like this will only cause more problems with people taking more fish and breaking rules even more.
1320	Mayhew Paul Norman	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I think that it is a good idea for recreational fish harvesters to report the catches they keep , I was born in a commercial fishing family , and I followed in my Fathers footsteps. Every time that I become involved in a discussion about fish, I always here the same thing, the commercial fisherman has depleted the stock of fish. It is time to take real look at how many fish are caught and by whom the fish are caught by. I have already talked to several men and women who have said that they are going to keep what they want, because they intend to eat them. They say they are not going to report anything. Good luck getting them to follow the rules , maybe if you up the fines to 4 hundred dollars a fish ,they would report their catches and we could get some real information to help control stock .
1321	Ryan Filchuk	Mt Holly	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is a over reach. This is just so the state can make more money.
1322	Corey Elwood	NewLondon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We have creel limits and restrictions already in place per gamefish for inland and coastal waters. This harvest reporting is crap and to write citations based off someone not reporting a fish within their daily bag limit is BS and you people are ruining NC wildlife our states fish and game is crap compared to other states I travel. Everyone I know and have talked to about this is against it 100% so I know if this get implemented the system is rigged.
1323	Rich Panza	Longs	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I would like to comment about the non-commercial harvest reporting. I think it's a complete waste of time and resources (the officials tasked with enforcing the rule as well as the people who are a part of record keeping and follow ups). How is this going to possibly be enforced with any accuracy when the rule expects recreational fisherman, like fathers with their sons at a pier to turn a leisurely outing into a homework assignment with the threat of a punishment attached to it if not done or done improperly. Are you going to be constantly checking and searching and making sure everyone is following the rules? What if I fish is caught that can't be identified correctly? How can there be any accurate count to make any sort of determination on fish numbers? The only thing I see is this being a money grab for the fines that will be collected. For those reasons I am vehemently against this. Maybe a volunteer system could be put in place instead where people would voluntarily collect information for fishery reporting purposes. Dare I say maybe some sort of incentive offered rather than a punishment to unwilling participants.

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1324	Teresa Eubanks	Oak Island	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The sport fisherman is just out for a day on the water & hopes to bring home a fish or two. Reporting each fish caught just seems to take the fun out of fishing & yet commercial fishermen have large limits. They are the ones depleting the fish population.
1325	David wilfong	Newton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel that coastal fishing is one of the last hobbies or relaxing fairly inexpensive things that seniors like me can do without the intimidating inconvenient reporting when I catch a fish in the category. I doubt the few I catch will make any difference whatsoever. Thanks
1326	Richard Nelson	Thomasville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too much control in regulation's already, this is going way too far. Seems the recreational fishermen taking the brunt of the regulations before commercial fisheries.
1327	Shawn Tutor	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We will not have sustainable fish of any species In our estuary waters. Until there are laws Restricting nets in our sounds and estuary waters. commercial fisherman kill way, too many fish in there bycatch. Commercial fisherman have a very powerful lobby and their lobby is funded by the taxpayers of North Carolina. This is an unfair advantage. There is not a state senator or legislator or even our governor who do not receive campaign funds from the commercial fishing industry. Just look at the states such as Florida and Louisiana that have Banned nets in their estuary waters and look at the health and Population of their fish stocks. Commercial harvest continues to increase in North Carolina and recreational harvest. Continue to decrease in North Carolina, but our stocks are still declining until you stop the commercial waters. You cannot save the stock.
1328	David shafer	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is the dumbest crock of nonsense. I promise you there are plenty of fish out here. And while we're on it...Flounder. What in the Sam h*** is going on. They are more than plentiful and this stupid a** one a day for two week is absolutely ridiculous. I don't know which brain trust came up with this crap but obviously they don't fish. All in all having to submit a fish to harvest is the absolute worst idea I have ever heard in my life. What a buncha idiots running things. Truly.
1329	Jaime Short	Winnabow	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am a business owner that has a bait and tackle shop. They're already limits and sizes. This will make recreational anglers take out time from enjoying what a lot of us love doing. Some places fished don't have any service for any internet connection. There's an abundance of older people that don't even know how to use the internet to report unless there's gonna be a hotline.
1330	Jeremy	Maysville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	A lot of uncertainty with these rules. You don't specify if you have to report if you put them in your live well, when you get to the dock, or if it's like deer and have up to 24hrs to report your harvest. If it's when you put the fish in the live well than how does that work for people like me who cull fish constantly or if I was fishing a tournament? I would be reporting multiple fish

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						"harvested" even though I may not even take any home. If it's when I get to the dock than who's to say the marine fisheries are there checking as soon as I pull up and I havnt
1331	Zachary Mozingo	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I am opposed to the proposed MANDATORY requirement of any person who recreationally harvests Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, and Weakfish to report that harvest to the Division of Marine Fisheries. I am also strongly opposed to ticketing of fishermen who fail to report harvests.</p> <p>Reporting should be encouraged and incentivized rather than made mandatory. In my opinion, this is an overreach of the Division of Marine Fisheries that will have the unintended consequence of discouraging weekend hobbyist from participating in a wonderful pastime that is quickly becoming increasingly burdened with over regulation.</p>
1332	Phillip Dakin	Sanford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I have no issues with submitting my catches, but the easier it is to do then more people will comply. An app that you register for and snap a picture of your catch with a measuring device would be easy and provides verification of submission to wildlife officers
1333	Scott Whitley	Greenville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is perfect exayof government overreach. This also is in no way enforceable and will burden officers and the courts. Shame on the state
1334	Forest c chapman	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>Good afternoon. I have been an outdoorsman/fisherman since I was old enough to cast a line and use a long gun. I remember when we could keep 12 speckled trout at a time. I am also a sportsman that consumes every harvest. I am pro conservation, I get all over anyone that doesn't buy their licenses. I frown down on poaching and abusing our resources in North Carolina. However I'm not sure requiring harvest reporting for fishing is logistically feasible. will rhat require folks to have their phone out on the water to log their fish? Hold on son,or hold on honey, we need to get our phones out to log these fish before we go any further.... Seems like a good way to spoil a good time. For some reason my internal compass says no to fish, but yes to big game. Poaching a deer/ turkey/swan/ bear seems like a lot bigger deal than catching one extra trout, or catching a short drum. The ones that eat the best.... I'm saying this with morals in mind... just my 2 cents.</p>
1335	Belinda Wilfong	Newton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1336	Jim Miles	Swansboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	This legislation will add an additional burden on recreational fisherman. The species identified already have massive restrictions. If NC would pass laws restricting trawling and gill nets in bays,

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				Harvest Reporting		marsh and estuaries, you would need to rely on self reporting because the fish stick would increase naturally. But...NC wants to continue to provide a commercial activity that no other Southeastern state provides...they do not have these problems because they do not allow the activity. Restrict trawling and gill netting for 3 years instead and see what happens...better idea than this.
1337	William Adams	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You've got to be kidding with this, right? We moved to NC last year and cannot believe how hard your regs make it on recreational anglers. For all of us who don't have the money to buy a huge boat to go 70 miles offshore, we are stuck trying to catch a flounder or a redfish for dinner, and because you've closed off flounder for 50 of the 52 weeks in a year, that leaves slot reds. You've already made it nearly impossible to enjoy fishing, and now you want us to report what we caught at the end of each of our miserable trips? And you've put enough thought into this reporting thing that you've gone so far as to announce the penalties for non-reporting. Shame on all of you.
1338	Pete Sanderson	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1339	Robert Newsome	Pinnacle	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Isn't this a sweet dressed up version of communism? NOT a fan, and no one not even you are more concerned about conservation than i am. I believe it is unnecessary.
1340	Hagen Blake	Burgaw	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I just don't understand why... are we getting tags???
1341	Aubrey Schreyer	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't think it is feasible to have to report non commercial catches each time you catch and keep a fish. I often go fishing and don't bring my phone because I don't want to get it wet. I don't want to get in trouble for being in the process of fishing and getting checked and ticketed when I am unable to fill out the form .
1342	Charles T Briggs	Elizabeth city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Hook and line fisherman fishing for food and or fun should not be subject to this proposed rule
1343	Jim Rice	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I am commenting on the proposed harvest reporting rules/regulations for both commercial and non-commercial harvest.

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						<p>Reporting is already required for most commercial harvest (fish that are sold), so the proposed regulations are mostly about introducing harvest reporting of recreationally harvested fish. There is no point in commenting "against" the proposed regulations, as these requirements have been mandated by the legislature. But as a fisheries management tool I would be inclined to vote "against" them. One has to ask, what actionable information would this reporting provide? Harvest reporting requirements are usually about tracking fishing mortality, which is a key input for fisheries management. Surely there will be significant under-reporting; how will that be estimated or accounted for? What about Catch and Release mortality? Recreational anglers often catch and release many more fish of the listed species than they harvest, and mortality of released fish can be substantial (same for commercial fishers). How will this be estimated? It seems that this reporting may not provide much useful information at best, and at worst may lead to gross underestimations of fishing mortality for these species.</p> <p>This is yet another example showing that our legislature would better serve us and our fisheries resources if they would mandate good fisheries management, but leave the implementation of how that is done to the MFC and our DMF professionals, rather than mandating particular actions that may be a waste of time and money.</p>
1344	Rodney Ayscue	Zebulon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against reporting for recreational harvesting as it is another rule to add possible confusion and complication to individuals that might fish for these species of fish a few times a year.
1345	Hyman Humphrey	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't agree that a private individual fisherman (Layman) fishing for the enjoyment of fishing should have to report every single fish they catch. Including those named in the rule! It's gonna put everyone on edge and make fishing no longer enjoyable!
1346	Andrea P Clemmons	Southport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I do not think this needs to be implimented. I feel this is ridiculous and makes no sense whatsoever. If you catch a flounder in NC you cannot keep it except during the itsy bitsy season. This is stupid as you can go to SC or VA and catch all you want all year long.</p> <p>Fish caught in nets that are not supposed to be caught can't be kept. They are dead and have to be thrown back. How stupid is that? What sense does that make to enybody?</p> <p>Too many rules and too much regulation. They are not being enforced. Most of the none english speaking fisermen are keeping everything, no mattet the size. You see them fishing everywhere and no one ever says anything to them. They fish the end of Oak Island, the rocks going into Bald</p>

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						Head, Southport waterfront, everywhere. What good are your rules and why are you trying to put moore in effect when you don't even enforce the ones you have now?
1347	Dennis Osborne	Midlothian	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Not really seeing the benefit of the he reporting. The amount harvested if abiding by the limits is small and if someone is exceeding the limit they won't be reporting. The required to report same day is also excessive.It would be less intrusive on a recreational fisherman that's trying to enjoy their vacation to allow the reporting to be done once they have returned home.
1348	Richard W Whittemore	Virginia Beach	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	While improved and accurate catch information is always the goal, this is an unworkable proposal which will wind up with sporadic cooperation by recreational fishermen and inaccurate conclusions from the erratic and incomplete data. Will unduly burden everyone involved in the process
1349	SHARI AVERY	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	we can barely catch anything now and our flounder season is so short and can only keep one flounder what bs
1350	Dennis Leatherman	Catawba	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I am confused on why the NC WRC is asking for comments on a law that I had no idea that was passed. I would have preferred to be on the beginning end of the law making to voice my thoughts on how agree or disagree on the law. At this point I do not see what my comments really matter. But I will say I do not see the benefit to harvest reporting my fish catch. It seems the WRC would rather me buy fish rather than catch my own. I hope I am wrong in my comments, it just seems like a lot of over reaching.
1351	Terry L Wiley	Lillington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am a NC Lifetime Fishing License holder owner. I bought at full price 1 for myself and the other for my wife, and 2 grand children lifetime and an adopted nephew lifeti.e license. First of all, I believe we have a contract for the dates we purchased these license. We should be grandfathered to these changes and of course more coming. 2nd, we onyy catch a few fish per year, most of us can only afford a 1 week lo g fishing trip to the salt water therefore we do not even touch the statistics counting which hurts our fish population. And I do understand there are people who commercially fish and that would be fine if they were only catching legal size and type fish however they are catching every king of sealife and releasing the dead, non-legal fish whish is the pure issue of the fishing mandates. The regular fishing angler is not your issue but I (we) are being penalized for the damage the commerical fishing industry is creating. I feel stri ter fishing laws and surprise visits the vessel commercially fishing and stiff fines for those who are killing and releasing dead sealife. Terry Wiley, ██████████, ██████████
1352	Robert Curtis Gill jr	Youngsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	People fishing from the shore like me, don't hurt the population. The people with nets is the problem. I only go 2 or 3 times a year and l throw most of my fish back in the water anyway. The

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				Harvest Reporting		only time I keep fish is the last day of vacation, but our opinion doesn't matter anyway. Need different people in the wildlife program
1353	Joe Gilliland	Chesterfield	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm disappointed with these rule changes. The recreational fisherman has been reduced to keeping very few fish as limits have changed over the years. Every fisherman I know is a conservationist because we know that is our future and our kids future. We don't need to be forced to report every detail. Another example of ridiculous government over reach. The amount of money that recreational fisherman dump into the economy and you want regulate us out of existence.
1354	Bill Blackwell	Roper	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This proposal is stupid and will be impossible to enforce. Have any other states on the east coast attempted to impose this law? I suggest that the NC General Assembly allow Marine Fisheries to manage our resources and keep their noses out of issues they know nothing about.
1355	Andrew Garrison	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	After moving here 4 years ago I learned just how bad the local commercial fishermen are about destroying these resources. I came here with hopes of spending the rest of my life on the coast fishing and relaxing but what I found was incredibly restrictive water access, legislation that seemed to empower the commercial fishermen to do whatever they wanted without regard for anyone or anything and a local sub-government that seems to believe they're purpose is to dictate the lives of everyone around them. It's not a pleasant place to be and I'm now moving to get away from coastal NC. Placing additional restrictions and forcing the general public to adopt these insane rules while not addressing the much larger concern of gill nets seems asinine to me and I really want no part of it any more.
1356	Matt MacIntosh	Browns Summit	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Would the reporter be able to use the NC hunting app to report a harvest? If so it should be pretty easy to do. If not it would seem to be a chore.
1357	Joseph Gibbs	Fairfield	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	More rules I feel is a bad idea. I say this cause who exactly is going to inforce these rules? The Marine Fisheries Officers or the Wildlife Resource Officers? They don't have the man power to enforce the recreational or commercial fisherman. As for recreational fisherman , there will be so many that don't report that it will make any study you all do unreliable info. As for commercial fisherman, they already been doing trip tickets for years. So I don't quite understand the point in getting them to do another. Anything they bring in commercially is being sold and that should be enough info. Making rules ontop of rules already in place seems redundant in my personal opinion. As for me , I am a commercial license holder but don't use it unless there comes a time in future when I may have to. I fish recreational 100 percent of the time and for me to have to

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						worry about filling out a form whether online or paper , well just won't happen 100 percent of the time. And I'm willing to bet money more people won't than will. Making people pay a fine and possibly taking thier license because they don't tell someone about one grey trout or one flounder they caught is just down right idiotic. I could understand a little better if say they we're a four fish limit. But the way the marine fisheries are doing making one fish limits, the most fish a fisherman can bring in will be four total fish anyways. We can have four speckle trout now but give it a few months , they will make it one or none. So I say again , who the h*** wants to report that crap. Commercial fisherman have been dealing with these rules for 40 plus years now and yet it's the commercial fisherman's fault so let's put more rules on them. I believe if just half the recreational people give a honest amount that they catch , it will show how many more fish they kill than commercial. Just think of the millions of out of state tourists that come down that won't report anything. Who's going to keep tabs on them? The three or four Officers on the Outerbanks? Good luck with that NOT!
1358	Matthew Trala	Dunn	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am whole heartedly against this requirement and believe it is a violation of privacy and my rights to life as a whole. This is a violation to a private citizens right to live and fish no matter the reason.
1359	Richard C Foran	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1360	Clifford Hamlen	Anchorage	Alaska	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recommend harvest reporting- for speckled trout recommend retaining same harvest limits that currently exist- once there's data from the new harvest reporting , a more informed decision can be made.
1361	Michael Bryant	Manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too vague to understand if the requirement on fisher will be a burden.
1362	Jerry	Bahama	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Exactly what is this supposed to accomplish? I'm a recreational fisherman who gets to fish maybe once or twice a year. I obey the rules and regulations for the fish I keep. This additional reporting is just another thing to deal with that I believe is unnecessary for the recreational fisherman.

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1363	Jesse Pulley	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am not a full-time recreational fisherman, maybe 8 or 9 times a year. It just seems that this is another burden put on the average person that has not been necessary in our neighboring states. In my opinion it puts a huge damper on the desire to even go out.
1364	Brett	Emerald isle	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1365	Ben	Die	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this law is bull . The recreational fishermen is get punished for something the commercial fishery is doing. It's not the recreational fishermen fault that it's get over fished . It's just another way for all of you to make money by trying to catch people. Your going to make people stop fishing all together
1366	George Menegus jr	Calabash	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Ridiculous to hold sport fishermen accountable when limits are already in place . Why would you do things to discourage recreational fishing. Shame on you.What's next and bait tax .
1367	Tom Monaco	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is insane and impossible to regulate. As a recreational fisherman I would be willing to participate in reporting catches of these species if the program was voluntary and I think many others would also be willing to participate. But a mandated reporting system is doomed to failure.
1368	Linda McNeill	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I fish for recreation. Keep only what we can eat and find it more big brother interference in my life. If there is concern about people going over limit then campaign for more officers. I live on a creek and see the officer maybe twice a year.
1369	EDWARD F GREENE	SNEADS FERRY	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Nc already has a hand in the wrong direction
1370	Greg McGee	Apex	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	These rules should be for commercial operators only, as their impact is much greater than that of recreational fishers. What is the proposed duration, with only a one-time funding? Will this reporting be provided through the app on a cellphone?
1371	Jeremy Cornelius	Rockwell	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Some older people don't even have a phone, how do they report it. It would be more logical to give fish tags and when a individual tags out they are done. So many people don't get to fish anytime they want. A week or 2 a year. If individuals only had say 7 flounder tags per year. He only gets to come 1 or 2 times a year, he still gets to partake in enjoying eating the species. You close the season for a year you aren't saving the fish. The locals take the fish year round now. Now that they are breaking laws they don't care about size or creel limits. Closing the season all

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						together may have been your biggest mistake yet. Yall don't have enough wardens to write tickets for all the laws broke daily. Would it not be more logical to instate laws and rules people can get behind that would help the population. And bottom line, the commercial fishermen rape the water all around us residential folk on shore and offshore with nets trying to make that living cause somebody has to is outrageous. Letting them make money on something you deny the public the privilege of, and you wonder why people don't abide by your backwards legislation, someone lobbying marine fisheries and saying nc marine fisheries is a separate entity than ncwrc is a joke. If yer separate then ncwrc wardens shouldn't be writing your tickets.
1372	Carroll Rickard	Sanford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I quit coastal fishing many years ago due to regulations changing year after year. It's not worth driving to the coast to fish when you need legal help to make sure your catching the right length fish, or too many of this or that. It's the commercial fishing that is emptying our water for the demand of the public.
1373	Martin (Butch) Wolfe	mebane	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I am against the proposed rules for recreational fisherman. Already there are limits, slot limits, and restricted harvest for the targeted species. If recreational fisherman follow all the restrictions that are currently in place these species should not be in danger. Having to report these catches will make it even more difficult for me to enjoy our resources. What is more needed than reporting is more enforcement. Use the money to set up and manage this catch for more game wardeqns . I'd rather have my catch and my license checked than go to the trouble to report.</p> <p>As for commercial fisherman, as long as the reporting is not too much trouble to use. It shouldn't be an issue. But again more enforcement of the current rules would be a better solution.</p> <p>As for commercial</p>
1374	Michael Tormenti	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Recreational fishing is just that, Recreation. If you turn it into a bureaucratic mess for folks who go a few times a year you will lose them. If you want to make it voluntary that makes sense it should give you enough data to calculate fish numbers. Commercial fishermen should report they impact fish populations more through bye catch and juvenile harvesting.
1375	Rich Hoffer	Surf City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I strongly disagree for recreational fishermen to report a day harvest report. Our fisheries have been destroyed, decimated by inshore, mullet, spot and any other nets. I lived in Florida when we were able to banned all netting inshore and pushed it out off the coast 3 miles. The fish population increased dramatically after the net ban went in to affect. Florida has a huge recreational fishing industry that brings by far more revenue for the state than inshore commercial fisheries ever did. All of our resources belong to every legal tax paying resident of North

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						<p>Carolina. No certain group should have the right to over harvest our resources. I know this new law is supposed to gather critical information about our resources, but every time something like this comes to the table, the recreational guy get the short end of the stick. Start enforcing the laws on the books instead of actions like this. I know our Marine Fisheries our severely underfunded for the task at protecting our current resources in our coastal waters. Hiring more officers to enforce the illegal activities that go on in Commercial and Recreational sectors is a far better approach to the critical situation we are in now. Look at our neighbors North and South of us to see how there fisheries our doing.</p> <p>Keep North Carolina number one In coastal fishing instead of our neighbors.</p> <p>Thanks, Rich Hoffer</p>
1376	Mike Langer	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Both rules	For	<p>While in general I support "Harvest" counting, I think the measure as mentioned on the website needs to reflect sportsman that don't have internet or phone over several days (for example remote camping obx or floating the rivers for days on end, the one day turn around rule is too tight) this is current verbiage: "You will go to the DMF website (www.ncmarinefisheries.net) and print a report card prior to your trip. If you need to report your harvest, you'll use the report card to record your information. You will then have until midnight the day following harvest to submit your information electronically." A phone call system like the one used to report game would be better, but keeping a log and turning in monthly (or similar) would even be better. If you really want compliance there should be an incentive.</p>
1377	Joseph Thurber	Swansboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I feel that the requirements are both tedious and almost unenforceable. Time would be better spent enforcing the regulations that are already in place. I see way too many fishermen who do NOT obey the rules. I understand that we need to protect our marine resources, but you are taking the fun out of recreational fishing for those of us who try to follow the rules. Thank you for your consideration of my opinion.</p>
1378	Justin Scritsmier	WINSTON SALEM	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>All of you need to be fired for growing government to the size it has become.</p>
1379	Andy Riewestahl	Coats	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Dumbest thing I ever heard. You need to fix the real problem and get rid of the nets and shrimp trawling in joint waters and you'll fix your problems. Other states around us don't allow nets and shrimping and they don't have such strict rules on rec fishing. It's bad when you have to go out of state fishing and spend money in other states to enjoy what you like to do and be able to keep more than 1 fish it's ridiculous. I go to sc a lot flounder gigging and spend money down there. I'll give my money to them since nc doesn't seem to want it</p>

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1380	George	Sprung	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>I would like to know the rationale for mandatory reporting by recreational fisherman before deciding if I am for or against. Is it one of the following:</p> <p>1) To better understand by fish management personnel of the fish populations from recreational catches and to monitor populations? If so okay.</p> <p>2) To counter claims that recreational fishermen take more fish than commercial fishermen or vice versa? If so okay.</p> <p>3) To improve fish populations for the enjoyment of future generations? If so okay.</p> <p>4) Lastly this requirement to report catches would appear onerous and unenforceable without significantly increasing Wildlife Management personnel. I recognize reporting the successful hunts of deer, bear and other wildlife are being done as well as significant requirements on commercial fisherman and crabbers for reporting catches. Is this requirement to justify the need for more Wildlife Management personnel? If so I am not okay with it without knowing the answers to above.</p> <p>I applaud the efforts to improve wildlife management and to protect our environment and resources.</p>
1381	John Chapple	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It won't make any difference.
1382	Mike Lynch	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is unenforceable. So it is not well thought out and pointless legislation/rule. Stupid Really. I'm very against any regulation such as this on NC citizens. There better and tested ways to get data desired.
1383	Christopher Mark Hill	Concord	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We should allow for more investigation & information gathering to have a greater opportunity for a good decision to move forward. This should be delayed until 2026
1384	Brenda New	Hubert	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Are you folks crazy. It's difficult enough for the locals and elderly. We have to carry a book to go fishing cause I can't remember all the rules in place now. I'm turning 64 and my husbands 68. Can you make things more difficult?
1385	Robert Norris	Hope Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Since the fish do not belong to anybody and this is primarily just a way to make money in against the rule of having to report a harvest of flounder to a recreational fisherman. As it stands NC will not allow you to harvest but 1 i think. I haven't been but, if i wanted to do so i can't get enough to eat. If anything let the sportsman catch what he wants and limit the commercial fisherman they're the ones getting all the fish.

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1386	John M. Farrow	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	For	This is a great opportunity to see who's taking all of the fish!!! Also commercial harvesting should stay out of creeks in late winter early spring when salt water fish are reproducing!!! Commercial fishermen set nets in Pages check in April and took 1500 lbs of trout and 2500 lbs of mullet out of the creek in one night and now they're not any trout or mullet in the creek!!! Stay out of the creek's!!! The fish have got to repopulate!!!
1387	Thomas	Bayboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Thanks again for implementing more rules that further divides commercial fishermen and recreational fishermen against the marine fisheries association
1388	Gary Davis	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>For what it is worth, I will write this. The flounder fishing has been royally messed up. No, not messed up from catching but, being a legal angler. Now y'all want us to report something we keep. Do we get to be in the state retirement system and health insurance? If we have to do the game warden's job, I want benefits. I do not see what reporting after the fact will do anything. Fish is gone by then.</p> <p>Also making this another law? Really? It is illegal to go above the posted speed limits on the roads. Guess how many folks do it. A bunch. Illegal to kill people, turn on the news any given night and see how many people do it.</p> <p>Leave the fishing world alone. If yall dont. I will. Sell the boat and everything. It is not worth riding 2-3 hours to fish and keep hardly nothing anymore. Maybe when the economy around the east sinks, yall will realize it.</p> <p>Go ahead and pass another law-that solves everything</p>
1389	Richard Reece	Fletcher	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I live in Fletcher ,go every year to the outer Banks to relax and fish ,I'm trying to get away from paperwork ,I have not bought n.c.fishing license yet as I fish in SC ,think I will stop going to outer Banks and fish in SC more often ,this is to much for recreational fishing there will not be any enjoy in fishing and having to go online ,good luck with your program but think I'm out of it
1390	Tammy Gargon	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Don't we have enough of stipulations with fishing in North Carolina. I was born here and raised on the sound, never would I have ever thought we would start leaning toward so many unnecessary rules. Can't catch flounder but 2 weeks, all fish have size and limits. Now we have to tell you everytime we catch almost anything. Oh and when are you going to force the rules of the fish being caught under size and out of season with folks not from this country? I see it all summer long at the Snow Cut landing and along the banks. Over fishing is not causing the shortage, it's all the over development polluting our waterways. Maybe that should be your main priority not if I actually catch a fish on a hook and line.

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1391	John Lyerly	Oak island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is totally ridiculous! You have all but stopped my love and a lot of others fro saltwater fishing! Limits for non-commercial is stupid! Commercial guys can kill juvenile fish thru by catch from nets and it's ok! Not! You need to get them off the beach and sounds and allow our fish to grow. Flounder limits are very unfair. My dad took me as a young boy flounder fishing several times a year and I really don't have that opportunity to share with my grandson due to your limits and days to fish
1392	Mark Matthews	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think the data collected will not be usable. I would expect most fishermen that fish and catch little to no fish will not report, thus skewing the results. Those that catch and report will be outnumbered by those that don't report. An alternative would be to select randomly a group to keep a diary of their trips as the waterfowl hunters are asked to do. Yes, voluntary but perhaps better data to determine the impact of recreational fishermen on the resource. There is no question that commercial fishermen should report each day.
1393	Nancy Paul	Bennettsville	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	In NC, you have rules limiting flounder already. For two weeks you can only catch 1 and you want us to report that. I can understand commercial rules, but for us folks recreationally fishing for enjoyment and food, it's a lot of work for the state to pay someone to keep up with that. Instead of limiting individuals so much, why not limit the commercial folks. They are the ones over the limits.
1394	Michael Park Weekes	Fuquay Varina	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Rediculous to ask this of any recreational fisher. Near imposible to enforce, and what will become of the data which will be meaningless. Ask any fishery scientest who knows how to properly study any data.
1395	Michael Park Weekes	Fuquay Varina	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Rediculous to ask this of any recreational fisher. Near imposible to enforce, and what will become of the data which will be meaningless. Ask any fishery scientest who knows how to properly study any data.
1396	Michael Park Weekes	Fuquay Varina	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Rediculous to ask this of any recreational fisher. Near imposible to enforce, and what will become of the data which will be meaningless. Ask any fishery scientest who knows how to properly study any data.
1397	Joel Kinsey Wetherington	Ayden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Why are we now having to report . Wildlife agents are patrolling the waters. You get checked. If you are legal all is fine. If not you get cited. What is wrong with the system we have in place.

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1398	Nick Lozier	Wilmington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Outlaw Trawler nets, Gillnets nets, Saine nets and gigging. If you do, we will have sustainable fishing for generations to come. Thank you
1399	David May	Mechanicsville	Virginia	Both rules	For	Add Pompano to the list.
1400	Eric Caraway	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It should be for commercial only
1401	Scott Lee	Newpoet	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Driving into Morehead City there is a sign that reads "A fisherman's paradise". What a joke. Fist it was the promise of how a saltwater fishing license was going to beneficial. Please tell me what I have reaped from this. Now I have to report my fish. WHAT FISH??? I can keep one drum, no flounder, four speck... tell me why I keep fishing. Get rid of the nets if you want fish to return. Sure net fisherman will say it's a way of life. Well so was buffalo hunting but things change. Honestly, fishing isn't worth it anymore.
1402	Greg theodorakis	Atlantic beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Less government is a good thing ! You're going to make the innocent guilty!
1403	Clara Lozier	Wilmington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Outlaw all net fishing. This indiscriminately kills fish and other wildlife. Thank you
1404	Ronald Citerone	Ridley Park PA 19078	Pennsylvania	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The likely hood of getting sound Scientific Data is very low in my opinion.
1405	William Ricky Womack	Sanford Nc	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why is the working man the one it hurts the most , we can't go to the beach and catch fish to feed our family's any more . Commercial fishing with there nets can go and fish and keep pounds and pounds of flounder. And yes that's how they make a living u get that but we work hard to buy fishing license to catch fish we can't keep. But south Carolina and Virginia don't have these stupid regulations and don't have a problem with there Fisheries, to me it's just a money gimmick for the commercial fish! Thank you !
1406	Wiley Jones	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	For	I can support the proposed temporary rules to report the harvesting of fish species, if we are able to increase the bag limits and open a longer season for flounder.

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				Harvest Reporting		<p>The rule I would like to comment on two elements of the proposed rule. The first is regarding (15A NCAC 031.0124(b). The harvest is supposed to be reported when the boat arrives at the dock/shore. If the plan was to record the harvest on the mobile device, and the battery runs out when the boat reaches the dock, then the angler would be in violation of the rule. We should not have to kill trees and print a report card because the battery on the phone is exhausted.</p> <p>The second comment is in relation to the reporting area of harvest (15A NCAC 031.0124(b)(6). I was disappointed there was not an example of the proposed harvest collection system on the internet to demonstrate the required information expected to be collected. Without being able to see an example of what information is required, I have no way to voice an opinion about the area of harvest. Is this simply the county the boat was launched from to go fishing, or is it specific to the creek, river, sound or Atlantic Ocean where the fish was landed in the boat?</p> <p>I certainly hope this data collected will allow recreational anglers to have a season for flounder. It is very disappointing for us that live inland, not to be able to keep flounder because we don't happen to have a trip planned for a specific 2 week period in late September. If it were at least in early September, we could keep the fish over the Labor day holiday weekend.</p> <p>Is there a phone number similar to 1-800-I-GOT-ONE for big game harvesting? If these five species of fish are that important, it could be 1-800-FISHING perhaps.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
1407	Skylar Lozier	Wilmington	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>Outlaw all net fishing. This indiscriminately kills fish and wildlife.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
1408	Jacob	Cottrell	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>Commercial fishing vessels strictly fishing in a not for hire category should be required to report. Any private individual chartering a boat for recreational fishing purposes (includes keeping fish) should be exempt from this rule. Private individuals fishing for recreation or sustenance should be void from season limits and reporting laws. The state does not own fish in the ocean more can they regulate the private taking of them. Any attempt to regulate seasons bag limits and size of any fish taken by a private individual in a not for profit form is absolutely against the law. Commercial fishermen are a for profit entity and must report based on the sole fact that every fish they catch equals dollars earned. A private fisherman fishing for supper should not and will not be subject to the states laws imposed on seasons bag limits and size.</p>

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1409	Dustin Walker	Granite Falls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Will we be in trouble if we don't report a catch right away? Can we wait until we get home? There are already limits that I believe most people follow. This seems like a waste of time and money. It also sounded like Marine Fisheries never asked for this in the articles I read.
1410	Douglas Head	Pikeville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Non-commercial This will probably be the last step you take to make the non-commercial fisherman completely give up trout fishing That puts a lot of money to the state of NC I've been fishing for 50 years and I've seen the commercial fishing destroy. Red fish / Crocker/ flounder/ gray trout/ and have almost destroyed speckled trout
1411	Steven Smith	Bayboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against 2023-137 section 6.
1412	William Proctor	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Catch limits are already so small that it takes a lot of the enjoyment out of fishing. We do not need any more rules and regulations implemented on fishermen in the state of NC
1413	William B Patten Jr	Concord	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is outrageous. Recreational fishermen have minimal impact on the fishery if existing rules and limits are observed. Most recreational fishermen are fortunate if they get to fish 7 or 8 days per year! The rule would be onerous and defies common sense, and it represents massive bureaucratic overreach by government agencies.
1414	Ron E Brisson	Rolesville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	In my personal opinion this is #1 a silly proposal, #2 an unenforceable one, and #3 the expense to hire enough staff to make it be taken seriously would far to great. Quite frankly, I'm tired of the overreach by government (Wildlife) infringing so radically on our rights. It appears that neither VA OR SC have need of these types of restrictive "solutions". For people like myself. who get to fish just a few times a year this is disheartening. Got a Lifetime License for what reason? Let's use some common sense in NC? Please.
1415	Joseph Boyko	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The fish listed are migratory fish, so this rule has no merrit to collect conclusive data of the fish population in a designated area (NC) or how to improve fish population and manage it. In my opinion its another rule for a government agency to micro manage the people of north Carolina and profit from it.
1416	Kyle Parrish	Godwin	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	It's already bad enough that we have a season on flounder. Yet you let the commercial fishermen still continue to deplete our waterways with nets. It's simple do away with nets and have a better fishery. I'm totally against it.

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				Harvest Reporting		
1417	Watson Tomlinson	Mt Holly	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Rule on reporting catches of Red Drum, Trout and Flounder. This is a waste of money because it is difficult to enforce and very few will bother to report catches.
1418	Reuben Gunnells	Harrellsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Don't see the need to further the burden on the sporting public. Recreational fishing has been burdened with enough regulation that would cost middle income citizens more for not doing the biologist job. It would be a travesty of Justice to fine someone for not reporting a legal catch. Not for this rule at all!!!! Thank you
1419	Chuck Fastige	Reidsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Bs to put additional regulations on rec fisherman. Should be every nc resident RIGHT TO FISH AND FEED FAMILY!
1420	luke scala	Garner	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I understand the need to track certain species of fish to adequately decide daily limits and manage population. Having said that every year it seems more law are enacted that seriously detract from the desire to fish NC waters. I know a lot of people who now fish solely SC waters because they are getting tired of NC limits, regulation (such as these) and running the risk of getting a citation for something they had no idea changed.</p> <p>Secondly, what if my phone dies and I can't connect to the internet, or elderly fishers who don't have cell phones with internet (my dad for one), how do they report and when?</p> <p>Can they do it when they get home or do I have to do this before I get off the water?</p> <p>Nothing about this seems reasonable or thought out.</p> <p>Finally the only people who are going to abide by it are law abiding citizens. The ones out there keeping more than the daily limit, fishing without a license, out of season etc aren't going to follow these rules anyway.</p> <p>You're just further punishing people who already follow the rules.</p> <p>I personally would love to know who voted for this law so I can vote against them in the next</p>

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						election. Yall are taking the fun out of fishing.
1421	Stacy	Kinston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	What does NC have against recreational fisherman? This is ridiculous. It's amazing to see what VA and SC have going in their fisheries and here we are in NC and we have the same if not better resources but yall allow netting where it should not be allowed
1422	Andrea	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	A bit invasive for recreational fishing.
1423	Harold Chapman jr	Salisbury	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think North Carolina is getting excessive with the rules on regular fisherman. Neighboring states have much better fisheries and you can actually keep fish to eat. If anyone should be regulated it's the commercial fisherman. Nets and all other over harvesting comes from them. Rod and reel fisherman have a hard enough time catching anything. Ridiculous
1424	christopher Hines	Mechanicsville	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	
1425	Robert D Coon	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	this is a ridicule's requirement, even if you only mean catch and keep, but if you include catch and release your way out of line. For commercial fishermen who track their catch I c see some reasonableness to it but to require a recreational fisher to do this is beyond reasonableness. Perhaps if you limit it to a single species but even then it is obtuse to expect the general public to do this. Should you enact these rules I will not fish salt water during your reporting period.
1426	Terri Osborne	Midlothian	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Our family spends a week twice a year to enjoy a beach vacation. We enjoy fishing during this time. I'm against the requirement to report in general, but specifically the requirement to report day of catch is unreasonable. People trying to enjoy vacation should not have to deal with reporting a catch, if they are so lucky every day. The number of harvest from the beach is going to be minimal compared to a commercial fisherman using a net. They need to report everything they catch. We release anything we catch so it wouldn't apply to us anyway, but how is this going to be enforced? Seems like manpower could be better utilized doing something else instead of looking into people's coolers and following them home to make sure they report their catch.

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1427	William croom	Wallace	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Onerous rules for recreational fishing are overreach. Also, enforcing such rules even when phased in will be haphazard at best . I have a lifetime sportsman's license and am a conscientious steward, always adhering to size and catch limits. Fishing should be an enjoyable pass time.
1428	Jay Smith	morehead city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	First I don't see how this rule is enforceable. Second I commission needs to make the rules, not the politicians.
1429	Alan Bledsoe	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1430	William Hunt	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting harvest of fish caught during the day is unfair to the recreational fishermen and should NOT be implemented. I deer hunt and understand the necessity for certain areas, but fishing? I cannot understand how any real fisher person should support this "control." I support environmental protections, but this makes no sense!
1431	Justin Stewart	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>Section A 1 . if a vessel is used, when fish reach the shore or a structure connected to the shore;</p> <p>This is ridiculous. So as soon as I hit the boat ramp dock, I'm non-compliant if I haven't already reported the fish.</p> <p>Let me take the boat out of the water first. There is enough pressure on NC public boat ramps as is. Making someone tie up and immediately report their catch will just make lines at boat ramps worse. Taking a boat out of the water at a crowded ramp is already stressful enough and there are safety concerns if you force someone to think about reporting fish instead of safely removing their boat from the water.</p> <p>How do you expect someone to do this if they don't own a cellphone. Cellphones aren't required for a fishing license.</p> <p>What if the reporting website is down or not working correctly and prevents me from logging my catch.</p> <p>This entire idea hasn't been thought out all the way.</p>

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1432	James Phillips	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is ignorance at its finest
1433	steven mathews	Chocowinity	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I am for it, but I don't believe many people will comply.
1434	S. Z.	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Agree that recreational/non-commercial harvests need to be accounted for, just think that there's gotta be a better way to encourage reporting than to fine people. How are you gonna make folks aware its a requirement and enforce it?
1435	Scott	Ocean isle beach	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	It's about time commercial fishing is regulated and held to account. In shore trolling needs to be stopped as well. It is destroying our fisheries.
1436	William M. Piercy	Morganton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It's getting so over regulated that you need to take a lawyer with you to know what laws you are about to break. And the Flounder regulations are crazy. I have disabilities that I have to have treatments for and the last two years I was having treatments and missed Flounder season. I'm 68 and live 340 miles from my RV.
1437	Anne Heymann	Chapel Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an onerous burden on recreational fishermen & women in our state. I believe in conservation of our environment but this proposed rule and restrictions on fishing seasons like, flounder season, are overly restrictive. Please do not make it more cumbersome for the recreational public to enjoy OUR waterways and marine fishing and natural resources!
1438	Benny Patton	Archdale	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I think we need to clean house in Raleigh
1439	Greg Roberts	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm at a loss for why this proposal is being introduced. I have been a lifetime license holder since 1987, probably longer than some that are working on this "project" have been alive. I already report all big game I harvest and now you want me to report fish counts. Most fishermen know the rules and follow them just like I did two weekends ago when I caught and released 20 plus speckled trout because none measured 14 inches. Whatever the thought process is here the big game nor the fish belong to State Government. They belong to us all and I will "NOT" comply with this rule. I also think someone should look at the funds you receive from license sales because I'm certain it pays a large portion of your agencies costs. You enact this and sales will plummet. Your shooting yourself in the foot and are so hungry to control something else that you cant see it. Open your eyes and leave honest tax paying citizens alone.

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1440	Brenda Patton	Archdale	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It hurts more than it helps.
1441	WILLIAM HARVEY	WINSTON-SALEM	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is not a good idea. I would like to maintain the freedom to catch a fish and not tell anyone about it. If put into law there is a likelihood that everyone in the state will flood the system and report catching hundreds of each fish per day.
1442	Rory shook	Sanford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	From what I've read, if I'm on cape lookout for a week without internet access then I will be ticketed for anything I catch for the first 6 days because I cannot report it by midnight the next day. These rules put a unfair burden on fisherman that don't use mobile technology and fish for more than one day at a time. Seems like another way of generating ticket revenue at the expense of recreational fisherman again, enough of that is already happening. I've seen people with no illegal fish get a ticket while not fishing or doing anything at all.
1443	Eric Lineberry	Thomasville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not think there should be so much of regulation on these fish for ever single fish. I know we have those people who will take way more and abuse the quantity of fish they are allowed to take. But as always the honest folks are stuck with all the hassles because of others. We have begun to make it so families don't want to even do any fishing or hunting anymore. I have talked to about 35 folks about this and it is the same old thing. Why should I report anything at all. It is only the honest people that are bothered by this. The bad people will never report anything anyway.
1444	Todd Hilliard	Riedsville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is a clear power grab for more government control and overreach! Trying to grow the government, hire more enforcement personnel and generate more revenue through penalties and fines ! More unreasonable regulations that will harm both commercial and non-commercial fishers. These proposed regulations are unreasonable and unnecessary ! This will hit the commercial fisherman especially hard, incur much greater expense for them and consumers as well ! I clearly see this for what it is, which is total BULL S*** !!!
1445	Tad Thomas	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It seems to me that you are doing everything to monitor and or limit recreational fishing to include harvest limits and minimum size, while at the same time ignoring the fact the we are the only state on the east coast that allows inshore netting! Let's look at the elephant in the room instead of the mouse that's scaring it
1446	Charles pippin	Lagrange	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I truly believe you are over stepping this by a whole lot. There are to many rules and regulations now. I pay to much to fish for a minimum amount that will not even feed my family. Shame on you.
1447	C S Risen	Lumberton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	What few fish the recreational fisherman catch with a fishing pole or two, Is not the issue. The ones that set nets across the inlets and openings to rivers and etc. Are the problem. They should not be allowed to set nets across the water. If that is in enforced then maybe it would help the fish

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				Harvest Reporting		population. The limits of fish for NC are ridiculous, makes you not want to go fishing in NC at all . We used to go down to NC beaches all the time and go fishing, the whole family. It's sad that we can't do this anymore. Even sold our beach house because it's not worth the expense to go to catch 1 fish.
1448	Thomas Trevathan	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am very much against this reporting for recreational fishing.
1449	Coley Maynard	Mebane	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I think that this may indeed help to protect these fisheries by helping to keep an accurate number of fish harvested. I am however concerned that reporting will be limited by cellular service, specifically lack of in some areas of coastal NC. This could present a major problem when the report is due at the dock. Cell service is not always available, some people don't have internet access and some people don't have a printer.
1450	Derek Noble	Cedar point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I rent out properties and fishing skiffs. We have already seen a downturn in business due to this type of legislature, for flounder which are everywhere and can be caught 10 months of the year. This will further erode local economies, and is not needed. These fish listed are plentiful. If any of you fished you'd know that, But its hard to see from your taxpayer funded office in Raleigh. If this goes through i'll forgo buying fishing licenses and just keep what i want. No use in funding this idiocy.
1451	Micah Riall	zebulon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this rule is putting undue burden on recreational fisherman who want to catch fish to eat for their family and friends. This is totally an intrusion of the NC State government into the lives of the citizens and is another example of the bureaucratic NONSENSE that has infected our country. While I understand that the natural resources of the state should be protected from over use and abuse this is something that is NOT done by recreational fishermen. There is ABSOLUTELY NO REASON why this rule is needed for them.
1452	Shawn Hocker	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Carolina is already an embarrassment by having netting in estuaries... This would add insult to injury to kill all fishing tourism to have mandatory reporting , which is just another barrier to access fishing from a recreational citizen or, Tourist
1453	Jerry Nowlin	Siloam	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	When I go fishing I am on Vacation I don't want to spend my time with a ridiculous report every day. Haven't you already put enough rules on recreational fishermen.

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1454	Joseph Mauro	Maple Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Until you fixed the ridiculous commercial fishing practices still open in NC and start stepping up enforcement of illegal practice used by some Roger commercial fishermen, the recreational fisherman will continue to pay the price to enjoy God's resources and it will collapse. As speed limit sign is ineffective showing people down unless a cop's there to enforce it. Do better!! You are moving towards making a once beloved outdoor recreational activity so confusing and cumbersome that is no longer fun nor enjoyable without unintentionally violating some stupid regulation. Stand up for the people whose taxes support your pay and put an end to capitalistic greed. You can't do that then step aside and let people who can.
1455	Will Phillips	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Seeing as how there are creel limits on all the fish under this new proposed rule...I'm not seeing how it makes sense to require reporting anything. If a fish and game warden catches someone with more/undersized fish then they should have then obviously they'll be ticketed. If they are within the regulation, what is the point of reporting it? I was under the assumption that creel limits were put in place to ensure bio integrity of said fish. Reporting what is already legally allotted accomplishes what? Also..some ppl are honest but not all are. If someone wants to take home more fish than legally allowed, why would they report that?
1456	Daryl Hardwick	Nakina	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The Rule Harvest reporting of non commercial fisherman. Government is making too many rules and becoming too much involved in some one trying to catch fish for recreational enjoyment and consumption. they should be more concerned about getting more people involved in the outdoors instead of regulating them away.
1457	Benjamin Bumgardner	Belmont	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm against the reporting requirements for harvest of the fish stated. It can not serve any purpose other than more onerous regulations on the average fisherman.
1458	Chris McLendon	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Unnecessary and burdensome. Send a mailing 3 times a year to get this information from fishermen.
1459	Chad Mastny	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It is overburdensome to require fishermen to report every single fish caught. Besides that, what kind of privacy will be violated by requiring some sort of proof? What is the penalty for not reporting?
1460	Steven Craven	High Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting catch amounts for recreational fishermen is an unnecessary burden on the people that aren't creating the problem. Control or eliminate gill nets and inshore shrimping if the commission is actually serious about protecting fish species

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1461	Abram Lucas Mccaskill	Biscoe	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The proposals are more regulations on some of the most already regulated recreational fishing. It becomes problematic as people who don't have the means to report this proposed changing. I feel the regulations are in place and recreational fishing is becoming no different than commercial fishing reporting. I feel the proposals are steps in the wrong direction and out of touch with the fishing community of North Carolina.
1462	Greg Roark	Ocean Isle	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Overall, I don't have heartburn if it helps the fishing industry overall. I do have concerns with the amount of fish being taken either commercially or via nets. Perhaps one heavily restricted on both would allow the numbers to be back up. Additionally, out of state commercial fishermen or licenses, could be further restricted as the residence pay for licenses year after year not to mention the taxes they pay. This is a difficult to work through and appreciate all the effort.
1463	Jeffrey Earnhardt	Richfield	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I get to go to the coast once a year and I obey all creel limits. I see no need to worry about wasting my vacation time reporting the fish I may catch.
1464	Tom Alls	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	In recent years it has been increasingly difficult to exercise my God given right to harvest some fish species to be utilized as food for my family. Most of the proposed species are not in depleted numbers. In fact they are increasing in number and size. I was born in North Carolina, and have lived here all my life. Fishing has been something that I have always enjoyed doing, and now I would like to teach my grandchildren how to fish, catch, and eat like our ancestors did . So I not only say no to reporting, but also say that there should be a repeal of regulations of seasons and possession limits for these and other species. Everything seems to be leading to a tax on catch, or outright ban on fishing and possessing.
1465	Franklin Porter	Saint Pauls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Unenforceable at the recreational level, would require higher taxes or higher cost of licensing to enjoy recreational fishing. Adding another layer on top of another layer is not the solution. How are you going to enforce? Search warrant? Ridiculous.
1466	Patrick Horning	Rougemont	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Netting needs to be outlawed then we wouldn't be in this situation just ask all the other states around us
1467	Jim Darby	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This should exclude sports fishing. Are you trying to drive people away from fishing in costal NC. THIS proposed rule is ridiculous to impose on on the average sports fisherman!
1468	Kevin Pautler	Carolla	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	Doomed from the start. This is a horrible idea. Please abort.

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
				Harvest Reporting		
1469	WILLIAM FORTUNE	Huntersville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I love to fish the outer banks at least twice a year. I have been fishing the outer banks for the last 20 years. I saw the take over of the beach permits and I abide by the law. But even that is too much of a hassle. I pay the money and I don't see where it goes. I am against this rule change for more restrictions on my freedom as a fisherman. I'm always on top of the regulations, slot limits, and seasons. But I don't believe that I should have to report my harvest everyday so the government can restrict the fishing periods and regulations even more.
1470	Cameron C. Willis	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I am writing to express my vehement opposition to Session Law 2023-137, particularly Section 6, which mandates reporting requirements for recreational and commercial fishermen in North Carolina. This legislation represents a gross overreach of government authority and poses a significant threat to the livelihoods of fishermen across the state.</p> <p>Firstly, the requirement to report all harvested fish, whether for recreational or commercial purposes, is an unjust intrusion into the private activities of law-abiding citizens. It undermines the fundamental rights to privacy and personal autonomy, treating fishermen as if they were subjects of a surveillance state rather than free individuals pursuing their livelihoods.</p> <p>Furthermore, the blanket reporting mandate is impractical and burdensome, placing undue administrative burdens on fishermen and the Division of Marine Fisheries alike. The resources required to enforce and manage such a system could be better spent on initiatives to promote sustainable fishing practices through education and outreach, rather than punitive measures that serve only to alienate and antagonize the fishing community.</p> <p>Additionally, the one-size-fits-all approach fails to recognize the diversity of the fishing industry and the unique challenges faced by different stakeholders. What works for commercial operations may not be feasible for recreational fishermen, and vice versa. By imposing uniform reporting requirements without consideration for these nuances, the legislation undermines the resilience and adaptability of North Carolina's fishing industry.</p>
1471	Duane Camp	Pantego	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I really think that you are invading our personal lives too much. If you wanna keep a fish. And you are gone by the law that you guys stated. That should be good enough. It almost sounds like to me. That this is just another way for you guys to make more money and fining more people.
1472	Abbie Barfield	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	

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				Harvest Reporting		
1473	terry l reigel sr	Columbia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	you people need to remember this god provided the fish not commie democrats.. your rules are a bunch of bs. people making a lively hood depend of this. all your doing is destroying people lives.. your sick.
1474	Doug Huffman	Angier	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why do commercial fishermen catch all they want, deplete the waters, and the recreational fishermen pay an absolute premium to catch a few fish each year? I guess they have lobbyists.
1475	Jason Ginn	Cedar Point	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The whole issue is inshore netting. Please stop inshore netting and we won't have the issues that we have here in NC. We have been asking for this for years and no one listens to us. Thanks Jason
1476	Alex Coalson	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I'm writing to voice my objection to the new regulations requiring recreational fishermen to report to the Division of Marine Fisheries every Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout (speckled trout), Striped Bass and Weakfish (gray trout) that they catch and keep. Following are a few reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This legislation was not initiated by the Division of Marine Fisheries or the Wildlife Resources Commission. 2. This new law was apparently tucked into House Bill 600, which deals with stormwater management and is described as "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FURTHER REGULATORY RELIEF TO THE CITIZENS OF NORTH CAROLINA." This new fish reporting requirement has nothing to do with stormwater and it ADDS REGULATORY BURDENS to the citizens of North Carolina. 3. Nowhere in this new law is there any purpose statement or preamble explaining the reason the General Assembly is enacting this new legislation. 4. Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout (speckled trout), Striped Bass and Weakfish (gray trout) are not on any endangered list that I'm aware of. 5. I can't seem to get a straight answer from anyone what the actual need is for this new law. 6. The \$5,000,000 cost of the initial roll-out of this reporting scheme seems like a huge amount of taxpayer's money spent on implementing a new regulatory burden that may or may not even have a legitimate purpose.

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						<p>Thank you for hearing my concerns with this new law.</p> <p>Alex Coalson Kill Devil Hills, NC [REDACTED]</p>
1477	Jane Doe	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>You are really taking the fun out of recreational fishing. It is challenging enough just to catch a fish, then there are regulations in place on the size and how many we can keep of certain fish. Now, you want us to document the fish we catch. I'm not sure this is really going to help tell you how many fish are in the ocean, or if they are being depleted. It's just going to make for more paperwork for you all.</p>
1478	webb athay	lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I see no reason for more reporting</p>
1479	Charles Rice	Newport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Well....after relocating from NY to NC 16+ years ago. The Stupidity and Ignorance of Complete Strangulation by Over Regulation has made its way here. All you have to do is look at a State like NY which has destroyed what was once a thriving fishing/claiming industry. Between what was harvested and caught, there was also a very large Charter/ Party boat fishing industry. The baymen and fishermen that made a living for centuries is all but gone in that state. And that is a direct relation to College indoctrinated bean counters that have absolutely no experience, knowledge, common sense or any hands on training in this field, other than what is written in a book. Just look how Stupid and Wasteful it is to throw back a dead fish or one that isn't going to survive anyway in the name of Conservation because of Regulations. And how Stupid is it to think that fish know State lines and they don't swim across them. The states north and south of NC have more relaxed regulations than this state for the same species. Any regulation imposed is just an attempt to destroy an industry..... Maybe you should all move to NY where your work is done already for you. You are copying the same format as NY.</p> <p>As I have seen 1st hand what these so called Marine Fisheries Regulations has done from experience. I oppose any and every regulation that will and is intended to destroy the Commercial and Recreational fishing industry.</p>
1480	Glenn Alligood	Washington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>These rules place undue hardships on simple individuals trying to enjoy a basic fishing trip. I do not understand why the lobbies and fisheries boards continue to try and drive people away from fishing. My children are uninterested in fishing because they say rules change too often and it is</p>

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						just not worth the trouble. They'd rather use their VR visors to catch imaginary fish. I hope someday the group pushing folks away will realize this before it is too late. It only takes one uninterested generation to end support completely.
1481	Will Charvat	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think you all are using this as a way to close the trout season. How about we take the pressure off of trout by opening back up the flounder and rock seasons.
1482	William Snyder	Topsail Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think mom-commercial reporting a horrible idea. It will not be a good sample due to poor or irregular reporting. The Fisheries problem is not with non-commercial fisherman, but with lax requirements for commercial harvest. How in the world can you get a commercial License and then gig all the flounder your cooler can hold?
1483	Kevin Dumais	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This entire policy is ridiculous. We just fish for fun and enjoying the sport, and we apply to the rules as written for those fish we catch. The math can be done per registered fishing license to gain the same data that you may be looking for with this policy. No one will actually report the fish they have caught, "Not" to avoid penalty, but because it will take away from the fishing experience as a whole. This entire debate is flat out silly, and most importantly "Non-Enforceable"! A complete waste of time and tax payer money to even bring this to the floor. There are way more important issues that should be the focus of the NC Environmental Agency.
1484	Cornell Lindsey	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You have taken so much away from recreational fisherman, soon it won't be worthwhile to buy fishing coastal fishing licenses.
1485	Wayne Deaton	Waxhaw	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why are you punishing the recreational fishermen? The commercial kill more fish in a day than we catch in a year COMBINED. I can only keep one but they can kill thousands? I don't understand what type of rules you are making. I know my puny amount I pay for my license compared to what you bring in doesn't mean anything to you. But, the thousands of dollars I spend with local merchants on the coast will be greatly missed when I start vacationing in another state so that's I can put food on my table. Must be some huge kickbacks coming from somewhere to justify this ridiculous type of regulations against the recreation fishermen.
1486	Derrick Herring	Turkey	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Why don't you just ban fishing since you obviously are trying to get us to quit. Buy a license but you can't keep flounder. Buy a license but you can only keep one of these and you report the catch. Come on and just let us fish. Every state around us has much better limits /rules. I think yall just want us to buy out of state fishing license and go spend our hard earned money in

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						another state. SHAME ON ALL OF YOU for making me not want to buy a license and fish! PISS POOR JOB!
1487	Paul Eurice	Roper	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Having to report every catch, especially on fish like speckled sea trout, that are not endangered or in short supply is completely ridiculous and an unnecessary inconvenience.
1488	Richard Kelly Judd	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You guys are killing us. Reporting catches is ridiculous. Pretty soon you want let us fish at all.
1489	Terry L Wiley	Lillington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am a NC Lifetime Fishing License holder owner. I bought at full price 1 for myself and the other for my wife, and 2 grand children lifetime and an adopted nephew lifeti.e license. First of all, I believe we have a contract for the dates we purchased these license. We should be grandfathered to these changes and of course and the more coming. 2nd, we only catch a few fish per year, most of us can only afford a 1 week long fishing trip to the salt water therefore we do not even touch the statistics counting which hurts our fish population. And I do understand there are people who commercially fish and that would be fine if they were only catching legal size and type fish however they are catching every kind of sealife and releasing the dead, non-legal fish which is the pure issue of the fishing mandates. The regular fishing angler is not your issue but I (we) are being penalized for the damage from what the commerical fishing industry is creating. I feel stricter fishing laws and surprise visits to the vessels commercially fishing and stiff fines for those who are killing and releasing dead sealife. Be honest and be fair! Tery Wiley, [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
1490	Eric Steven Bartosh	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Your forcing the rec fisherman out of this state!!!!
1491	Leo Stiltner	Salem	Virginia	Both rules	Against	Your plan is ridiculous, it is screwed up for everyone. Surely there is a better way. Do you not realize a large number of the older generation don't have or know how to use or want to use modern.technology. The last thing a fisherman wants to do after a day of fishing is log on and report their catch, and they want. I'm a catch and release person so it want impact me. But there is a lot of holes in your plan. Lastly, why do you folks always seem to slight the recreational fishermen. I am 75 years old and been a serious fisherman since I was a kid. I have spent a a tremendous amount of time on or near the water fishing, boating, observing, etc. I tell you with out doubt this crazy plan will not fix the fish stocks, and we all know the recs aren't the problem or the fix. I spend a lot of money chasing fish in North Carolina, please don't chase me away.

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1492	Ted G Godwin	Selma	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Govt exists as elected by the people. Too often the “ governed” seem to be overly ruled by the servants of the people. It would seem to be shifting the burden, and effort, of assessing the quality of the fishery by the public instead of professionals hired to do that. Let them do their job and don’t shift the burden to citizens. Thank you.
1493	Josh R Whitford	Linden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Seems to me that like other things in this once "Free" country is falling into King and Queens land rule. Lies about population numbers of Flounder, and Red Drum are ridiculous. The vast ocean that these fish migrate in and out of must be the size of a small pond.
1494	George Futch	Chapel Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Sporadic recreational fishermen like me who may not fish in salt water more often than once or twice a year may not be able to identify everything they catch, or may mis-identify fish, and should not be subject to rules requiring them to become ichthyologists or interpreters of bad fish photo IDs. Vacationers from other states are not going to know the regulations. More importantly the information gained will be worthless: self-reporting is statistically the worst way of gathering good data. The rest is somebody's predictive algorithm.
1495	David Towler	Hubert	North Carolina	Both rules	For	What will the reporting method look like? Will an App be available for reporting catches? Without an option for an App for phones, I believe this will be a difficult requirement to comply with and enforce.
1496	Mickey Haywood	Asheboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More rules for the little man, I love this state but it looks like I need to spend my money elsewhere if we can’t enjoy the resources. From crazy limits for rec fisherman to reporting everything. It’s a shame that I must go to another state to enjoy the natural resources that God placed for us.
1497	keith harabin	Winnabow	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1498	Carol Bair	COINJOCK	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You have gone too far. We can't even enjoy fishing anymore. We already pay enough for our licenses. This is totally Un- American. Prep for Communist rule I suppose. You are out of line!!! I will not support this and will not renew many of my many licenses

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1499	D. Whitener	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	All of your new rules are ridiculous. I am seriously considering moving to SC! FISH do not know if they are in NC, SC, or VA!
1500	Roy G Yoder	Durham	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Total BS!! How is this regulatory relief? SHAME ON ALL OF YOU! Maybe Robinson will kick you all the h*** out!
1501	William Dorsey	Elm City	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Make it easy to do. Pics sent to Marine fisheries with the persons fishing license in the pic with the fish Face too You need to check the harvest on speckled trout. Less and less every year of those. Puppy drum too. Kick the d*** Chinese and the other foreign influences out to the commercial waters too. Let the American commercial man fish Thanks , Bill
1502	Capt Bud Wegner	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop restricting the common man from trying to feed himself and his friends. The bulls*** you are trying to implement is an imposition on our ability to sustain ourselves without government intervention . STOP
1503	Ralph Moore	Whitakers	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't know who come up with this crazy idea. I know this is a waste of my time. I've always tried to follow the laws but you guys are going to make a whole lot of people law breakers. Just like the flounder season. Just move the size limit up . You guys need to take lessons from some other states .Thanks but No Thanks
1504	James Sadler	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This seems like it will be unenforceable. How will you monitor the reporting? What is the purpose of the monitoring? What are the people who don't have access to the internet supposed to use for reporting? How long will you have to report your catch once the fish is caught? I am absolutely opposed to this new rule. It is a complete overreach of government responsibility into the lives of the public. This will be challenged in court and our elected officials will be challenged for supporting it. I will be speaking with my representatives about why they should rethink this regulation. It is a complete and utter waste of tax dollars and resources.
1505	Joesph Johnson	Concord	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against these propsed rules. It is ridiculous to implement non-commercial phishing restrictions. It is a sport, a way of life, and a source of food. Do not regulate the wild. Let nature be free from legislation such as this.
1506	Mark Scales	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's not the recreational that rapes the bottom fish.

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1507	Don Kluttz	Oak Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This would not have to happen if the commercial netters were more out shore like other neighboring states. It appears that recreational fishermen are having to deal with these new regulations because the commercial fishing nets are killing the small fish because they grow to legal size. Most recreational fishermen don't have the knowledge to do this Move the boats with nets and gigging and the fish will be plentiful as in years past Do the right thing and then we can fish and catch more fish Don Kluttz
1508	Joseph Crump	Maiden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fisherman should not have to report or maybe if you catch over the limit you should report
1509	John Wescott	Manns Harbor	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Commenting on recreational reporting of daily catch. Does anyone think that there is a chance of accurate data coming from this? All my fishing friends just laugh when asked if they will report their catch. The State won't pay our Highway Patrol and SBI agents a good salary and provide good benefits now you will have to hire data processors and whatever else to compile data that has no chance of being accurate. Then you will enact laws based on totally inaccurate information. A new level of stupidity has been reached. And another example of overreaching on our private lives by government. I have always played by the rules relating to limits on fish but you have gone overboard with this law. What a waste of taxpayer's dollars. I'll repeat myself-how stupid this reporting law is.
1510	JERRY L MCLEAN	Taylorsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm "Old School", 72 years old and started coastal fishing when I was around 18-20. My main purpose for fishing is not for recreation but to fill the freezer with fish to eat over the next year. I do enjoy fishing but I also enjoy the fish. I know my opinion will not make any difference but you guys have put so many do's and don't's on coastal fishing that it no longer is enjoyable and there's no way I can catch and keep enough to make a trip worthwhile anymore. It will be another rule that will only cause the honest people another inconvenience and the dishonest will keep rolling on as always.
1511	Evan Meads	Jarvisburg	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I really think this is the biggest crock of bulls*** I've ever heard the every weekend fisherman should not have to suffer trying to have a good time because of this bulls*** and doing the right thing every weekend not breaking the law the commercial Gil nets are the issue how many fish survive after being caught in a Gil net I would say none to very few so that's the problem to me so leave the recreational fisherman out of the issue you all are having and leave the recreational fisherman alone redfish are plentiful and you cannot keep but 1 fish if you want to do something with speckled trout leave the limit the same and implement a slot on the trout and as far as flounder is concerned you all have lost your mind this whole reporting law

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						sounds like nothing but a money making device for the government you all are reining recreational fishing for me and my kids and everybody else trying to catch a fish so what's next are we going to have to purchase fish tags to possess fish of this kind it's absolutely crazy North Carolina and the government are making it absolutely impossible for the recreational fisherman to have a good time on the weekend after busting there a** all week to make a dollar then go fishing on the weekend to deal with this bulls*** maybe you all need to do something about the commercial gel netting and leave the recreational people the h*** alone
1512	Ethan Ashley	Mocksville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Commercial don't have to report consistently currently from my understanding. We have bread factories that make bread- don't have a license, restaurants serving food- don't have a license but yet not only do we have to buy license yearly but now they want us to report our catches? Those of us whom do everything correctly have to pay the price due to those that didn't pay a dime and messed it up for us all. I'm against reporting due to the fact that Commercial fishermen don't report every single catch of the day not to mention they don't have a limit and they fish right out past the breakers and sand bars near where I fished earlier this year and had to handle only having 1 catch. Makes no sense
1513	Gary jones	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stupid idea
1514	Joey Canady	Calabash	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	As a lifelong local here on the Southeast coast I've watched the overdevelopment and destruction to our fisheries due to pollution the main factors and these new regulations only make the simple honest man who isn't tech savvy a lawbreaking citizen who will be potentially prosecuted due to some bureaucratic law. The commercial laws are overbearing and seem to be designed for failure on the part of the fisherman with times and set dates and pick up restrictions. I honestly don't see what affects a new regulation would have on the harvest other than there would be a number used to cause stricter and more pressing legislation on the fish one might catch in the future.
1515	Michael McIntosh	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	The most efficient way to increase populations of game fish (i.e., flounder, red and black drum, spotted sea trout, gray trout) is to get all nets out of the fish estuaries (e.g., in shore and near shore waters) so brood fish can successfully spawn during their lifespan. Louisiana did this many years ago, and the result is an abundance of these game fish everywhere. Nothing short of these restrictions, including reporting fish harvests as proposed, will save our game fish.
1516	Robert D Oravits	Henrico	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this is crazy to report fish caught, does any other state do this? Plus the rules for flounder fishing are ridicules, I bought a house in Norfolk to flounder fish in the Cheasapeake Bay. I may be moving from NC soon with all these rules.

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1517	John M Davis	Southport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Enough is enough with more and more regulations , especially for recreational fisherman and hunters.
1518	Jon Priddy	Kernersville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Would hate to see a relaxing day of fishing spoiled because all the guide lines that I am already trying to follow, license, season, bag limit, size limit, specie identification, were correct. But I didn't let the state know what I had caught. Don't we already have enough to worry about.
1519	Josh Baca	Youngsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1520	Charles L Delong	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If you are trying to end recreational fishing and the license revenues it produces I believe you will achieve your goal. If this passes It just will not be worth it anyone.
1521	Kerry Roache	Mocksville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Why are you asking recreational fisherman to report harvest when the commercial fisherman are causing the most damage to our fisheries and especially shrimp trawlers which are politically protected? Also why are you taking public opinion when you've already made the decision?
1522	Anthony Jackson	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm not opposed to gathering better data to support the fisheries, but this rule isn't enforceable and carries a petty fine. Recommend coming up with something that you can enforce and maybe getting a little more serious about levying fines for violations.
1523	Quentin Peele	Manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	All of them. You have destroyed the fun of fishing with all these laws. Over the years, more and more regulations are implemented. When I compare our state to other states to the north and south of us we have more regulations on fish than any other state. This state was fun to fish and now you have to have a law degree to follow these regulations. This whole process has become a way to make money off people! I see more and more rangers wanting to look in your cooler and give out a ticket than helping the environment. Stop with the over regulation! Enough!
1524	Ron Taylor	High Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	For 25 years I have been camping and fishing at Cape Lookout and Portsmouth island. When I first started there were no license and fees. The rules were reasonable and I was able to enjoy my vacation time there. Over the years, the fees and rules have increased to the point that I am visiting the islands alot less. Game wardens checking your coolers and all the required permits

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						frequently is not how I want to spend my vacation time. The new rules you are proposing are the last straw for me. I will not continue to buy permits and license basically funding this stupidity. These rules are based more on control than science. If your goal is to run off fishermen its working. At least until the public wakes up and decides not to "Permit " our employees to ruin what was my favorite vacation spot on this earth.
1525	Benny Scarbro	East Bend	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	To many rules take away from the pleasure and relaxation of fishing. Most casual fishermen will not keep up with what to report. It will be very difficult to enforce and will stop some from even going fishing. I do not like this regulation
1526	Brennt Watts	Claredon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1527	Stuart Creighton	Oriental	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>The concept of mandatory reporting is a laudable goal, and, in principle, should be supported by every public angler and commercial fisherman. However, before that can happen, there are several serious shortcomings that must be addressed before any scientifically or statistically significant data can be obtained.</p> <p>First, as had been the case for far too long, discards continue to be ignored. Many of the data gaps that currently exist in the models used in generating stock assessments center around poorly monitored commercial gears. It is well known that dead discards resulting from trawling in Pamlico Sound, from widely used large and small mesh gill nets, and other such gear create massive amounts of dead discards of various species of finfish that is too often neglected when assessment models are assembled and run. For example, DMF data shows a definite hotspot that juvenile southern flounder use as secondary nursery area in western Pamlico Sound, an area that is also heavily trawled. This trawling mortality was not incorporated into the latest run of the stock assessment. Furthermore, the MFC had chances to address this loss of juvenile flounder in the latest amendments to the shrimp FMP, the southern flounder FMP, and in the CHPP update. In each case, they continued to ignore this significant source of flounder dead discards. Doing so only guarantees that the latest management restrictions are doomed to fail.</p> <p>Until such discards are accurately measured and incorporated into stock assessments, biomass estimates will amount to nothing more than false positives, and the true stock status will continue to be overestimated.</p> <p>Next, the penalties associated with no -compliance are too lenient. Those who don't report their</p>

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						<p>harvest of the “big five” species face only a long series of warnings before they are: (a) minimally fined, and (b) faced with a loss of license and/or gear. Because the penalties are lax, those that don’t report their harvest now aren’t going to start reporting when this new rule takes effect.</p> <p>Finally, and perhaps most importantly, it is almost unenforceable. As long as the NC Legislature continues to underfund the LEAs of both NCDMF and NCWF, there will be insufficient enforcement officers to patrol the vast coastal, joint, and inland waters of Eastern NC. Checking on mandatory reporting violations, on top of their other duties, will be practically impossible. So, again, there is no incentive for those that don’t report their catch to start doing it.</p> <p>I would like to reiterate that the concept of mandatory reporting is a great idea. But, without proper implementation and enforcement, it becomes nothing more than a feel good measure. Without addressing other, more significant problems that created the need for mandatory reporting; issues such as properly accounting for dead discards, and needed latent license reform, this becomes no better than a hindrance to effective management.</p>
1528	Ty Hardwick	Nakina	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	To much government regulations. People are just enjoying the outdoors.
1529	Roy Moore III	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1530	Meredith Hardwick	Nankina	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1531	Crystal Velvet Hardwick	Nakina	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	To much BIG Brother.
1532	Ricky a Hickman	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think we have a good relationship with our game wardens . Positive.. I think all these rules would start a negative relationship with the whole system... too many rules are already implemented on us already. If everyone would just keep enough fish to feed their families on each trip we wouldn't need these new rules our big boys are trying to implement.. they confusing us with the commercial fishing part of this whole thing.. we!! Are not stupid. Please don't try to

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						insult our intelligence.. and this would be the next thing to communism. And very unsafe... ok example.. I have my fie year old grandson in my boat .. were in the capefear I catch a red or what ever. I'm keeping my eyes on him for safety! Now I got to stop and take my attention away from him and bury my head in a cell phone to report a catch.. not safe at all. We don't want these new rules put on us . Please just let us catch our limit and be fair about it .. there already to many rules. Can't keep but one flounder a day... Ricky A Hickman
1533	Don Proctor	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Since commercial fishermen are harvesting so much more fish than the recreational fishermen, I think they are the ones that should report their catch. Making it more difficult for recreational fishermen to just enjoy fishing. You have already cut the Flounder season out for the recreational fishermen while the pound nets are catching and killing more Flounder than any amount of recreational fishing could ever catch. TOO MANY RULES ALREADY!
1534	oswell mclamb	hillsborough	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I could write 10 pages on how the Marine Resources make the rules and the methods in doing so are poorly design and flawed. Many with without proper science. Fisherman are being to go out of state to fish due to disgust.
1535	Thomas C. Bissette II	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This proposed rule is an overreach. I have no problems with monitoring commercial business practices and over limits for conservation; but requiring an individual with a fishing pole to report every time he catches a fish on your website is absolutely absurd.
1536	Ken Grindlay	Manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Stupidest idea I've heard in a long time. How the heck do you enforce it. What's to study? Any moron can fly over the sound and see where the bottom trawlers are completely destroying the habitat. Start with the obvious, work your way to the sublime. It's not rocket science. We all want stronger stocks and healthier habitat. Stop trying to alienate your natural allies.
1537	Benjamin Cloe	Windsor	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an extremely ridiculous concept and should not be implemented. It is ridiculous what you are making citizens put up with. Stop with the regulations and give us our fishing seasons back
1538	Heather Gallagher	Lumberton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I can understand requiring commercial fisherman to register their catch since they over harvest all fish, but punishing those who want to have fun and fish to relieve stress, anxiety, and form bonds with friends and family is punitive for no reason. Why not deploy more officers to catch illegal fisherman overfishing and fishing illegally? I have no issue with officers checking my license or catch at anytime because I am honest, but I see a lot of illegal fishing on the beach and on piers and that's what needs to stop.

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1539	Alvin Smith	Elm City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The mandatory reporting rules is another example of government overreach. NC Sportsmen already support license requirements and regulations without adding harvest reporting. The limits and seasons have already been reduced so much that NCDMF and NCWRC could not even agree on flounder seasons and limits last year. My concern is that the mandatory reporting will only serve further reduction in limits and seasons, so there will no reason to go fishing at all! How good are the numbers going to be if the system solely depends on individual harvest reports for red drum, flounder, speckled trout, grey trout and striped bass? Who makes the decisions about limits and seasons when not enough or more than expected harvest is reported?
1540	Let's go Brandon	S	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Y'all are stupid as s***. F***** taking the entire fishery away and this will be used to justify another bulls*** statistic that's not accurate. After 20 years we still only can keep one f***** red drum. How the f*** is that management? Has it not recovered yet y'all stupid b***** can't pull your head out your a**** and see what a poor a** job y'all are doing?
1541	Mike McFalls	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is bad for North Carolina's fishing community and industry. I imagine that Virginia and South Carolina love it. It essentially means that if a fisherman catches and keeps one of the subject species (in North Carolina), he or she will be required to take the time, most likely from their vacation time, to go to a reporting station. Hopefully, as a minimum, there will be a method to allow remote reporting via a smartphone. If not, this law will create additional burdens for anglers who are already over regulated and influence their decisions for future fishing destinations. It also creates additional burdens for overwhelmed wildlife officers.
1542	Steven Fricke	Engelhard	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Way too many regulations as it is we don't need more regulations for flourishing species
1543	Jimmie Stokes	Burgaw	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1544	Vaughn Freeman	Elizabeth Coty	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe it is overreach on the part of the state to make recreational fisherman have to report any harvest of any fish. It should be our god given right to fish and harvest without so much oversight and so many limits on what you can't and can keep. I understand limits on some hunting, but recreational fishing is not hurting populations of fish.
1545	Kenny Elkins	Marion	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this will be hard to in force and there every year who kill more deer, turkeys, bear, etc that don't tag or check in things as they should. What really needs to be looked into is all the gill netting in marshes and creeks that take way more fish and kill many more than anyone every does with a rod and reel. Also all the seasons need to be the same between NC wildlife and inland fishers as the flounder season last year was a joke no one knew when and where to fish.
1546	Kimberly	Blounts Creek	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It appears law makers are trying to completely erase hard working commercial fishermen by tightening their fishing laws even further for no reason. You are taking a very relaxing hobby for

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						many and forcing government demands on us for no other reason than the government wants to add additional fishing seasons with any information it obtains if this law is passed. These fish are not endangered. This law is ridiculous.
1547	Jamie Hester	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think we are all tired of the NCMFC and NCWRC over reaching on recreational outdoorsman. You let the commercial guys literally rape the sea floor of every fish and species, meanwhile I'm allotted to catch one flounder a day for a 3 week period. It's not right. All netting should be limited to not come within 2-3 miles of any shoreline. I can watch shrimp boats dump tons of fish off their boats, dead fish, and call it by-catch. I know my voice will probably go unheard, but it's my hope something is done the right way and order is restored back to the people that pay your salaries, the recreational outdoorsman. Thank you.
1548	hubert wayne clark	ocracoke	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	we are over regulated as is. no more regulations, period.
1549	Anonymous	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	In regards to Mandatory harvest reporting; I am in full support of scientific management of our fishery resources; however, additional administrative burden erodes the recreational fishing experience (as well as hunting). The NC Wildlife Commission should strive to manage the state's resources with a minimum of intrusion (ie regulations and reporting requirements) and complexity on the sportsman. As it is, the state's hunting and fishing regulations are already bureaucratic and ever expanding. The typical North Carolina (non-lawyer) sportsman can easily find themselves afoul of complex and confusing regulations (ie the flounder season debacle) despite a reasonable effort to understand the literature, a desire to follow regulations, and a general respect for our resources. VERY careful consideration should take place before placing additional burden on the recreational fisher/hunter.
1550	John Kay Sutton	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There is no way the recreational fishermen should be penalized, because of the commercial fishermen catching with nets and throwing fish back that are scrap. The commercial fishermen are getting all of the breaks while the recreation fishermen are not getting a break at all. What is the purpose of allowing commercial fishermen catch a multitude of flounder and the recreational fisherman ONE per day. That is hardly worth keeping the boat manufacturers, the bait shops, marinas, etc. in business now is it?
1551	Alan Hedgepeth	Henderson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I'm very much against the reporting of these catches as a recreational fisherman. I think that if you are concerned about the fish stock you should keep the commercial fisherman out of the

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				Harvest Reporting		sounds and estuaries. North Carolina is so backwards and this regulation is just an example of government over reach.
1552	David Clarke	Simsbury	Connecticut	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's ridiculous. We're fishing not going to stop to report. Government over reach again.
1553	Bill Simmons	Lexington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	NC is continuing to make fishing in this state more and more unpleasant. I'm at the point I really don't care what foolishness you come up with,I'll be spending my money in Virginia, SC,FLORIDA where it's more enjoyable with out the BS.
1554	Jeff Goodman	Lawndale	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Commercial fishing has destroyed our costal resources with the blessing of the Marine Fisheries Division. When will the destruction stop? Do you expect reports to be accurate?
1555	Eugene S Knight Jr	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I agree that some type of management is necessary to maintain stocks of the listed species, but I think compliance with the cumbersome reporting requirements will be low and enforcement will be difficult to impossible. Success will depend on simplifying the reporting process and the buy-in by the avid and the occasional/vacationing (I left my laptop at home) fisherman.
1556	Dave Suttles	Asheboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Sport fishing is an extremely low percentage of fish taken daily compared to commercial! It is pure stupidity of the state on NC to make & try to enforce such regulations! I personally, will wuit fishing in this state, & take my boat to other states, as will many others! Tge staye will lose revenue, in food purchases, hotel rooms, fuel, etc. etc. Reg's like this, will cost this state millions in revenue!!!
1557	Sean hayes	Manteo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Don't implement any rules that are (temporary) it make it look like you don't know what your doing by calling them temporary. Know what you are going to do before your doing it. Make it look like you know what your doing!
1558	John Ball	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Are our fish N.C. alone? No. The fish doesn't stop at the N.C. or S.C. line. Bordering states should get together and see what other states are doing and share data. If N.C. was really about the marine life sustainability and not money the focus would be more clearly defined and not with some BS waste of time rule that will ultimately only be used politically.
1559	Brad Baker	Four Oaks	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Honestly, my reason for being against this is due to unrealistic enforcing of this rule. Boaters are going to be more concerned with safely getting their boat loaded and cleaned before they would consider reporting their catch. The non-technological savvy individuals can send a report in by the next day is questionable itself.

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						<p>I assume the reason behind this is to determine the impact on each species' ability to thrive and sustain their population for years to come. I support the commercial fishing mandatory reporting; they are profiting from their harvest. A recreational fisherman is either out there to have fun, or to simply catch a meal. Recreational fishermen do not profit financially from their catch.</p> <p>As a recreational fishermen, I do not support the proposed rules. I understand the importance of sustaining each species and would support other regulations on size and limits to sustain the fishery populations.</p>
1560	Stephen Harris	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I feel like the data will be flawed due to people not reporting because it's unenforceable. I also feel like people will think there's a hidden agenda due to the poor relationship with Marine Fisheries and the recreational fishing community. I do not understand why this is being implemented.
1561	Beth Owens	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This entire thing is absurd. For so many reasons, least of all how it could ever be enforced, no matter how many years you have to implement. Simply insane.
1562	Eric A Ekovich	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is too much of a burden for recreational fisherman. You will get garbage data because most recreational fisherman, whether intentional or not, will not report. In my opinion, you will get better data by conducting surveys at the heavily used public boat ramps.
1563	Brian Winslow	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion about this new law. I make it no secret that I am in opposition of this law. As a recreational fisherman I keep seeing more & more restrictions as our license fees continue to increase. I know for a fact that recording big game from the app has proven to be a real fiasco & I can only see this new law for fishing being the exact same. Some locations do not receive very good/spotted cellular service, not to mention that many of us care not to have to be connected, as this is our time to get away from the weights of the world & not have to deal with people & phones for a little R&R time. Many recreational fisherman have put in numerous hours on the water to find what they are fishing for & logging in to register a catch will only increase the possibility of giving up our favorite fishing areas, as well as take time away from what may be our only day off to do what our license fees should be paying Wildlife Officers to do. Yes, I truly agree that we all need to do our part to protect our fisheries and report violations that are damaging & illegal but to watch our rights continue to be taken away is just not any more helpful than a commercial fisherman sinking a bunch of dead fish to

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						<p>hide evidence of what is truly happening on our waterways. I know first hand what the commercial guy has been told to do with fish that are caught over his/her quota, or simply dead in nets. If anyone should have to register their catch, it should be the commercial fisherman, after all.... they are at work out there. Either way I see this new law as major blow to the licensed fisherman, whether recreational or commercial. It is truly a disgrace what America has turned into. Genesis 1:20-22... And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky. So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth". I share this scripture to simply point out the fact that God has blessed each of us with a provision that man could not make, nor imitate. I sat at a local tackle shop last year and listened to a very contradicting spill given by a Marine Fisheries employee about our flounder season the decline only to then turn around in his same topic to say that the fish weren't going anywhere as long the winds continued to blow in & have the bait pushed in our rivers as they were. The long and short is that game fish follow bait.... no bait= lack of fish.... fish simply follow the bait and NC Wildlife/Marine Fisheries simply don't control the wind. My point in all this is that God is in control, but we all must do our part to be good stewards with what He has entrusted, & blessed, us with. I'm not a guy that is connected to electronics/my phone so I would ask that NC Wildlife, Marine Fisheries & our disappointing government not restrict my rights to enjoy my recreational time on the water. Thank you very much for your time & for allowing me to share my concern/opinion on this unnecessary law. I truly believe that there are other issues far more important that are in need of governing rather than imposing such a demand on a recreational fisherman that is paying dearly for what little he/she is allowed to actually harvest nowadays.</p>
1564	Alek Knight	Westfield	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Session law 2023-137 Commercial fisherman already have to fill out a trip ticket to marine fisheries on any sold product. There is no reason to involve it even further for recreational or commercial. Seems like a good waste of tax payer dollars for an insufficient cause. Instead put the tax dollars used for this law to the marine and wildlife biologist to better maintain fisheries, or place a voluntary form for people to fill out. No need to make a fine or warning for turning in fish.</p>
1565	D Stuart	Catawba	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>These rules are absolutely ridiculous. I fish and vacation on the coast of NC. I spend several thousand dollars a year, but if any of these rules and ideas move forward, I'll take my money out of NC.</p>

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1566	Joe Lawrence	Grifton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Recreational fishing stimulates the economy in our state as much as anything and at this point if even more regulations are brought that will drastically decline. No more season closures or keep it to a minimal not based on mystery science</p> <p>*Flounder season should be reinstated with a larger size/less bag limit of necessary</p> <p>*Speckled trout season, no closure until we have another winter cold stun event harming the bigger picture, Lessen the bag limit/increase size limit of necessary</p> <p>*Open back up Rock (striped bass) season</p> <p>Limit bag limits/increase size limit of necessary</p> <p>* Open up the herring season again atleast for a period (hook and line) only ! Minimal bag limit</p> <p>** This will greatly boost recreational fishing morale again, along with the economy**</p> <p>Thank you, Capt. Joe Lawrence</p>
1567	Dyyeun Walker	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This is crazy and will confuse many and get a lot of people in trouble not to mention what's the point? We spend millions on scientists so if this passes why have them anymore. The average person of father who takes their child fishing on summer vacation could get in trouble for this stupidity. This is big brother on steroids and honestly an invasion of privacy. The commercial is different because they are getting paid so I see no issue in making them do this. They get more of the keep each year anyway</p>
1568	Nelson C	Nags Head	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Sounds like a very difficult law to enforce. I worry that our law enforcement officers in the field have enough to worry about with public safety and rule enforcement already. The people who made this law have no clue as to the mayhem they create with a stroke of a pen. The same people who are breaking the laws now will be the same ones who overfish and fail to report. Will you ever get real accurate information? I hope so. The rest of us will have to take on the responsibility of reporting on something we used to just do for our own personal recreation and fun. No one on this earth could ever mess up something as pure as fishing, but now some babbling politician could make fishing uncomfortable for everyone. Please focus on the real problems like education, health care, cancer research, safe roadways and clean and safe waterways. We need term limits in DC</p>
1569	Rick Pigg	Monroe	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Government over reach.</p>
1570	Michael M Swartz	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	<p>Please do NOT impose this requirement on Recreational fishermen whose harvest of these fish is negligible compared to the Commercial industry.</p>

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				Harvest Reporting		
1571	Mike A Vernon	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is to the point now that the enjoyment is fastly being taken out of fishing and having the ability to say I caught this fish and cleaned it and cooked it and fed my family with it. To me what I see is only traps to catch you in the wrong no matter how hard you try to interpret the rules. KISS... Keep It Simple Stupid went right out the window. While I understand protecting the resources there is no need to take the fun and pleasure out of fishing with a bunch of crazy worded rules that take 5 lawyers and 20 politicians to decode! The people like my self that try and do the right thing are starting to just really drop the interest and hobby and time spent with your kids and grandkids because of this constant over reach and making a simple family time hobby such a pain in the rear. Most of the time I have spent at the coast fishing I do a catch and release and try and buy fish to eat just because of all the crazy rules that again as I said before takes a team of lawyers and 20 politicians to even get some kind of comprehension of what it is even taking about! The days of retirement and going fishing are gone for sure. Bad thing is with the economy in the can like it is right now it is an option to feed yourself or family off the table! I promise you this... I will remember all this stuff at election time and I will use every media source to campaign against any and all politicians that thought this is a good idea! If you read some of the requirements in the rules right now you have to hold one foot in the air wiggle your right ear and face north while your are west of this Hwy and east of this road. If anything itbis a real simple ticket trap and a total and complete embarrassment to our state. There is no and I say absolutely no reason for all this confusing terms and all this regulation other than tickets and taking away a simple enjoyment that is a heritage and tradition with families and just shear enjoyment a time to relax and enjoy your kids and grandkids away. It is supposed to be fun and are it nerve racking and a bunch if worries of am I on limits and does it comply to this rule or that rule... don't ask if you don't want the truth!
1572	Mike Conner	Red Oak	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More governmental overreach to disguise yet another poorly managed fishery. After years of bad data that represents significant overestimates of recreational harvest while downplaying the commercial fisheries impact on these same fisheries at the delight of special interest groups makes this reek of the same ole same ole. Garbage in garbage out. Maybe it's time to look to our neighboring states that seem to have a much easier and ethical time managing the same fisheries. It's time to go to bat for ALL OF YOUR TAXPAYERS, not just your commercial interest.
1573	Boone Mill	Oxford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I believe the requirement of a citizen to report the fish I catch is an overreach of your governmental authority and an abuse of power. Daily creel limits are already set for recreational anglers which should be sufficient.

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				Harvest Reporting		
1574	Spencer gaskins	Ocracoke	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I run inshore charters and feel with the majority of our fish limits being under 5 fish per person, it is ridiculous to have to call in reports. Although charters would do it, there is no way to keep private boats enforced with reporting. I am against reporting recreational fish.
1575	Kevin wrenn	Colerain	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I would like for the division of marine fisheries to reconsider opening up the striper(rock fish), flounder, and herring season back up for north carolina for non commercial fishing . Those collage students don't have a clue what's under the water and placement of those nets in the wrong creek to collect data is stupid. Also mite need a change of supervision in the department of marine fisheries starting at the top. I am for this rules long as you open up all those fish above listed. Thanks and have a great day.
1576	Lee Yarborough	La Grange	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Temporary mandatory reporting. Like a pay study when everyone knows the business underpays. The states that join us have better fishing regulations for the recreational angler and comparable fishing pressure from recreational anglers. When does the aha moment happen? The accuracy of this reporting will be no better than the deviation of your current methods due to the motive of both commercial and non commercial to not or under report. Also, on my soapbox charter fishermen are commercial fishermen.
1577	Kalvan Peeler	Garner	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Regulations in NC are not closely matched to border coastal states and are too stringent for recreational fishers. To require reporting for these species makes the enjoyment of recreational fishing even more challenging and less recreational
1578	Douglas Collins	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am not for any mandatory reporting of my catch. This has to one of the dumbest things I've ever heard. All this will do is put more work on the people that already follow the rules. It's another step to gain information on what the general public is doing and will be used against us. Here's an idea enforce the rules that are in place. I fish all the time and watch people break the law and they are never checked or caught. If anyone is caught it is pleaded down to where it just doesn't matter. Stop listening to the groups like the CCA that are only out for money and themselves. Leave us alone and let us fish.
1579	Richard Hooton	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Maybe the "powers-that-be" should look to other southern states and be willing to get in touch with their management programs. NC is failing miserably and the more regulations, closures, creel limits, etc that continue to plague both commercial and recreational interests is going to lead to a court battle that the MFC will lose. A TRO (temporary restraining order) will force the MFC

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						to prove the stocks are declining and why the NCWRC went against the so-called "science" last year with regard to the flounder closure.
1580	Dwight H Williams	Laurinburg	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too expensive to implement Ruins freedom to enjoy fishing Other ways to allow voluntary reporting
1581	Tobey Rice	Bayboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There is absolutely no reason for this. You can go fish up and down the East coast and catch anything you want. North Carolina is too strict, and is taking the fun out of the sport. I live on the water, i was born and raised here. Strict rules from a bunch of suit and tie b***** makes me despise our state government.
1582	Tom Cimino	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	No recreational fishermen will report because our seasons and limits are ridiculously limited now. Reporting will only cause further restrictions for rec fishers and do nothing to limit commercial fishermen. Do something useful like restrict inshore waters trawling that rapes the fishery nurseries. Neighboring states restrict inshore comm. fishing and have much healthier stocks. Red snapper and flounder seasons are a joke. Snapper are a nuisance now because they eat so many of the bottom fish we are now relegated to fishing for. The answer to fisheries management is to protect fish nurseries. Inshore netting destroys fish stocks from the youngest of many species on up. Florida is a great example of what an inshore net ban can do to improve fisheries in general. Everyone will lie about their catches and many fish stocks will eventually crash.
1583	Harry Bond	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You people have lost your minds! When you take nets out of our creeks and estuaries you will not get the results you want. You continue to kiss the ass of commercial interests while adding to the burden of the recreational fishermen. I will never report a single fish!
1584	Gary M Knight	Belhaven	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Too much recreational regulations. Too much paperwork and associated costs to regulatory agencies. Reporting should be weekly for recreational fishing and if the total fish caught for the week is less than the regulated fish total, recreational reporting is not required. Commerical fishing reporting should be reported daily to better regulate over catch that disseminates the supply in daily quantities.
1585	Kevin Buck	Washington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The data that being collected by your agency is not accurate as a whole for the coastal areas my family and I have fished our whole lives and the fisheries are as good as it can be beside the striped bass fisheries please stop imposing laws and taking what belongs to the people away . If you want to do something that would greatly improve the sounds kick out all dredge trawlers!

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1586	Frank and Judy sanvitis	Holly ridge	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We are retired and not good with technology. Plus it would be a big hassle to have to do it.
1587	David Robinette	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	1984 by George Orwell was intended to be a warning, not an instruction manual.
1588	Alvin Lackey	Trinity	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This rule isn't accomplishing nothing but more red tape and confusion! The maintenance of this is ridiculous! Most likely for data that a unpaid college student will use to make incorrect numbers! Just another income avenue for the government to rape the taxpayers!
1589	Mike parker	Rockypoint.	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think that it's bad enough already. We are limited with the number of fish we can catch, now you want to us to register our catch. What's next, taxes on what you catch?
1590	donna jardine welch	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	ocean is over fished - commercial fishing boats wreaking havoc.
1591	Thomas Newman	Williamston	North Carolina	Both rules	For	We need better data for both sectors to manage our fisheries properly. This is long overdue.
1592	Slade Prevett	Alton	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting is yet another burden/catch to recreational fishing. Commercial I agree, but seasonal fishing is a better suited approach do not put more implications on the many, due the few that exploit the oppurtunity to enjoy the outdoors.
1593	RANDY HARB	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I admit flounder season for a recreational fisherman is a joke but over the past years overfishing and retaining smaller catch has damaged the fishing I agree with it I also see in the future more restrictions on commercial fishing possible limited areas where they can operate in inland waters proper regulations in, and control of amount taken can result in a great recreational fishing in inland waters which means more income for local businesses.
1594	Steve Lambeth	Archdale	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fishing is not responsible for this. I think commercial fishermen deserve the right to fish and provide for their lively hood and family, but not by cutting off recreational fishing habitats. Maybe it's time to rethink this and stop the slaughter near our coastlines. I went to dinner in MC and got the whole broiled flounder and it truly was 10". Just a question who is lobbing for this S...?

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1595	Mark L Ross	GREENSBORO	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Something should be done by all the government agencies and the private sector to fix this issue.
1596	David perry	Kitty hawk	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There are already to many rules and encumbrances on hunters and fisherman in this country. It's bad enough that we are required to purchase licenses in the first place but the rules are becoming down right draconian and make it impossible to hunt or fish which by the way we already pay to do.
1597	Mark casey	Pikeville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is the stupidest thing I've ever heard. You have already cut and cut and cut the creels that we can keep. Cut the seasons for flounder and others to nothing. Do you want the weekend angler to just stop fishing?! This is ridiculous. Hope y'all are happy!!
1598	Jordan	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The data collected by the mandatory reporting system will be highly inaccurate and utterly useless. Among the many anglers I frequently converse with (who are generally law-abiding sportsmen), all have said they will not report their catches. Not a single person I have spoken with has been in favor of this measure.
1599	Mike Allran	Roanoke	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This response refers to The North Carolina General Assembly which passed Session Law 2023-137 in the fall of 2023 concerning mandatory harvest reporting. I'm a native North Carolinian, now living in Virginia, and have fished the North Carolina coast regularly my entire life.</p> <p>Government Overreach: proposed rule represents an unnecessary intrusion into the activities of recreational and commercial fishermen. More important is the individual freedom and autonomy in managing their own affairs without excessive government intervention.</p> <p>Excessive Regulation: fishing community is already subject to numerous regulations and restrictions; proposed rule adds yet another layer of complexity to an already heavily regulated industry. The cumulative effect of these regulations can make it difficult for fishermen to navigate and comply with all requirements.</p> <p>Burden on Fishermen: practical challenges that fishermen will face in complying with the reporting requirements could include the time and effort required to accurately report harvests, as well as potential costs associated with implementing the necessary reporting mechanisms.</p> <p>Alternative Solutions: alternative approaches to achieving the goals of the legislation without imposing additional burdens on fishermen could include voluntary reporting programs, incentives for compliance, or increased education and outreach efforts to promote sustainable fishing practices.</p>

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1600	Daniel Supplee	Salvo	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This amounts to more government over reach and places an undue burden on visitors who come to North Carolina to vacation, fish and spend their hard earned money. Why do we want to threaten them with fines for not abiding with these ridiculous bureaucratic regulations? They can easily take their money and spend it elsewhere. If the Marine Fisheries Commission is looking for data on fish catches, why don't they approach the organizations that run the fishing tournaments and ASK for the information. I am sure they would be glad to provide it. We don't need more heavy-handed government bureaucrats threatening the people that are the backbone of our tourist industry.
1601	Richard Robertson	Advance	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Proposed harvest reporting is overly burdensome for the recreational fisherman. Harvest and creel limits should suffice for the protection of fish listed in the proposal.
1602	Matthew Littleton	Swansboro	North Carolina	Both rules	For	There needs to be a way that for hire captains can report for their clients under a blanket for hire license. This would also be a great time to transition all for hire permits to the blanket. Commercial harvest needs to have a convenient online method to report.
1603	Kenneth Austin	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are so many constraints levied on fishing and hunting these days, I've actually quit doing either! So add just one more!
1604	john reams	warrenton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am a retired WLEO and have been fishing CALO for 40 years. This is the craziest crap that i have ever seen passed by the NC Legislature. An enforcement nightmare and it puts law abiding citizens in needless jeopardy.
1605	David Routh	Ash	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1606	Andrea Satorre	WILMINGTON	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I highly doubt many will have the time to report, especially recreationally, and I doubt the commercial fishermen will not report 100% accurately. This will GREATLY skew the results of the species reports & result in completely inaccurate counts & regulations. This is not a valid rulemaking proposal, especially during the times of challenge where most rules are not accurately followed nowadays due to time challenges for most fishermen & their families.

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1607	Richard Tucker	Granite Falls	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	No reasons have been established for the purpose and what goal is trying to be accomplished with the reporting. Also no process for reporting has been established. Also no comment period was allowed PRIOR to the law being passed. This appears to be a law that was created by one of a few legislators that had an idea with no forthought. The sport fishing community of NC has already be decreased by the reduction in the flounder season and creel limit. This has taken a toll on the fishing economics in eastern NC. You cant drop a line in without catching tons of flounder the majority of the year that have to be returned while our border states have a long and generous flounder season. We are loosing fishermen and the economic gain for NC to other states. I grew up fishing Morehead City area but now I fish primarily in South Carolina now for this reason.
1608	Justin Lilley		North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is crazy! There are plenty of fish out there for people to catch. Registering your fish is crazy leave it like it is, if anything bring back flounder season. You guys suppose to manage the fish and help the commercial and recreational fisherman and not try to manage the people. Things like this is killing the recreational people and commercial. Funny how all the other states around us can catch more fish per person per day than we can. How is it a proposal and y'all want feedback but the dates are set already? That makes no sense! That tells me yall going to do what you want and ignore the public. Just go through the motions to say you did it cause that's they way it needs to be done to keep the public quiet and if you get audit you have paperwork and minutes to prove it was done to cover you tracks but yet it's already made up and released. Over all, it's a crazy idea, I'm completely against it and the rules need to stay like they are. Registering your catch is the most craziest thing I've heard.
1609	Brian Beckham	Avon	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I'm totally against this there are too many rules pertaining to Fishing as a charter boat captain for almost 23 years it's hard enough to keep up with all the other stuff we gotta do and I love recreational fish on the beach. I'd like to relax and not have to worry about submitting any kind of input on my phone it's all about stress-free life and I'm all about regulations and not breaking them but this is getting ridiculous. Please don't let this happen. Regards, Captain, Brian Beckham.
1610	Eric Lakin	Merritt	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am buying a license. I am following the posted regulations. I allow DNR stops to check my catch. I harvest less than 1 fish (any species) a week. I live out of the city and have a boat on a lift, so I don't use public launches. My internet connection is by public library and I don't have a smart phone. Why threaten me about what I catch daily, you decide on the harvest.
1611	Jonathan Rowe	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I find the proposition oppressive to the rod and reel angler. Please put limits on the commercial boats that are ravaging out fisheries. I have fished my entire life, and what you propose I robbing

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				Harvest Reporting		me of the serenity I get from fishing in the first place. Count me out! How about leaving the rod and reel alone. Makes me sick.
1612	Glen Allen	Youngsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Too extreme to expect recreational fishermen to report every applicable fish caught. South Carolina is not so extreme.
1613	William Hobson	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Further strangulation and regulation on recreational saltwater sportsman is why I do not enjoy nor participate in saltwater fishing anymore, even though I purchase a unified sportsman every year on the premise that I might. Your slots and daily changes are nearly impossible to keep up with. Having been raised enjoying the saltwater I am ashamed of what it has come to. I'm all about conservation and protecting the resources, but you are d*** near squeezing the liberty of persons trying to fish for recreation and enjoyment. Not to mention the economic impact you WILL incur from everything associated with the sport. Gas, fishing tackle, clothing, etc.etc. People WILL go elsewhere and do other activities. Like me I strictly freshwater fish now, for the moment it's regulated yearly NOT daily. I can take my grandkids fishing and not have to worry about reports,tags, slots or any other buerocratic BS.
1614	Parke Rublee	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I don't mind reporting, but how will the data be used? I fear that without data from those who don't successfully catch fish (and we've all had those days) - especially recreational anglers you will get very faulty data regarding whether recreational fisheries are doing OK. Without some measure of catch per effort it will make recreational fisheries look much more productive than they actually are. Not sure about the commercial reporting - how will it be enforced? Might make the commercial fisheries look as if limits could be raised - just the opposite of what the data has been showing for many desirable species (e.g. flounder). Perhaps it should be stated that none of this data will be used for regulatory purposes since it is unlikely to be statistically valid.
1615	Todd S.	Greensburg	Pennsylvania	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against the non commercial harvest reporting. You already have season, size and catch limits. Now you want us to report every detail of our catch, if not we get fine and could loose our license. What is the benefits to this on the non commercial side?
1616	Kyle laney	Midland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1617	John willi	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	This is as dumb an idea as I've ever heard . A side from being nearly unenforceable It harasses recreational fishermen. This state has the worst fishing regulations of any state on the east coast.

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				Harvest Reporting		I'm considering moving my boat to South Carolina where they don't over regulate. Where do y'all come from New York?
1618	Clifton Mercer	Beulaville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We as recreational fisherman get shafted. First flounder then next thing is gonna be trout. We fish because it was instilled in us as kids, and that's what we ate! We keep paying premium prices for license and yall keep taking the privileges from us. Sorry we're not in the back pockets of politicians because that's the problem. Take one year that no one buys fishing license and they will realize where the revenue comes from!
1619	Craig Morehead	Shelby	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think that many tourist that frequent our coast may not know of this new rule. Many parents on vacation would not go to the trouble to report one or two fish their young son or daughter just caught from a dock or pier. At the end of the year, this would add up to an unscientific survey.
1620	Ben	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1621	Gregory Ramsey	Blounts Creek	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is an overreach. There are already so many rules regulating our sport that it makes us wonder if it is even worth trying to enjoy. It is ridiculous to ask us to report every fish we catch every time we go fishing.
1622	Keith Tanner	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop in-shore draggers and netting and you won't have a harvesting/resource issue.
1623	Phillip morton	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Believe that this another over step and is not a viable solution to any problems we may or may not be having, this is deter a lot of people from enjoying the outdoors and bringing the new generation into the sport and outdoors
1624	Randy Stroup	Chesapeake	Virginia	Both rules	Undecided	How are we going to report? How is the commercial fisherman going to be enforced? How many non targeted species during commercial netting are not going to be reported? I don't see how recreational fishermen are getting restricted the most. It says I'm from Chesapeake but it's only because I'm stationed here from Brevard NC
1625	Carolyn Adcock	Macon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	My husband and friends have been going to Emerald Isle for over 50 years to fish! You have changed the size you can keep, limited the number to keep and cut down on the flounder season to nothing unless you change your mind!! The last two years we planned our vacation around the flounder season only to have you change it to only 2 weeks-the week we had planned did not fall

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						in those 2 weeks! Now no flounder season (so far) and if it was one --ONE FISH A DAY??? Now you want to add to that filling out forms, and taking the fun of catching the fish, away!! I read all the reasons you are doing this but think it's ridiculous. Plus, I don't think a few fishermen are depleting the fish! The commercial fishermen catch way more fish and can keep everything, along with how many fish die from being caught in the net??
1626	Brian Taylor	Lumberton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1627	Darren Fincher	Sanford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The state already has strict rules for recreational fisherman. This past year flounder harvest was almost zero time for us. Red drum harvest is also very low for recreational fisherman. Other species of fish are also this way for us. The commercial fisherman harvest many more fish than we do. I think the regulations should be more strict on them. The current rules for recreational fisherman are sufficient. Thank You.
1628	Dennis M. Goodwin	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is already cumbersome to keep up with the changing requirements of what size fish to keep and how many I can keep. Having to submit a report each time I go fishing and have any luck feels like punishment for something I haven't done.
1629	Les Gradu	La Grange	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Feel like we have to buy a license to do ncdmf and ncwc jobs for them. It already feels like racketeering . If enough of us sportsmen decide it's not worth the trouble, pittman- Robertson may dry up!! All species need protecting from greedy folks but they are always around. Sorry to complain, but dang, it seems we get one proclamation after the other! Environmental conditions(water temps., chemicals, etc.) could be more of a culprit in stock decline(striped bass, weakfish). Lots of folks eating nowadays too!!
1630	Dennis T Conroy	Palmyra	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The burdensome reporting of certain Species Harvest by Recreational Fishermen is not necessary, especially since the reporting methods and rules have not yet been formulated. Since these species are already under harvest limitations. Most fishermen would be happy with reporting their harvest at the completion of the day of fishing. They should not have to stop fishing to immediately report a catch. Since most people have cell phone and use the web. A reporting system that matches to the Coastal fishing license that can be completed via online or simple phone prompts is what is needed. Many fishermen will view this Harvest reporting as a way to further limit their fishing. However this system is setup, it must be accessible and fully auditable, with no manipulation of the numbers. Statistics can be represented in many ways this reporting should be straight forward and simple. I do find it odd that this, Session Law 2023-137, section 6,

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						was buried between laws on Sewage and Wastewater Treatment. Things that have nothing in common with this section 6 law. Why not a standalone section which deals with fishing.
1631	Sean Rice	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am against this new law I don't believe for a second that it will be temporary. This just makes it even more of a hassle to go fishing (recreational or occupational). As if there are not enough expenses, forms, taxes and laws already.
1632	Danny Strange	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is assigned and reaches far beyond reason!!
1633	Danny Strange	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I just want to know who I need to vote out or get fired for such a ridiculous and assigned idea!
1634	Lee Welch	Apex	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Law 2023-137 Section 6 requiring any person who recreationally harvests Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, and Weakfish to report that harvest to the Division of Marine Fisheries.</p> <p>As a recreational fisherman, I catch 1-2 of the above species a year, tops. The damage to our ecosystem is being caused by commercial fisherman, not recreational. Go after the ones that are causing problems, not the regular recreational fisherman doing it for a hobby. This is a waste of time and resources.</p>
1635	Richard Renegar	WINSTON SALEM	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Please do not implement this rule. NO ONE who fishes and enjoys the natural beauty of our world wants to then be bothered with having to use a phone or a computer to report fish catches. Please keep technology from ruining OUR outdoor experiences.
1636	Steve Corriher	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We all know the issue is with commercial fishing and shrimp trawling in the estuarine systems along with gillnetting in the same areas. Recreational fisherman are only asking for their fair share of the allotments. I will report my catches when observers are on commercial vessels on a regular and unannounced basis so the true by catch mortality rate can be determined..
1637	David perry	Kitty hawk	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There are already to many rules and encumbrances on hunters and fisherman in this country. It's bad enough that we are required to purchase licenses in the first place but the rules are becoming down right draconian and make it impossible to hunt or fish which by the way we already pay to do.

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1638	Alton Roberson	Kinston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Temporary rules to implement mandatory harvest reporting requirements passed by the N.C. General Assembly in Session Law 2023-137, Section 6. :</p> <p>If you are determined to ruin the recreational fishermman's attitude of an opportunity to get away from home, relax, enjoy bonding with our coastal waters and marshes, and maybe enjoy the challenge of catching a drum or trout; then so be it. It's amazing how one of the simplest joys of life can be tramped upon and buried in the mud. As fishermen and boaters, its difficult to imagine the number of rules we must follow just to enjoy " the thump." Here we are again, adding another mandatory hurdle to jump or hoop to go through.</p> <p>The expenses to fish are not cheap and it is already cheaper to go to the fish market and to purchase what you need for a meal. However, it is about "the thump." Maybe what should be done is to ask or campaign for recreational fisherman to voluntarily record their data and submit it.</p>
1639	Matthew Foreman	Havelock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This seems like an excessive infringement on recreational fishermen, when commercial fishers can get away with a great deal. This is large part to their non-stop commercials and lobbyist.</p>
1640	Blaine Beck	Mocksville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I purchased my Life Time Sportsman license in June,1985. [REDACTED]. I said then as an eighteen year old that after a few years of an Excellent thing that the commission would get greedier and greedier for both money and power to regulate those of us that have carried the load of game and fish restoration and sustainability. At the time I purchased my license the commission automatically sent tags to all license holders. There are four LSL holders at this address, this past year we had the gosh awfulest time renewing our tags! [Why must we be doing something that is lifetime in the FIRST place!!!] It is very apparent that any and or all of the N.C. departments have become stacked with a tremendous amount of anti-hunting, anti-fishing, tree-hugging liberals that are h***-bent on making it so hard on those of us who have done all of the heavy lifting by purchasing the appropriate licenses, paying the eleven percent - Pittman-Robertson and ten percent Dingell-Johnson that we will give up on OUR SPORTS that are so DEAR to us! L2023-137 section6 is just another Idiotic, burdensome example of government overreach. Regulatory relief? Really?? Lets call it like it is-MORE REGULATORY BURDEN!!!</p>
1641	Ron Wells	Swansboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Non commercial harvesting represents a very small percentage of species depletion. Recreational fishing overall represents an overwhelming contribution to North Carolina's economy. This requirement is embarrassing and overreaching, also a lot of needless and ridiculous expense trying to enforce.</p>

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1642	Donald Lawson	Pilot Mountain	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I disagree with the purposed laws
1643	Michael Eubanks	Oak Island	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I've recreationally fished the water around Oak Island for over 59 years. Admittedly it would be great if the decision makers knew EXACTLY how many of these fish came out of the water every day. Realistically, there is no way to grab the data. The enforcement folks would have to be increased by a factor of 1000%. It's a waste of money to even try. Find another path.
1644	Sharon Stewart	Gastonia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Does this mean that there won't be a short flounder season?
1645	Greg batts	Zebulon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Stupid rule, will not change anything nobody will comply.
1646	George	Robertson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The is beyond irrational I would like to know who .sponsored this section of the bill and who were their major contributors to there campaign and if they are directly related to someone in the commercial seafood industry.
1647	Caroline Gray	Rodanthe	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have commercial fished my whole life it has been in my family for many generations. It is sad to see how much it has changed just in my life time. Not to mention the amount of change over the course of generations. This rule that you are trying to put on the commercial fishing industry is something that I can't begin to fathom. You receive our trips tickets once we make our sale. Our sale is every single day that we fish. All this is doing is adding more of a headache for every commercial fisherman. As if we don't have a long enough days as it is. We then have to take our ticket information and report it to you as well. So that you can receive the information twice. This is one of those things where you sit and ask "make it make sense" because it simply doesn't. This is just one more thing added to an industry you all are trying to kill and it is sad to see. I am 23 years old and it's an industry you don't encourage the younger generation to get into, because it is dying, the rules, the regulations, the new laws you add in continuously is just too much on anybody. This is another way for you to line your pocket with another dollar, another ticket is another dollar for you all. You all sitting on this board need to take a deep look at what is happening around everywhere. You keep on the way you are going and you will eventually have no data at all because it will be impossible for us to give it to you. We won't be able to keep up.

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1648	Spencer C Hoggard	WINDSOR	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1649	Charles Haynes	Selma	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I strongly disagree with your assessment with respect to the mandatory harvest rule. Its a no win for anglers. Harvest/report= overfishing Catch/release=low reported numbers thereby appearing as overfished.
1650	Kenneth Hedrick	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	I support efforts to sustain our fisheries. However, I think commercial fishing needs to much more highly regulated and controlled. The fisheries are a shared resource, and commercial fishermen get far too large a share as compared to the average fisherman.
1651	William Lewis Corley	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Sport fishing is supposed to be a relaxing past time where you can enjoy the great outdoors here in NC and a way for people that enjoy the outdoors to put fish on the table. Each year this commission puts more and more restrictions on Sport Fishing to the point that it's getting to be more trouble than enjoyment. We all want to conserve our resources, but all the rules have gotten ridicules. Now you are talking about making us report each fish we catch. What is that going to accomplish? I will tell you, Nothing!!! I am absolutely opposed to this proposal. Thank You
1652	Jeff Prince	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I don't feel like this is going to provide accurate data. Commercial harvest will continue to be unreported and I believe your recreational anglers will opt not to report vs going through the hassle of this mandate.
1653	Robert Lee Canady	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I feel there should be mandatory reporting on said fish species.
1654	GEORGE THOMAS III	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting individual catches does not solve the problem, only adds more bureaucracy. I have stated my opinion in the past only to be ignored. Until we stop commercially mass harvesting fish in areas where they winter we will continue to see the recreational fishery decline, especially in spotted sea trout. The winter netting methods used today in the heads of rivers are far more effective at completely depleting the large female trout. In years past those trout would winter there, return to open waters in the spring/early summer to spawn. This is not rocket science!!! George Thomas [REDACTED]
1655	JIMMY RILEY	MOUNT ULLA	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	So the Lords of the manor are over reaching again I see. All of the different rules and fees to burden the poor in this state are pretty bad. The lobbyists for big business or "the bribers" as my Father liked to call them will ultimately win again. The recreational fisherman is so overburdened and is a drop in the bucket of the harvest compared to the rape and pillage done by the big boats harvesting in our waters. Rules and regulations should be slimmed downed for the recreational fisherman while the actual big boats the trawlers doing all the damage should be over burdened to make them leave NC waters.

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1656	Burl J Mitchell	DUDLEY	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule is completely unenforceable. It is a shining example of government overreach.
1657	Donald Trump	White House	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stupid tail government. Just another way to try to control us. And another way to get a ticket.
1658	Jonathan Oglesby	Manns Harbor	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I appears that the proposal will in no way, help fish stocks. Seems to me it is yet another way to write more tickets, in turn more revenue for both parties. Water quality is the root of the problem. That no one will address or discuss. I have contacted multiple people in Washington Nc and Raleigh. Just pass along with no response. It's not storm run off. Won't you try to test water in North east Pamlico sound. October-December and check results against January-March. I have seen it for years being on the water.
1659	Patrick	Currituck	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1660	Rudy Mozisek	Smithfield	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We should not have to report any fish we catch. This would be Rediculas. We are not children that the state has to hold are hand and be in our Business on everything we do. This would again be invasion of our privacy. We are adults and know the rules and regulations of fishing and the consequence of our actions. I VOTE NO.
1661	Walter Scott	Stuart	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have been fishing at North topsail Island for the past 30 years. This makes me want to go to another state. I'm already afraid to keep a fish because of all the BS rules that are in place.
1662	Mike Angell	Winston -Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	One of the most tyrannical ideas to date. To think that the problem is recreational fishing is ludicrous. If the numbers of these specified fish are in danger, it's definitely not the recreational fisherman that is causing the problem. I say emphatically, no to this rule.
1663	Bruce Roark	Mill Spring	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are enough hoops to jump through if you want to fish or hunt legally in North Carolina. We do not need another useless bureaucratic requirement that won't help the fish or anything else, except someone trying to justify there job.
1664	Jeff Honeycutt	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	This is the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard of. Do you really think fishermen are going to stop fishing to pick up their phones to report that they caught a fish? What if

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				Harvest Reporting		There is no cell service where they are fishing? What if They don't have a phone? This is just plain stupid.
1665	Jeff Parker	Hampstead	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	What is the time limit to report catches? If I catch a fish in the morning and get checked on the water at lunch am I going to get a ticket if I haven't reported? It would be great if the reporting tool included an app. As tough as the fishing is getting with the amount of people moving here I guarantee I will not give a specific catch location. I would be willing to give a general location.
1666	Bryan Sealey	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I know that this will be used as a tracking tool for fish quotas and that I would agree with. But we know for a fact that the commercial guys will not be reporting all their catch's. If this does pass I hope that you will have an app based reporting tool. I agree with rules and limits but I can't even come home during the summer and catch flounder. Some boundaries are over stepped in these rule making sessions. How did we go from a year round fishery to a one month season.
1667	James walker	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We have the largest estuary in south east with the most stringent rules and worst inshore fishing. Their may not be a silver bullet but come on their is something else going on here.
1668	Derek Green	Hillsborough	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More rules are going to do nothing to improve fish stocks. All this will do is add to the drain on fisheries budgets by creating bureaucracy. The time and money would be better spent on increased enforcement of all the rules already in place. Also the skewed catch limits/seasons between recreational and commercial are an insult to the recreational fishers.
1669	Scott Furr	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Please understand there seems no apparent way to enforce these rules. People who fish out on the waters don't always have phones relative to using apps. This does not seem to gain us any advantage and I see people finding more creating ways to omit this rule and not adhere to it.
1670	Sam Collins	Pelitier	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Another government overreach. Compliance rate of this will be less than 25% making the law useless for what it was intended. I rarely harvest these species so it really doesn't apply to me and if it did I surely wouldn't comply to the law.
1671	Joe	Charlotte	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	The reporting rules will be a time consuming and unnecessary requirement especially for the recreational fisherman that is usually only fishing while on vacation once a year
1672	Kenneth R Turnmyre	Hickory	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I really don't know enough about the rules regarding coastal flounder fishing, but my perception of the rules ,as i understand them. Individual Flounder fishing or a lack thereof is extremely unfair. The individual NC license holder is basically forbidden to flounder fish, while the Commercial fisherman is certainly living by a different set of rules. I guess the Commercial

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						Voice carries more weight than the individual. South Carolina rules seem to be fairer and make better sense. I have absolutely NO ISSUE with commercial fisherman JUST the Rules, that seem to have been tilted in one direction, probably by the Commercial Lobby.
1673	David G Hackney	Pittsboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Foe years we have seen commercial netting have the most detrimental effects on these fish. Why not eliminate commercial over harvesting like other states and see the economic benefits to the sport fishing industry before we see the NC coast result into another Wachapreque VA .
1674	DEAN P BARTLETT	Harkers Island	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Is this the best idea you can come up with? I would be fired if I couldn't do better than this at my job. Outlaw gill nets and follow suit with states like Florida by giving species of concern (ie. trout,flounder, drum) gamefish status. Please stop with these half measures.
1675	David Earley	Windsor	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have seen you cut limits on different fish over the past few years and all you are doing is forcing people to start fish for another species of fish. I think just a few years ago, not a whole lot of people were fishing for Speckled Trout, but you limited the number of Reds and the number of Stripped Bass and flounde that we could catch, before closing the Stripped Bass Season, while putting strict restriction on the bait we could use. I recreation fish once, maybe twice a week and some weeks I may not go. You are making it where it is not worth while for me to even go fishing. I will guaranteed you that more often that not, I do NOT catch my limit. My father was a Wildlife Officer and I use to agree with most of the laws, but not anymore. It has gotten to the point that you have to have a computer with you to keep up with all the regulations. I agree that there are a few that will break the law and keep over the limit or unauthorized fish, but you are not going to stop them. They are not going to obey the law. Most of the people I fish with obey the law, but we are getting fed up with all the regulations that are being imposed on recreational fisherman. When I go to Rose Bay and see a boat pull up in a creek or nook, block it completely off with a net and then go to the back and run their boat back and forth across the entire area running the fish toward the net, that upsets me. It makes no difference if I was fishing in the area or not. They will be there maybe 15 minutes and gone to another location. This is stuff that should be prevented. When a fish net is put out for 200 to 300 yards about 40 to 50 foot off the bank over night in an area where recreational fishermen were catching fish just a day or so before. We look at Virginia and South Carolina and the lack of regulations that they have and the number and size of fish they have. Changes need to be made but I think you are going the wrong direction. I would like to see more fishermen, both recreational and commercial making the laws. If you don't fish, you don't need to be making laws.
1676	Phillip Smith	North Wilkesboro	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I'm for reporting both commercial and non commercial fishing reports. It should help improve fishing for everyone.

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1677	Jose Nieto	FUQUAY VARINA	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an unrealistic and unnecessary burden on the recreational fisherman. I see no mention on how easy or hard it would be for the recreational fisherman to "report" his harvest. To be honest, the fisheries management here appears to be a joke, how a state that has such a viable estuary system can manage to basically shut down the flounder recreational fishery is a sign of gross mismanagement. IT appears to be a backdoor way to collect more revenue from unsuspecting fishermen. If this rule goes into effect, you will probably severely impact the tourist industry who not only come here for mountains and beaches but for fishing as well.
1678	Adam Clifton	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	These rule changes make it seem like you don't want the average man to be able to fish on vacation anymore. The rule changes on flounder came after I planed a trip to the coast last year so I missed the window by one week because I planned my trip around the rules for the previous year. Now I have to worry about going on line and reporting everything I catch. This seems like it would be extremely difficult if not impossible to enforce. I have always followed the rules and regulations and taught my sons to do the same but every year the rules get tougher and harder to figure out and follow.
1679	William Fulcher	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just another invasion of our privacy in life. Recreational fisherman are not damaging the Fisheries. Commercial fisherman/ netting is the one doing all the damage.
1680	Daniel McPhail	Salemburg	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting. I'm not gonna call it in. What about the other 90 percent of the time that I don't catch anything? All this BS can be eliminated if you take the nets out of the estuaries and sounds to 3 miles offshore. It doesn't take a genius to see this. What is this state's policy makers thinking. Or do they think.
1681	Richard Coleman	Tabor City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	No hook and line will ever depleat a resourse
1682	William Stafford	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Low fish populations have been blamed on recreational fishermen as long as I can remember, while commercial fishermen haul in thousands of pounds of fish a day. Any and every species gets caught in their nets. It sounds to me like the regulations need to be more strict on commercial fishing and not recreational fishing. Wildlife resources and marine fisheries as a whole are a joke. Tightening already overbearing regulations on guys that might get to go fishing one weekend a month. Not to mention the cost of licensing and vessel registration.

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1683	Brian English	Hurdle Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If enforced, this will effectively end recreational fishing in NC marine waters. But, perhaps that is the intended outcome? As a native North Carolinian and someone who has enjoyed fishing my entire life for both recreation and food, I can say that this will be the end of my fishing in NC. The inshore fisheries are already decimated by gill netting, as NC is one of the only states remaining in the US that still allows the practice. The fishery has gone downhill dramatically in the last decade, and this reporting requirement will be the final death knell for recreational fisherman like myself who are just tired of wasting our time and money in NC waters.
1684	Josiah Grady	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This sounds like a money grab, pure and simple. I am against it because it serves only to punish and burden people trying to enjoy the outdoors more. It does nothing to stop problematic poachers and law breakers who would be caught regardless of if this legislation passes when their catch is inspected. Let us just fish. We don't need more rules.
1685	ROBERT C KLINGER	HICKORY	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Do not understand why non commercial harvest report is necessary.It always seems the rules hinder recreational fishermen while the rules are not stringent on commercial harvesters.Why so many species to report on.More bureaucracy to the public.How about catching the portion of population that breaks the law of the harvest limits.Which is many.When I fish I see people catching beyond the legal limits.
1686	ALLEN PORTER	MERRITT	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is not clear to me the purpose of this law but if it is concerns about over harvesting, you should be focusing on commercial and GILL NETTERS. I appears to me that the government cannot enforce the current laws so how do you expect to enforce the subject law that attempts to control every fishermen out there. Another example of government overreach.
1687	DUANE AUMAN	WILMIINGTON	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	In the case of recreational harvesting, this proposed rule is massive government overreach. If such a rule was imposed, there is no conceivable way a gov entity could possibly keep up with reporting and data; so more of our tax dollars will be used to infringe on our rights as Americans! Recreational fishing is not the problem; it is the over use of nets in various forms used in the waters of NC that are causing ALL the shortfall of fish stocks. One only needs to observe the fish stocks for other coastal states that have banned the most harmful nets-they are thriving.
1688	David getz	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
1689	Devin Gray Lineberry	Kernersville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Please reconsider your plans to implement required nearly immediate phone submission of harvest data. I am a lifetime member of DIFF (Davis Island Fishing Federation) and get to spend some time each year on the outer banks, primarily South Core and North Core of Cape Lookout. Many areas of both islands have no cell coverage at times. The area around the rock jetty was

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						<p>especially bad last fall and winter. If this information is needed, please consider at least more consolidated reporting. Once a week or once per trip at the most please. My father will not be able to comply should he want to keep a fish. Thank you very much for your consideration. Devin Lineberry [REDACTED]</p>
1690	Eugene O Winberg	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This rule is not fully thought out. For example, I do not own a smart phone, an old timey flip phone which would not permit me to report while on one of the barrier islands.</p> <p>So I would be in violation and subject to arrest, tickets and fines.</p>
1691	Kim Tavasso	Winterville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>The changes implemented by these rules would only make recreational fishing more difficult and less enjoyable than it already is. And further regulate an already over regulated recreational sector. I also have my doubts about the ability of the DMF and/or the NCWRC to properly implement, regulate and enforce these changes.</p>
1692	KENNETH W LEMPP	Jamestown	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This rule is unfair to recreational fisherman. We already adhere to restrictive creel limits and now we have to stop and report as we catch a fish. I usually fish the OBX. It's not always feasible to report as we catch because I don't keep my phone on my person while surf fishing. I keep it dry and secure in my vehicle, which isn't always near me while I'm fishing. Maybe we can fill out some sort of form at the end of the trip or even the end of our fishing day. This also seems like it would be a burden on the Rangers and game wardens who probably have better things to do than to make sure I report the 16" bluefish I just caught.</p>
1693	Edward A. Andersen	Barboursville	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>We (recreational fisherman) continue to be constrained by closures (recent mullet change, flounder no-take), fish limits (blues to 3 per day), etc. I would just like to fish please. More control and reporting is not needed. Regards. Ed</p>
1694	Charles Edwards	Locust	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1695	Dennis Mast	Myrtle Beach	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>These rules constitute extreme overreach by the commission in rule making. This rule along with the rule in the past few seasons that shut down flounder fishing in the fall for non commercial fishermen while allowing commercial fishermen to haul in all they they can sell for profit is unfair and a prime example of government overreach.</p>

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1696	ROBERT DANIELS	Glen Allen	Virginia	Both rules	Against	I can assure you that compliance of "voluntary" reporting of catches will be minimal at best resulting in inaccurate data and therefore poor data to make management decisions. It will increase demands on our law enforcement officers who are already stretched too thin. It will increase the work load on agencies processing the sketchy info obtained from proposed "Reporting". It will increase the work load for processing tickets, warnings and eventually fines. It will impose further further regulatory intrusions into an otherwise enjoyable past time which will eventually add to the mounting deterrents that already exist. This will result in fewer anglers and in turn, fewer licenses being sold and reduced income to fund this insane proposal. This in turn will increase the burden to pay for it all on tax payers that don't even fish! absurd.
1697	Niles A. Chumley	Rock Hill	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This can be difficult to monitor and enforce with the current number of resource officers . Taxes or current license fees will have to be increased which will put a burden on tax payers and those on fixed incomes. Inflation and increased cost of living is making it difficult to make ends meet for those depending on social security benefits.
1698	Edward Bayrd	Clayton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is nothing less than tyranny. To not allow people to fish in the ocean without filling out a form for every catch is just plain crazy. More government control over what we're allowed to do! I haven't seen any data on why you think these new laws are needed and why you want to impose these new laws.
1699	Joseph E. Bendis	Clayton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Please feel free to have someone at the ramps to "ask" me what I caught or kept the day I fished, but there in NO way should be a mandatory reporting system for ANY fisherman, woman or child. This is Governmental overstepping on the most severe level and my Grandfather is rolling over in his grave! Making reporting fish catches goes against every reason I fish! I'll gladly turn in my LIFETIME license to never fish this state again! Fishing is a freedom that should not be impinged by such outlandish regulations in the guise of fisheries management. Absolutely Ludacris!!
1700	Jesse Gibbs	Engelhard	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We can hardly keep anything now this is going to make people quit buying fishing licenses. I don't think this is going to work. I'm against harvest reporting for recreational fishing.
1701	Mark R Hooper	Smyrna	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Ideally, anglers would report all fish (of the target species) that are caught and released as well as harvested.

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1702	Joe Wofford	Parkton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1703	Bert Owens	Beaufort	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	No need to put this unnecessary burden on anglers with MRIP data already being collected. The requirements for commercials is too unenforceable and lacks any real penalty for ignoring the new law.
1704	Jennifer Pettit Woodell	Siler City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Harvest reporting should not be implemented for these fish. Restrictions are already in place. That should be enough.
1705	Jason S Weeks	ELIZABETH CITY	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It really seems like you guys are doing all you can to limit the abilities of the public to fish in public waters. Between this and the ridiculous flounder rules in which Marine Fisheries and WRC can't agree on rules and jurisdictions I feel like NC is becoming a laughing stock in natural resource management. Our neighboring states don't seem to have the same problems, why is that? If fish numbers are as low as you would have us believe then why are we allowing commercial harvest of the natural resource? You honestly expect the public to believe that the recreational rod & reel fisherman is doing as much damage to the fishery as the commercial netting? If the reporting law is passed I will abide by it but I find it hard to believe that many people will. That's my two cents, but I do appreciate the effort to collect public input. Hopefully the public is letting you hear what they think of this proposed law.
1706	DAVID C AYCOCK	Kinston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	To demand that recreational fisherman report every catch made is a very good example of the point that common sense isn't so common. I fish 5 or 6 days a year as a getaway with friends. Does it make sense to report to some grand overseer what I catch? No! Some trips we never catch anything. Some we do. I for one am not going to ruin a great time by filling out your form. And if this is the direction fishing is heading, good luck on having a base of tax payers to fund your games. There is no fun when you regulate something to oblivion!
1707	Dustin Peterson	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	If we report or don't report aren't they just going to use this new rule against us either way and then if we complain in the future about regulations like people do now it'll just give them a reason to give us to as why they are doing the regulations, versus now without proof, keeping peoples opinions even more useless?
1708	Nate Cartwright	Elizabeth City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Marine Fisheries Commission is REGULATING us to death!!!!!! And you wonder why license sales are LOW. You will never get an accurate report. This is just ANOTHER way for the game warden/marine fisheries to issue citations for non compliance. TOTAL BS North Carolina. Reject this new proposal or look forward to even less revenue and more frustrated residence. IF North Carolina wants to see the BIGGEST impact on our local fisheries, limit OMEGA Fisheries in the Chesapeake Bay. They have absolutely destroyed our Striped Bass (and other fish species)

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						harvest by over harvesting all the bait. Problem is, Omega has DEEP pockets and political backing. So, keep pointing the finger at the little guys.....
1709	Bill Littleton	Trent Woods	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is getting a little ridiculous folks. It would be easier to manage if you just making fishing in NC illegal which I DO NOT SUPPORT! Can't believe this is helping our resources at all. Please reconsider this proposed rule and use a common sense approach. We already feel we are heading into a communist society with our current administration and NC should not fall into this trap.
1710	Ben Dixon	Coats	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against the proposed mandatory harvest reporting of ones catch. Regardless of how noble the mandate seems to be, the overreach of power by the stare government entity is not likely to be retracted if put in place. This is yet another way for the government to impose itself in the daily lives of citizens and potentially vilify the innocent that has done no wrong. The government should protect and serve, not find new ways to restrict.
1711	Michael R Medlin	Monroe	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Please evaluate this proposal very closely! Please inforce the rules we have and allow those who are thying to help our fishery do so without more rules.
1712	Chet Bass	Clinton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I am against the rule below. This is Unnecessary regulations.</p> <p>Session Law 2023-137, Section 6, requires that any person who recreationally harvests red drum, flounder, spotted seatrout (speckled trout), striped bass and weakfish (gray trout) from coastal fishing waters, joint fishing waters, and inland fishing waters adjacent to coastal or joint fishing waters must report that harvest to the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF). Additionally, it requires anyone holding a commercial fishing license who is engaged in a commercial fishing operation to report all fish harvested to DMF, regardless of sale.</p>
1713	Anthony Bass	Clinton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I am against the rule below.</p> <p>Session Law 2023-137, Section 6, requires that any person who recreationally harvests red drum, flounder, spotted seatrout (speckled trout), striped bass and weakfish (gray trout) from coastal fishing waters, joint fishing waters, and inland fishing waters adjacent to coastal or joint fishing waters must report that harvest to the N.C. Division of</p>

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						Marine Fisheries (DMF). Additionally, it requires anyone holding a commercial fishing license who is engaged in a commercial fishing operation to report all fish harvested to DMF, regardless of sale.
1714	Brandon Barnes	Windsor	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I can not support these rules due to the fact that they are a scam. Marine fishery makes rules to govern fishing when they have no idea and they kill more fish doing studies than a recreational angler will catch. Furthermore people have been fishing since the beginning of time and for most of it there was no law enforcement and fish are still here. For instance the report on flounder last year is a bald face lie. In a two week time there were not 267,000 pounds of flounder caught it was a guess based on a person checking a couple of boats and then multiplying that is nowhere near an accurate count and not even in the ball park. In all actuality nc marine fisheries should hold no law enforcement powers and should fall under the nc wildlife commission be the scientific branch but let the wildlife commission do there job
1715	ALBERT MAVERICK DAVIS	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is not like reporting deer kills. This is requiring the recreational angler to sit down every fishing day to fill out a government form which has no enforcement. So his or her decision involves family time or a government apparently useless form. Ain't gonna happen. The data that might be gathered will not be accurate. I do not understand why a legislator would think that this reporting requirement would generate anything other than very negative public reaction. Do not do this.
1716	Stanley Jackson	Pinehurst	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More rules and regulations are not required for non-commercial harvest reporting. A voluntary reporting effort would accomplish the same thing. Stop creating minefields of regulatory traps that punish law-abiding people. These rules damage the relationship between the public and the Agencies involved. North Carolina General Assembly passed Session Law 2023-137 - mandatory harvest reporting.
1717	Stanley Sosniak	Currituck	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Alot of people fish not just for fun, but also to feed thier families and help offset the high costs of groceries. First you pretty much eliminated flounder fishing, now this??? How about concentrating on getting the commercial fishing boats away from our cost line. They catch and kill more fish with thier large nets than any recreational fishing can do. It is already hard enough to catch any fish worth keeping, and it seems like you are continuing to go after the common person just trying to feed thier family and teach the next generation how to fish. Keeping the youth interested in outdoors helps keep them on a good path and prevents them from getting into bad things. I ask that you make recreational fishing easier and more accessible and place your focus on the nets that really do the most harm to our wildlife.

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1718	Jason Morand	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I personally think the government are placing too many restrictions in laws on our fishing opportunities. Every year the cost of the license goes up and the amount you can keep is less. I think making it mandatory to report your catch amount will cause more people to lie and actually take more than reported. This will really throw numbers off. Please quit taking the fun out of our sport
1719	Joe Baldwin	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is so stupid. It's just one more thing to worry about that takes away the fun of fishing. The people who are catching more than they're supposed to aren't going to follow rules anyways. So how do you expect to get proper data. We have so many regulations now, why keep adding more to the law abiding citizens. It's the poachers that catch more than they're supposed to or keep sizes they're not supposed to that you should be focusing on. And let's not get started on the net boats that kill everything they drag up or the gill neters that do the same. If you'd pay more attention to those people, we'd have a much stronger fish population to begin with. I've never seen one warden out checking people. Let's start with enforcing the rules we already have. Thanks
1720	Richard W Taylor	Williamston	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I've been fishing in the Pamlico and Albemarle sounds since 1976, and have seen all of the fish stocks decline unbelievably. It is absolutely a fact that large commercial fishing interests, impowered by our legislators, have not been managing our resources. In the early 1980's I started seeing our fishery being raped. I recall going fishing out of Swan Quarter, fishing in the Pamlico Point area of the sound, and being literally trapped inside a huge net. A net was pulled by a separate boat from the mother boat and encompassed a huge area that had been known as a great place to catch gray trout and croakers. They encircled my boat and it required me to have to push the net down to escape. The same thing happened to me again later in another area of the sound. No fish escape such nets! A group of men from my church used to go to Ocracoke every May to fish. We would often fish around the artificial reef on the back side of Ocracoke. In the early 90's we starting seeing the commercial fishermen completely circling the reef area with nets that had large floats - again no fish could escape. So, an artificial reef that was built to attract fish principally for recreational fishing, was allowed to be used to rape the fish in that area. After contacting marine fisheries in Morehead and talking with several biologists, I learned that there was no law that prohibited such practices. I prepared a petition requesting that our legislators enact a law that did not allow commercial nets close to such reefs, and got almost 300 signers. I forwarded copies to our representatives in Raleigh, and also to Marine Fishery personnel, but never got a single response! Gray trout winter off of NC, but our legislators refuse to cooperate with the other east coast states, and have allowed commercial interests to encircle these fish contrary to the implications for gray trout viability for the entire east coast. Again a few large commercial interests are allowed to rape what used to be a great fishery. Did you know that

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						commercial fishing companies are not required to carry workers' comp insurance? That's right. A large commercial fishing business in Wanchese was being audited by the state, and the owner called Basnight and he told the auditors to stop the audit at once. Very soon afterwards, a law was enacted that exempted commercial interests from having to participate in NC's workers' compensation program. As a small business owner at the time, I found it particularly distasteful and alarming to realize the hold that commercial interests had on NC's legislators. How about the time a few years back when the marine fisheries limited commercial fishermen to 100 striped bass. There were pictures on the internet of literally 100's if not thousands of dead floating stripers out in the ocean. You see, they were culling the fish!
1721	Ralph mccrery	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	What is the end objective? How much of current people resources will it take to implement this law. Seems as though the state is saying they don't have good info on rec or commercial catch data? Yet we are currently told your data is what is used to restrict catch size and limits on the list of fish to report on. I believe it adds a lot of expense for enforcement and data keeping. Just doesn't seem practical to me.
1722	Jason Hewes	Morehead City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is ridiculous. The fact this is a NC environmental survey and asks for my state of residents tells me what I need to know about our state government programs.
1723	Thomas Hall	Ernul	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The problem. Is you are going to have a lot of people commenting and people lie so bad now a days your not going to get accurate information. People are to biased in this area for it in my opinion. And yall have taken so much from us in this fisherie that you will probably never give back why do we want to give yall more reasons to take even more.
1724	Richard Pressley	Cary	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Ridiculous overstep of rights. Government does not own ocean fish. Totally opposed to this Insane attempt to require non-commercial fishers to report anything.
1725	Lance Wright	Hickory	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Absolute joke of a government overreach. It is hysterical that you think you own fish in the ocean. You folks are drunk on power, time to vote every single one of you clowns out of office. I'm disgusted to know that i used to support your circus. Your mismanagement of NC wildlife has been more than detrimental to the animal populations than we could have imagined. The forefathers of this country would be ashamed of what the country is becoming. Taking folks rights to feed themselves away, requiring a license to put food in the freezer? Classless bureaucrats that are completely out of touch with reality. You should ride the same coattails you rode in on as far out of this state as they'll take you.
1726	Randy L. Pearson	Clayton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	Just another intrusion into the liberties of citizens. For goodness sakes, leave the Dad and his kids alone to enjoy a nice day of recreational fishing. Our state government has no business intruding

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				Harvest Reporting		on the non-Commercial individual. They purchased a license (which supports efforts to maintain healthy natural resources). They pay their taxes. And they deserve to be left in peace.
1727	Jim Ramaker	Huddleston	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Government over stepping their power.
1728	Jody Taylor	Lilesville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	OVER REGULATION.
1729	Sean Auton	Mebane	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	
1730	Sean Auton	Mebane	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1731	Teddy Smith	Glade Valley	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	First: It will be impossible to effectively implement this law. Fisherman that catch fish and put into a cooler can leave without being checked due to any officer in NC cannot legally check vehicles or coolers without a search warrant. Unless giving permission; which anyone illegally taken fish without reporting wouldn't agree to a search. Secondly; It's impossible to effectively have enough officers to cover such a wide area of the coast. I am 59 years old and have only been checked once in my 20's. Due to all of the above this would only show a small number of fish being caught leading to an inaccurate count of fish caught.
1732	Michael D'Andrea	Cedar Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an unenforceable burden on the fishermen and another example of over reach that will result in over regulation of species that are healthy and not endangered. The restrictions on flounder with limited seasons for the sport fisherman and curtailed seasons for commercial have had major impacts on NC fishing. If there is a threat to any of these species just reduce or close the seasons based on Fish and Game surveys not the fisherman. Most all responsible fishermen are in support of conservation efforts to protect the species. The reporting requirements on the systems used for large game or call in systems are cumbersome and not user friendly. If this is going to be implemented NC need a usability study by competent IT resource.

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1733	John Petralia	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	15A NCAC 03I .0124, the legislation does not include a timeframe for reporting harvesting. The proposed rule will cause an individual to commit a crime if they do not report their harvest immediately after the process is complete or shortly thereafter. The reporting process assumes that everyone has access to ran to an electronic device. In many cases the location for fishing does not have a viable connection to enable immediate electronic reporting. There are also a significant number of individuals who do not have access to computers or smartphones that would allow such reporting. An alternative suggestion would be to enable an individual to submit a "hard copy" of a report that can be mailed at a later date. It would also be more reasonable to require monthly reporting rather than requiring an individual to immediately submit an electronic form to the government as soon as they return to the boat ramp. I can already see the long lines of boats growing at the ramp while sportsmen are staring at their cell phones logging in their fish for the day. We have better things to do than file the fish tax form in the middle of a busy day. The objective of collecting data is understandable but is shouldn't be a burden or even a crime.
1734	Ray Barber	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We don't need any more burdensome rules. Unfortunately, the income from the saltwater fishing licenses has apparently resulted in you're adding more regulators, who of course, regulate. Totally frustrating.
1735	Jock	Mckellar	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is getting to a point where it is too much hassle to even go fishing. I use to just go fishing, but now I have to have a smart phone with me to see if the fish is in season, within the size limit, and how many I can have for the body of water I happen to be on. Not much fun anymore.
1736	Robert Norwood	Avon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Anglers who abide by the rules and regulations already in place are by definition law-abiding. If the law-abiding angler is already following the rules and regulations he already is limited by size restrictions and creel limits therefore adding another layer of reporting is redundant and unnecessary.
1737	Robert O'Keefe	MONROE	North Carolina	Both rules	For	The information is needed to make good decisions. Reporting will be an inconvenience but well worth the effort to improve the quality of the data needed to manage the fishery.
1738	Paul Rousseau	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational fishermen should not be subject to these over reaching and punishment type rules for enjoying a sport with the freedoms and privileges they currently have.
1739	Mark Harris	Roxboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	

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				Harvest Reporting		
1740	Jan Van Staalduinen	Plymouth	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1741	Nick Gleason	Atlantic Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Regarding reporting and fining for violations. The rules will destroy recreational fishing. The rules will create a police dominated recreational fishing experience.
1742	Terry Howlett	Mount Airy	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting a catch, come on guys this is stress on a fisherman and the whole idea of fishing is to get away from stress- taking fun out of fishing
1743	David Magee	High Point	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	is the NC Division trying to discourage recreational fishing. Flounder is a prime example. My brother lives in Sunset Beach NC which is very close to SC border. No closed season for flounder in SC and daily limit of 5 or 6 fish. This is absolute insanity and now you are wanting report harvesting records. Our state sucks
1744	Tanner Gray	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You are taking a pastime and making harder and harder for recreational fisherman to check off all the boxes to just fish. This is getting a bit ridiculous. Even with data collected you won't have true sufficient evidence to make decisions. We already now only have a 45-day Gag Grouper season. Flounder is a few weeks. Now you want reports of catches, just like pelagic and HMS species. I understand the need for commercial reporting. But how is a 13-year-old with no phone that is just fishing, supposed to report their harvest. Enough is enough.
1745	edwin duckworth	Belmont	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Don't make rules and regulations any more complicated! The upcoming younger generation is becoming less interested so keep it simple. I think surf fishing should be omitted from these new rules and no closed season for flounder. Focus on the commercial industry (follow the money).
1746	Nathan	Fair bluff	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I won't be reporting a single fish, y'all can suck it!!!!

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1747	Ross Wayne Compton	Burlington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not feel that this survey will give NC accurate info. Just as in fish size and quantity regs., there are way too many people in NC that do NOT obey the rules. A lot of NC fisherman don't even read the rules. Right or wrong, I feel that nets are hurting our fisheries. Topsale used to have a lot of flounder until the inside waters were opened up to netting. Then the flounder almost disappeared. I do not believe that all people will take the time to report their harvest. I try very hard to obey the rules, but I know for a fact that not all people do, Thank you, Wayne
1748	Josh Harris	Edenton	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1749	BRAXTON RASCOE	Windsor	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1750	William Booth	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is an over the top requirement. I am all for protecting our environment and protecting endangered species. This requirement is making it extremely difficult for an average citizen to responsibly fish for recreation and to feed a family.
1751	David Weybright	Kitty Hawk	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Number one...how far down the path to regulating and monitoring our daily lives does the government wish to go? Number two...how the heck would the reporting (or lack thereof) be monitored? Are individuals required to report on site...as they catch the fish? After they get home? Within 3 days of the catch? And how is the accuracy of the actual catch validated and corroborated with what is reported. I envision drones circling above.
1752	michael l corn	WILMINGTON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There are already to many rules regarding fishing. Fishing for most of us is suppose to be an enjoyable activity and further rules and reporting destroy this. I already find that I worry every time I go fishing or boating that I am breaking some kind of law. I have watched law enforcement check fire extinguisher , life jackets, flare date, check in my cooler for illegal fish, and anything an every thing that they could possibly write me a citation for . Son far I have been able to avoid any citations but there are times now that I do not go fishing or boating simply because of to much regulation. I have fished and boated for more than 50 years, replaced endless numbers of life jackets, fire extinguishers, flares, and other so called safety equipment that I have never used. I have fished in both fresh water and salt water and caught many kinds of fish that I have never

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						keep if below the size limit. I feel this regulation is only going to make fishing something that law enforcement will try to use to issue citations. Do not approve this rule.
1753	Catherine A James	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I can't see how this would actually help since I don't believe most people will adhere to the reporting process
1754	Phillip Peaden	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is ridiculous to require people who are recreationally fishing to have to report harvests of Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, and Weakfish. To punish people who are just trying to fish for fun seems excessive considering only the "rule followers" will comply with this law while others will continue to fish and keep whatever they want. I understand having the option to report numbers to record data but to punish people is an over step.
1755	Curt Bell	Midland	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am against the rule because it unfairly targets only the Recreational Fisherman. The big shrimp boats shovel hundreds of dead fish overboard to obtain a hand full of shrimp and they will continue to do so rules or not. That is how "kill em all and let the deckhand sort em out" net fishing works. It turns my stomach to see such a waste of a valuable resource. I believe NC is one of the only states that still allow the big trawlers to fish in its waters. Its time to stop the willful and wonton disregard of the peoples wildlife resources by for profit private businesses.
1756	Phillip Peaden	Washington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The sport of fishing is already over regulated, the last thing we need is another rule to abide by while only the honest person will comply with the rules.
1757	Ed Church	Indian Trail	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Most hook and line fishermen are dedicated to conserving our resources. With the heavy creel limits imposed on flounder, red drum, and the very limited open seasons, it is forcing not only honest people to cheat, but to go to South Carolina, or other states to fish. Now you want us to stop and call in for a single fish caught during our very limited time to enjoy the vacation. You are not only trying to chase us away, but you are taking revenue from the businesses that depend on the fishing public and tourism for their existence. Bad rules, too much regulation.
1758	Marvin Scarborough	Wanchese	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Nothing that Marine Fisheries have set to be "temporary " has been temporary, it winds up being permanent. With all the imposed regulations, you have destroyed all local commercial fishing, now you are trying to open the door to destroy recreational fishing. When is enough, enough.
1759	Buffy Marie Scarberry	Youngsville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	15A NCAC 10C .0218 HARVEST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: I feel this would show just where the excessive harvesting is happening. I do not feel the prior restrictions to flounder was

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						fair to the recreational fisherman was fair. This seems fair as well as informational to the Commissions who oversee the Marine Fisheries.
1760	James J Zabroski	Cape Canaveral	Florida	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's going to be a PIA reporting every time I harvest a fish and being fined if I don't is aedicular. Non Commercial fisherman are not catching many fish unless they are fishing from a boat. Pier fisherman only get a lot of spot, croakers and a few Spanish. All visitors to the OBX won't know of the rule and will end up getting fined. This will cause visitors to go somewhere else where they won't be harassed. This will result in the decrease of tourist income which will lead to a local increase in taxes or layoffs of Police, Firemen and State workers.
1761	Chad Jones	Apex	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel like the marine fisheries are taking the sport of fishing to a level of just nonsense. Its absolutely ridiculous what you all are doing. Commercial fisherman can drag nets in our rivers and along the beaches wiping out everything that gets caught in them. We already can only keep one flounder during such a short season thats not even worth going for anymore. The bays are so lousy with red drum and now you want us to report every one we catch. What ever happened to recreational fisherman being able to catch and keep. The hooks arent wiping out the population of these fish. Its the commercial fisherman dragging these freaking nets. Stop letting them net within a certain mileage of our beaches and inlets so that us recreational fisherman can go back and enjoy the fishing we had years ago. Stop punishing the recreational fisherman for the drop in fish population when the clear issue is coming from commercial fisherman. STOPPPPPP!!!
1762	Michael Hopper	washington	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
1763	Robert Gibbins Brown	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Seriously? Are you insane? First of all, this rule, if implemented will be nearly universally ignored. Second, I can't even begin to contemplate the cost of the bookkeeping. Third, enforcement will be essentially impossible -- the DMF can't keep up with egregious commercial fishing violations already, and I can't remember ever -- ever -- having my license or harvest checked in saltwater in NC. Half the places I fish are in water so shallow that a DMF agent would have to be in a kayak or moving dead slow in a skiff to even reach me (and know the waters very well in either case).</p> <p>I, like most sport fishermen I know, am very concerned over fish stocks and comply with fishing limits and regulations even though nobody is checking. However, I, like most of the sport fishermen that I know, place the primary blame for fish population problems on undocumented and undocumentable bycatch kill by commercial fishermen using nets and the lack of enforceable regulation of commercial fishing, especially inshore. There are still nets strung out across the sound, passively killing flounder and other key species by the hundreds every day. Inshore</p>

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						shrimping still wipes out all the fish within the trawl as "bycatch" that makes up well over half of the catch. Commercial fishing is worth roughly \$300 million to the NC economy, while sport fishing is worth over \$2 billion. Instead of counting fish caught by sport fishermen, how about counting the fish lost to bycatch that -- at a guess -- is responsible for 90% of the problem.
1764	Sylvester Fontenelle	durham	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Putting the ownist on the fisherman/woman to report will cause more warnings / tickets to be given out to citizens.
1765	Charles Combs	Beulaville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	First will commercial be required to report all fish including the dead ones they throw back in the water and how you going to know if the do? Second I worked all my life to be able to enjoy something I thought would be available for me to do for I sure didn't get to do much of it working. Only to find out that reaching that golden age brought rule changes that really don't make it even worth while to go. You're trying to force us all to stop fishing and buy it instead of doing what our ancestors were allowed to do which is go, enjoy and feed our catch to our family. If I'd know this 50 plus years ago I'd never have bought the first license, boats, gas, tackle and thousands of dollars spent in this state for the few times I did get to go. Stop netting and the other things other states have done. That will do more good than all your stupid rule changes thought up by apparently people who have no idea on the correct things to do for the people.
1766	Ralston Jones	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>As much as I support good management of our State resources, such as game, fish and other wildlife, and my support of great conservation efforts, I believe this new rule making goes too far. As an avid fisherman of both fresh and saltwater species, both inland and off-shore these proposed reporting rules will be very difficult to enforce. I feel that many legal sportsman, who abide by the rules and laws surrounding responsible game harvesting will agree. These rules will not stop non-compliant gamesmen from illegally harvesting, or not reporting their catch. This is another way to continue to pressure those of us that do follow the laws into possibly no longer being willing to do so.</p> <p>Additionally, I am often in locations that do not allow me to report right away. I often camp on our Core Banks shores for days on end, and in that time, eat the fish I catch. If these new rules are implemented, I would not be in compliance by doing so. I also spend a lot of time in the wilderness in the western portion of our state, again camping and fishing in trout waters, Even though I follow all rules, I eat my catch. By doing so where there is no way to report my catch, I would be non-compliant.</p> <p>These rules seem as if they are another way for the state government to burden law abiding citizens in an effort to stop a very few who are not compliant. I understand pressuring commercial</p>

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						operations to report their catch when long lining, and netting huge quantities of fish with very little survival rate. But to punish those of us who like to fish recreationally, and harvest no more than the daily creel limit, and comply to all wildlife guidelines is ridiculous. I hope you find another way to better manage the fisheries, cause this isnt it.
1767	randy seclist	raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	For	previous marine fisheries policy NOT based on sustainability/science. this rule change is helpful
1768	Kevin Ashby	Salisbury	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's not the recreational fishing hurting coastal fishing. The commercial fishing is the problem. Over harvest of anything will destroy it . Recreational fishing is limited to a small number that can be kept (example flounder 1 a day) . Commercial by the tons commercial fishing should only be allowed way off shore never inshore.
1769	William Brown	Marshallberg	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is propostrous to think this amendment would even work, much less being at all enforceable. Recreational anglers are NOT the problem. If you want to fix the mess that is the NC fishing industry, look to the commercial trawlers and gill netters who strike on almost exclusively bycatch sometimes in the hopes of catching a % of their actual targeted fish. Annually, commercial fisherman have been responsible for about 90% of the total NC fish harvest while recreational anglers only take 10%, perhaps think about enforcing rules on gigging as well and other forms of fishing where people can just go in and COMPLETELY clear an area of fish. Recreational anglers have had their bag limits reduced for too long because of the mismanagement of the commercial fleets. Stop this insanity and fix it! Stop attacking recreational fishers! We are NOT the problem!
1770	Keith Allan Weatherman	Clemmons	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I dont get to fish very much, but it sure is easier to fish in South Carolina and not North Carolina. They are just not so strict there. I can understand being more restrictive on Commercial fishing, but not the recreational fisherman. I was told that flounder fishing does not have a restricted season in South Carolina and here it is so brief.
1771	Dallas Gray	Stumpy Point	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Good luck with another foolish law that can't be unforced. Way too many regulations now. Sad state of affairs when an old man with 5 generations of commercial fisherman can't even set a gill net and catch supper now you want it so I can't even catch one trout with a rod and reel without reporting it to Uncle Big Government. We shall see how that goes 😊
1772	Brian Swiger	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I only travel to the coast a couple of times a year to pier and surf fish. I think it is a little much to ask most non-commercial fishermen to report catches, especially if you are going to impose penalties. Although, I do think that commercial fishermen, who have more of an impact on fish populations, should have to report.

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1773	Irving Groat	Severna Park	Maryland	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Sport fishing does not significantly affect the populations of these fish. They are impacted by pollution, habitat loss, over harvesting by commercial fishing and bycatch by netting. The proposed reporting is an unnecessary burden on the outdoorsman.
1774	Larry Sadler	Swan Quarter	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Harvest reporting.... this has got to be one of the silliest rules that someone could of come up with... come on NC, you can do better than this...
1775	William Phillip Loughlin	Pink Hill	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe this reporting requirement is unenforceable at scale, and data gathered through this requirement will be skewed and unreliable. It adds a burden to recreational fishermen, both in the requirement to report and any potential liability for failure to report. It will also enhance the perceived antagonistic relationship between Marine Fisheries/NC Wildlife and the public. Voluntary reporting would be just as effective for data collection, would not place a burden on the recreational fishermen, and would present an opportunity for Marine Fisheries and NC Wildlife to be seen as collaborative, rather than authoritarian.
1776	David Martin	Chesapeake	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	The new reporting rules sound good, and any responsible fishermen will try to provide the desired information but its going to be almost imposable to enforce. A lot of the recreational fishermen will not have a phone with them, some will not have equipment to make hard copies of required paperwork, and most of all most tourist will not know about the new rules until they get here so finding the required paperwork will be very hard for them. Sometime the simplest way is the best way, conduct surveys on the piers and boat landings.
1777	Brandon	Oak Island	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is an unenforceable law that puts more stress on the enforcement officers. This is all a result of poor fish management from DMF over the last 10 plus years. Why not do something more practical like how king mackerel is reported each month by fishermen who holds a federal king permit. Have the angler send in a monthly report of their catch.
1778	Marshall Gammon	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Totally ridiculous law. Should be for commercial fisherman ONLY!!
1779	Tom Wendelgass	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I believe this initiative, while it has good intentions, will not be received well by a large portion of the fishing community. It will likely be viewed as an infringement of their privacy and their "right" to fish without governmental oversight. This potential negative perspective could backlash on the Marine Fisheries Commission and N.C. Wildlife Resources agencies, resulting in less compliance in this and other conservation efforts, which would be unfortunate. Additionally, I believe this would be significantly difficult to implement, enforce, and manage.

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1780	Lance Brown	Mooreville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Hello-</p> <p>While I don't agree with the overall reporting requirements for recreational anglers as I feel the rule is overly cumbersome and adds an unnecessary burden to individuals who are fishing as a hobby and looking for an avenue to relax and decompress from the stresses of life. The recreational angler simply isn't trying to make a living from fishing. However, I also understand the requirement for the rule was created by the N.C. Legislature and while I believe it is overwhelmingly misguided, the Commission has to implement rules to meet the legal requirement.</p> <p>What must happen, is the reporting requirement must not exceed a level of reasonable burden to the recreational angler. And the rule requirement must take into consideration all scenarios in which an angler participates in the resource. I feel the requirement of the fish being held "complete" or not mutilated until reported is overly restrictive and creates an unnecessary level of complexity for the angler. Some anglers will clean fish dockside, at fish cleaning stations along the water or from a boat prior to departing the waterway. Some of these locations are remote and have little to no cellular service for digital reporting, which in order to meet the proposed rule, the angler would have to take the fish to another location for processing after the fish was reported, which could be up to midnight the following day. This requirement is way too cumbersome for the angler.</p> <p>Simply let the angler report the catch prior to midnight the following day and remove the requirement for the angler to keep the fish hole (unmutilated, cleaned, etc.). This will allow for blanket implementation regardless of where the fish was taken.</p>
1781	Justin Sigmon	Garner	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against mandatory reporting of recreational fishes
1782	Justin Sigmon	Garner	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I am for mandatory commercial harvest reporting of fishes
1783	James McLean	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Rather than burdening the recreational sportsman for data hire UNC Wilmington marine biologist students to sample creels at the various hotspot boat landings to get a representative sample. Fisherman are likely to be more forthcoming and a realistic sample will give you the data you

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						need. Of course other colleges, technical institutes or even high school kids could handle it. To the recreational base online submissions should be voluntary.
1784	David Hansil	Indian Trail	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This is just a bad idea. I cannot perceive of any way you will have effective enforcement. You cannot require immediate reporting because that would assume everyone has a cell phone and also cell coverage where they are fishing, Both are false. So you will have to establish a reasonable reporting time which would give anyone that decided not to report their catch time to take it home, clean it, freeze it, cook it, eat it, or otherwise dispose of the evidence. And in my experience you currently are providing only minimal enforcement of existing regulations. I fish quite a bit at various saltwater locations and have only had my license checked twice since the saltwater licenses went into effect. Even if you provide additional enforcement resources, I just do not see how this is going to work. Also you are talking about revoking licenses or imposing fines for (in some case) the failure to report the catch of a single fish.</p> <p>I understand the need for the data and therefore would propose a voluntary reporting system to include both harvested and released fish of the desired species. Maybe it could be tied in with the existing citation program or perhaps some incentives could be offered. I believe you will come closer to achieving your purpose with a voluntary plan. This would also give you the opportunity to work out a reasonable and workable reporting system without needing additional resources for enforcement.</p>
1785	Evan Rowe	Ocean Isle Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>"Hi, I'm from the government, and I'm here to help..."</p> <p>When it comes to simple ideas that sound good on paper, the Legislative Body and other Administrative Agencies that make up our state government are the best.</p> <p>When it comes to implementing those ideas (particularly when they become law) it is amazing how complex and convoluted the implementation turns out to be, and the unintended consequences are endless.</p> <p>I imagine this well-intended idea started by simply wanting to know how many species of each fish are harvested annually. This would, no doubt, allow people smarter than myself to more accurately determine fish populations, set harvest limits, etc.</p> <p>HOWEVER, 1) NC Wildlife is already understaffed and struggle to adequately enforce the laws on the books. Additional laws, not only lead to confusion, but also lead to a further drain on resources. As I understand it, an initial violation for not reporting would lead to a verbal warning...subsequent violations would result in monetary fines. Where will these fine monies go? Back to Wildlife? Used to make fishing/hunting opportunities more available to handicapped</p>

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						<p>individuals? Used for further study of fish populations? Or sent to a slush fund to power pet projects???</p> <p>Moreover, when someone seeks to appeal or contest a violation that will have to lead to a hearing -- In an already overwhelmed court system? Through some Administrative board? Either way, not only will "court" time be required, but also the presence of the citing officer...who should be out serving the community rather than arguing over "did someone know they were supposed to report their catch."</p> <p>2) There are already laws/regulations governing the harvest of various fish -- both commercial and recreationally. Many fish that are caught are not able to be kept due to their size or the time of year they are caught, so they are returned to the water. To accurately report ones catch, an individual would need to be in possession of these fish...which in some cases may be illegal. Additionally, once fish are returned to the water, that same fish may be re-caught, and this could lead to inaccurate reporting/data regarding fish populations.</p> <p>3) Coastal Fisheries and Migration Patterns-- It may seem obvious that the ocean is one giant body of water. This means that fish can swim from one jurisdiction to another...whether that is State to State, Country to Country, etc. When different states/countries have different laws -- as it relates to specific species of fish -- it makes reporting numbers/fishery management that much more difficult. The prefect example is the Summer/Southern Flounder. Apparently North Carolina believes this fishery to be "in danger" and yet neighboring South Carolina allows the catch of Flounder with very few limits. They are the same fish and yet you can have a very different approach for waters only miles apart. THIS MAKES NO SENSE and perfectly illustrates the how "recording" and "data" can be manipulated to create a desired outcome.</p> <p>Criminals don't follow laws. Rather than attempting to dictate reporting and requiring everyone to jump through yet another hoop, how about making the same reporting site available and *requesting* aka asking nicely, that anglers et. al. self report. The individuals that have the time/availability/care (the only ones who will follow your new law anyway) to report will provide the desired information while removing the need for further paperwork, regulations, enforcement, etc.</p> <p>While this proposal is surely well intended, it is poorly thought out, and will ultimately not provide the accurate desired information while undoubtedly create numerous other headaches.</p>
1786	SGB	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	Recreational anglers in North Carolina have been consistently selected for increased harvest restrictions and regulations as game fish stocks decline while commercial anglers conveniently

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				Harvest Reporting		forgotten. In the last 5 Summers I have visited and fished in the ocean in North Carolina after buying a license I haven't caught a single "keeper" flounder of any species. Every night off my parent's dock in Marshallburg, NC, we watch as commercial flounder fishers come into the bay and empty it via floodlights and gigs. Recreational anglers in a good year are responsible for about 10% of NC's total fishery harvest, and pay a per-capita tax to fish that is way higher than commercial fishers. This legislative package is a train wreck. Regulate commercial fishermen in NC and police the regulations aggressively to conserve and protect fish stocks. Commercial fishermen come into bays and empty them of fish trying to catch shrimp or flounder. Look no further, this is the reason fish stocks are dwindling. I think this legislation will only result in even more recreational fishermen simply ignoring any sort of regulations as their opportunities for "legal" catches are consistently taken away from them in favor of commercial fishing interests. A cursory googling reveals that the NC commercial fishing industry is worth about \$300 million yearly. Just trout fishing tourists bring \$1.38 billion in tourism revenues to NC yearly. Do the math. Protect the fishery by restricting and regulating commercial harvesting. Protect sportfishing and eco-tourism revenues by encouraging recreational angling in NC. Stop taking the money from lobbyists whose concern is not the health of our coastal ecosystems or fish stocks or the people of North Carolina, but rather in increasing their revenues and lining their pockets with the death of our coastal ecosystems.
1787	Todd Smith	Whiteville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm for limits. I am not for adding hassle to fishing with in leagel limits of recreational fishing. So no to reporting.
1788	Windell Smith	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It won't work. Your commercial fishermen have trip tickets or sales tickets but it's been my observation that residential fishermen in our area are not on the up and up. They catch a limit take it to the house and head back out to catch another limit. If they aren't legally fishing now they won't be if they have to report it. Also, while the state on NC may have all these "rules" adjacent states don't. So do we sacrifice to help their fishing better?
1789	Lisa Corbett	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The non-commercial harvest reporting rules creates an undue burden on recreational anglers.
1790	A. Allen Sherman	MEBANE	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I don't have anything against reporting catches. In fact, I believe it will provide greater insight into the effectiveness of seasons and limits.

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1791	Rob McGhee	Pikeville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I do not agree with reporting of fish caught and kept for recreational purposes. I follow the size, and species limits but don't need one more thing to remember on the water and get cited for it. Seems like a money racket. Just increase the cost of the license. Do not make reporting a thing for non-commercial fishing.
1792	Donald	On the water	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I didn't catch any fish is what you're gonna get out of this new rule change. Only way is you actually see the individual with fish and maybe then. All they got to do is say they released them at the ramp.
1793	James	Fuquay	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I know my comments won't make any difference but here goes. #1 the recreational fisherman is not depleting the ocean of fish as long as they all abide by the limits. #2 if you take the corruption out of the commercial fishing industry and get them out of our waterways and into the ocean we would be better off. #3 we have wildlife officers who's job is to PATROL and check people and BE SEEN. We don't need to rely on people reporting their catch.
1794	Jackson Cullens	Elizabeth city	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This will be the biggest pain in the butt for commercial fishing let alone recreational.
1795	Tony Butler	Ayden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>NC Marine Fisheries Commission seems to keep reaching for straws as to how to manage our aquatic natural resources. Every year, for the last several, size and creel limits have been adjusted for specific inland waters game species and have about made it not worth while for the recreational fisherman to pursue fishing inland waters anymore. The expense versus the keep is way out of proportion. I love to fish, but I also like the enjoyment of being able provide a source of food for my family. This is part of the eastern NC heritage!</p> <p>I am also aware of the seriousness of protecting these resources so that the future generations can partake and enjoy this same heritage. But, that's where I disagree with this proposed rule change. To spend 5 million dollars to support a mandatory harvest reporting project is not only a waste of time and I'm sure a waste of the taxpayers money also, but will not yield anything of benefit. The goal is to protect our natural resources, not keep placing more and more rules and regulations on the fisherman. I would suggest taking that 5 million dollar allocation and invest in ways to keep our rivers and estuaries clean and to prevent or eliminate factors that contribute damage to water systems, like inland commercial trawling which drags and destroys the bottom of our inland fishery habitat. Big corporations who are allowed to dump their waste water into our rivers. We need to address the root cause and quit trying to bandage the situation. Not sure where the science is pointing to by the studies that are being conducted, but most recreational fisherman I talk too are not having any problem finding and catching fish. The scarceness comes from being limited in what you can fish for or keep. If the science proves that our inland fishery resources are at risk, then I would be in favor to declare a non harvest year when no one is allowed to keep any inland</p>

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						fish for that period. This would include both the recreational fisherman as well as the commercial fisherman. Any commercial fishing would have to be done in the outer coastal waters. It will not cost 5 million dollars to do that and it might actually reveal that by doing something like this every so many years would be beneficial to the the ecosystem. Enough rambling, we all know this mandatory harvest reporting project is not going to accomplish a thing and we will be right back here next year talking about another futile rule change proposal instead of biting the bullet and addressing the real issues.
1796	Ricky Taylor	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am against MORE bureaucratic rules costings huge amounts of tax dollars!! A person goes out to enjoy a day of fishing and has to content with the bureaucratic rules created by the government employees in order to give themselves something to do.
1797	Stanley Jackson	Pinehurst	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More rules and regulations are not required for non-commercial harvest reporting. A voluntary reporting effort would accomplish the same thing. Stop creating minefields of regulatory traps that punish law-abiding people. These rules damage the relationship between the public and the Agencies involved. North Carolina General Assembly passed Session Law 2023-137 - mandatory harvest reporting.
1798	Chris Hanson	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Hello, I believe this will be a very flawed reporting system. First off you may get checked by an officer 2 times a year, mostly because of the large area our coast has and also there is a shortage of officers as it is, it's just impossible to be everywhere. How will this be able to be enforced ? Also penalties won't start until 2026 so people will look at that as a reason to not report until then, if they even will report. So by doing this you will have 2 years of flawed data and will only put us all back several years. I think you should look into giving out tags that you would use at the anglers discretion and that would probably give you better results. You have x amount of tags per species and then you can make much better guesstimates on the proper measures(if even needed). Now by doing this would have more positive results and anglers would have higher confidence in our fisheries management. Also it will keep the local fishing business, guides, tackle shops, etc. In business and everyone may be a little happier. There's many advantages of issuing tags for fish and maybe it's something to really consider. Thanks
1799	Boyd Watts	Belews Creek	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	

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1800	Robert Craig Rothrock	Walnut cove	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Most non-commercial fishing cannot catch enough fish to damage the environment... maybe better define commercial vs non-commercial and stop putting the work on recreational fishing.. is it not enough we have to pay to fish?
1801	Tim Blatch	Carolina Shores	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It will not be practicable nor a good use of resources to report all fish harvested as proposed for recreational fishing. This should be dropped. Ref:- any person who recreationally harvests Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, and Weakfish to report that harvest to the Division of Marine Fisheries
1802	Nolan Eller	Wilkesboro	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am against the new rule changes requiring anglers to report their catch. This appears to be an invitation for both anglers and commercial fisherman to police themselves in an attempt to gather data. I feel that further negative regulation could result from inaccurate data when relying on folks to police themselves. I feel as if we currently do not have enough officers in place to enforce the current law now. We need more enforcement officers not more regulation that goes unchecked. Thank you for hearing my thoughts.
1803	William Bass	Clinton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm opposed to required fish catch reporting.
1804	Robert C. Glasgow, Sr.	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	By requiring those of us that fish occasionally as a sport, to report on certain species of fish we catch, will reduce the number of sport fishermen because of inconvenience or ignore the requirement thus breaking the law and subject to punishment. This appears to be a poor solution. Cordially
1805	Noble D Hudson	Goldsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1806	Debbie Wallace	Fuquay-Varina	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Of concern is the increasing procedures put in place to regulate recreational fishing under the guise of information gathering and monitoring. There are adequate regulations related to recreational fishing. This falls into the category of too much.

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1807	Ed Wessel	Sparta,	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Why doesn't the Commission just close fishing out all together? Considering the limits and potential reporting requirements , saltwater fishing has no value. There is no justification in buying a fishing boat, purchasing a recreational fishing license or visiting the North Carolina coast for recreational purposes.
1808	Damien sadler	Swanquarter	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1809	David Hardy	Walkertown	North Carolina	Both rules	For	
1810	Todd Sosebee	Bessemer City	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Just more over-reaching by government agencies. Recreational fishermen like myself, just want a simple fishing trip once or twice a year without a lot of documentation, time away from fishing, and just plain hassle/grief from this reporting process. I feel its just another way to put seasons, restrictions on species like the flounder season, to finally eliminate all recreation fishing and let the commercial guys who bribe government officials, be the only ones who get to fish.
1811	Doug Duncan	Cary	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	15ANCAC 031.0124 Non-Commercial Reporting Requirements Completely unwarranted rule that is enacted would take the fun and experience of recreational fishing to a new low. Flounder season already severely shortened past beach vacation season and 1 fish per day. Red snapper restricted until July 12 when offshore seas are extremely rough. Why not include shrimp, croaker, spots, mullet and sheepshead and finish off what would otherwise be an enjoyable outdoor activity?
1812	James Rudisill	Jefferson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational harvest reporting...ridiculous! However I don't expect this to affect me since I stopped saltwater fishing in North Carolina six years ago with the implementation of the ridiculous flounder restrictions. By the way, every restaurant in North Carolina has flounder as the "fish of the day" on the menu! Makes no sense if there truly is a shortage of flounder. All of my fishing has been in South Carolina since then. Everyone there seems to appreciate my money, including SCDNR for a license, bait/tackle shops, restaurants, motels and real estate offices. I will be making SC my permanent residency in the near future after living in NC for over 60 years. Thanks to NC Division of Marine Fisheries for helping me realize how good the fishing and regulations are in other nearby states.
1813	ERNIE SMITH	WILSON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a definite head shaker! Who sits around and comes up with these bird brain ideas? All I can say is if I go to the outer banks fishing and catch a Red Drum in the slot size or legal size, I will not be reporting my catch whether it is MANDATORY OR NOT. Some people have made it so difficult to enjoy catch a few fish now with all the government interference, I guess the plan is working so that no one will want to go fishing perios.

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1814	James R Rickman	Aydlett	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I think you people have no clue the problems you are causing everyone !! This is bordering on Communist rule of our freedoms !!
1815	Edward Fleagle	Lake Placid	Florida	Both rules	Against	As Life Time holder of both hunting and fishing the proposed regulations are abusive and intrusive to all who hold active licenses. There are in place laws that set limits backed by the force of wildlife officers. The requirement to report every catch of the listed fish is in comparison to the State of NC to require every trip I make in in my automobile must be reported so that I can prove I didn't exceed the speed limit. Commercial fishing already has strict rules and limits. They don't need another restriction. The sport fishermen enjoy the blessing of recreational fishing. We buy licenses and fish and hunt when we can find the time from work. We do not need more requirements. I have fished in NC for over 60 years and this present action to require submitting a report after every capture of the listed fish is unreasonable. If you want reports then send out your surveys at the end of each season. Make it voluntary. You get the same information and you do not burden us with another law the makes the joy of fishing into a burden of more government bureaucracy. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my thoughts on the topic. Respectfully, Edward Fleagle LSA [REDACTED]
1816	Donald J Trump	Washington DC	District of Columbia	Both rules	Against	This is your President speaking. Quit harrassing those good sportsman of NC. They deserve more and longer seasons. Let them catch herring. Flounder. Striped Bass. The waters are full of them. They are hard working tax payers who are tired of you riding their back. If my instructions are not followed; there will be consequences and punishments brought down on your division. God Bless America. Make America Great Again!
1817	Daisy Link	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Stop all your rules
1818	Chris Taylor	Morehead city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe y'all have already decimated the recreational fishing in this area with regulations/"rules" that make absolutely no sense and are slowly stripping away our God given rights.
1819	Robert Ballard	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am strongly opposed to the new mandatory harvest reporting for recreational fishing. This is purely governmental overreach that will prove to be of no benefit in managing fish stocks. The bulk of the harvest is commercial, so just continue monitoring that segment (without any additional reporting), and do the best you can. And by the way, do you really think a trout fisherman is going to be truthful about where they caught their fish?

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1820	James Fuller	Hurdle Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	North Carolina already has creel limits, size limits, season limits on the recreational fisherman . Everyone knows that the bicatch from commercial fishermen in spawning waters is the reason that fish numbers are declining. Fix that and fish stocks will grow.
1821	Matthew Kelley	INDIAN TRAIL	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Is this serious? I get to fish about twice a year at the coast, and I catch all the species on this list. But I can't harvest striped bass because the season is closed. I can't harvest flounder, because I don't get to fish the 2 weeks they are in season per year. By the way, I have caught dozens of flounder in the last 4 years, can count on one hand the amount that were undersized.... serious, who had this idea? Is this how we solve the dwindling population concern. Call and tell me how many fish you kept that you couldn't keep, this way we know how the population is doing. Save the \$5mil, no one is harvesting stripes, and only the guys that are lucky are harvesting flounder... wow, just wow
1822	Sylvia white	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Non commercial fishing has no impact on diminishing the fish population, yet we are being penalized. These absurd rules take away from the pleasure and spontaneity of pulling a fish in. And, why is flounder even mentioned as one to report, when I'm not allowed to fish for them, except two weeks out of the year! These ridiculous, strict rules are taking away the enjoyment of fishing in North Carolina for the average person.
1823	William T Morris Jr	Concord	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I am completely against both of the reporting rules that you are considering implementing. It makes no sense to adopt these new regulations. It is called fishing. Ladies and gentlemen you are completely taking the fun out of fishing in the state of North Carolina. For years things have gone just fine without this added burden on recreational and commercial harvest reporting. Each year there are more and more restrictions that are implented. When will this ever end. Please, please do not implement these new regulations.
1824	Ken Peterson	Clinton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I try to follow the rules but at some point your carrying it to far how do you think you can police this rule I'm certainly not going to report after every fish I catch while I'm fishing
1825	Bill Mandulak	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am bewildered by this proposal. The only reason given by the NC DMF is that the legislature passed the law. I fail to see what this information could possibly be used for. The only data to be reported is harvested fish on a few selected species. Clearly the data collected does nothing to enhance MRIP data as it does not collect released or dead discard data. It ignores the "unlicensed" clients on a charter in which the vessel has a blanket license. Who and how will that data be collected? How will the hundreds of thousands of recreational anglers be educated to follow this regulation? Certainly, those with lifetime licenses won't know about it. Out of state vacationers may not have any knowledge of the regulation nor could enforcement by Marine Patrol cover them. Of course, no enforcement could cover private ramps and docks. To provide this coverage

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						<p>would require a major increase in Marine Patrol officers. Those lack internet access will need some paper reporting by "cards" which as I understand are available on the internet. If you don't have internet for on-line reporting, you don't have it to get "cards" either. How can the DMF possibly monitor the return of the "cards" in 24 hours? Will Marine Patrol have access to someone's private phone? Not sure that isn't an invasion of privacy issue.</p> <p>The species chosen are surprising. Will the angler be required to identify the species of flounder? Species of trout? Since there is no harvest of striped bass in inland waters and no ocean stripers have been around for years, why bother with this inclusion?</p> <p>Finally, and most importantly, after spending millions on this implementation, of what possible use will it be to the NC DMF? This seems like an incredible waste of money and time with no value provided. I certainly support whatever can be done to improve the recreational sector data but this program does nothing to do that.</p> <p>What a tragedy!</p> <p>Sincerely, Bill Mandulak</p>
1826	willis s nesbit	concord	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I am firmly opposed to the proposed reporting guidelines. I think this is overreach and unwarranted and would diminish the respect for any affected agencies. I think the person or persons who promulgated these proposed changes should be fired with loss of all benefits. This is gross malfeasance no matter how well intended.</p>
1827	Stuart Peoples	La Grange	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>The room is overly burdensome and cannot be enforced equally to all fisherman. Need to find another way to get the desired data.</p> <p>Laws need to go through the legislator. This should not be done through regulation. I expect you could never get it done through the legislature so it should be done.</p>
1828	David Sneed	Raleigh	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>May 16, 2024</p> <p>CCA NC COMMENTS ON MANDATORY REPORTING RULEMAKING</p> <p>15A NCAC 03I.0123</p> <p>15A NCAC 03I.0124</p> <p>Overview</p> <p>The first problem is whether or not there is a problem and if so, is mandatory reporting the proper remedy. It seems almost everyone agrees that uncertainty around NOAA Fisheries MRIP estimates for recreational landings, and the fact that 64% of SCFL holders do not report any landings, is a problem for fisheries managers. So, having everyone report is a laudable goal, but we are not sure it has ever been reached. We recall that mandatory reporting was required in the</p>

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						<p>Gulf of Mexico for hire fishery and in the HMS fishery in the Northeast, but in both instances the reporting rate was less than 50%. That percentage was increased by having staff contact some of the fisherman, but it still did not exceed 50%.</p> <p>Which raises the question - is a system that has mandatory reporting but only achieves 50%, or 60% or even 70%, better than a survey? We are not suggesting the current iteration of MRIP is a better or even good method of determining recreational harvest, especially when it is used for in season quota management and directly compared with a censured commercial fishery. MRIP clearly has significant problems and has continually produced questionable if not nonsensical estimates.</p> <p>In April, an impressive, bipartisan collection of two dozen Representatives and Senators sent a pointed letter to NOAA Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Janet Coit, expressing their displeasure with both the agency’s recreational data program and its stock assessment process. The letter urged action in both areas “to find a viable path forward to improve the data used for management and rebuild confidence and trust with the American public.”</p> <p>Regarding the recreational data program, the elected officials said, “The more precise, accurate, and timely state surveys in the Gulf of Mexico can provide the critical information on recreational landings needed to meet the requirements of federal fisheries management. While we are encouraged that NMFS has committed to reviewing MRIP-FES and working with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and the states to resolve differences and prioritize state surveys, we are disappointed in NMFS’ lack of urgency in making the transition.”</p> <p>The Gulf states have created systems that require reporting and have implemented them apparently successfully. Which brings us to the 2nd issue – if reporting is necessary, it may make logistical sense to require reporting for the smaller "boutique" fisheries. We would argue the red snapper fisheries in each Gulf state are just such fisheries - they are nowhere near the size, in terms of participation or catch, of the speckled trout, red drum or flounder fisheries in North Carolina.</p> <p>How big is too big to require daily trip level reporting? It may make sense to require reporting for Southern flounder or striped bass, and even weakfish since it had become a remnant fishery. Speckled trout may be too large.</p> <p>An analogy would be the tundra swan permit system implemented by the NCWRC. They limit</p>

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						<p>the number of permits to about 6000. With such a limited harvest allowance, it makes sense to have a random draw permit. How could you implement a conventional season and bag limit that would constrain the swan harvest to a few thousand birds? You can't. The NCWRC requires reporting all trips even if no harvest occurs. And of course, reporting the single harvest of a swan if such harvest occurs. A similar system for wood ducks or greenwing teal would be counterproductive, confusing and unnecessary.</p> <p>In short, we are not opposed to reporting requirements for the recreational fishery, but we do remain unsure this mandatory reporting system would produce better harvest estimates for any or all of the 5 species listed. In theory, a well-designed survey should produce a better estimate of harvest than a haphazard system that required reporting but achieved some number less than 100%. We support a state-managed reporting system "to find a viable path forward to improve the data used for management and rebuild confidence and trust with the American public."</p> <p>In just the last few weeks, the state management models in the Gulf of Mexico states has provided record access for red snapper and prevented an inexplicable disaster for gag grouper. The path to a more logical, competent future in fisheries management, led by the states, seems, finally, to be at hand. This proposed system may be a step in that direction, but it may also be an overstep in achieving your ultimate goal – better recreational and commercial data collection.</p> <p>Directed Comments on Temporary Rules to Implement a Mandatory Reporting System G.S. 113 170.3</p> <p>As stated from the outset, the concept of mandatory reporting is a laudable goal, and, in principle, should be supported by every public angler and commercial fisherman. However, before that can happen, there are several serious shortcomings that must be addressed before any scientifically or statistically significant data can be obtained.</p> <p>If the intention of the new law was to bring some equity to the reporting burden between public, not-for-profit citizens, and commercial fishermen, then there are other issues that need to be considered. First, as has been the case for far too long, discards continue to be ignored. The MRIP Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS) is the mechanism that is used to collect catch data from anglers to estimate overall catch and participation. During the fishing interview, which occurs at access points throughout the State, anglers are asked to provide catch and harvest data along with discards (the number of fish released alive). Not collecting information on discards</p>

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						<p>will render the data for that species fairly useless. How accurate can an assessment be without considering discards?</p> <p>If anglers are asked to report discards, should not commercial fishermen be required to as well? Obtaining commercial discards at the trip level is desperately needed to support assessments and other analysis that can only provide accurate results when all forms of mortality for a given species are known and available. This seems like a great opportunity to ask commercial fishermen about their discards.</p> <p>Many of the data gaps that currently exist in the models used in generating stock assessments center around poorly monitored commercial gears. It is well known that dead discards resulting from trawling in Pamlico Sound, from widely used large and small mesh gill nets, and other such gear create massive amounts of dead discards of various species of finfish that is too often ignored when assessment models are assembled and run. For example, DMF data shows a definite hotspot that juvenile Southern flounder use as a secondary nursery area in western Pamlico Sound, an area that is also heavily trawled. This trawling activity results in significant discard loss of flounder bycatch. Unfortunately, this source of discard mortality was not incorporated into the latest run of the Southern flounder stock assessment. Furthermore, the MFC had chances to address this loss of juvenile flounder in the latest amendments to the Shrimp FMP, the Southern Flounder FMP, and in the CHPP update. In each case, they continued to ignore this significant source of flounder dead discards. Doing so only guarantees that the latest management restrictions are doomed to failure.</p> <p>Until such discards are accurately measured and incorporated into stock assessments, biomass estimations will amount to nothing more than false positives, and the true stock status will continue to be overestimated.</p> <p>Next, the penalties associated with non-compliance are too lenient. Those who do not report their harvest of the “big five” species face only a long series of warnings before they are: (a) minimally fined, or (b) faced with a loss or license and/or gear. Because the penalties are lax, those that do not report their catch commercially or recreationally now, are not going to start reporting when this new rule takes effect.</p> <p>Perhaps most importantly, it is almost unenforceable. As long as the NC Legislature continues to poorly fund the LEOs of both NCDMF and NCWRC, there will be insufficient enforcement officers to patrol the vast coastal, joint, and inland waters of eastern NC. Checking on mandatory reporting violations, on top of their other duties, will be practically impossible. So, again, there is</p>

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						<p>no incentive for those that do not report their catch to start doing so. There should be serious concerns with the implementation of this system regarding reporting compliance from both sectors.</p> <p>There are many other questions that will need to be answered: Why just five species? This will handicap using the results from the mandatory reporting to supplement MRIP. What if an angler has his two underage, exempted grandchildren with him and they each catch a limit of trout? How many fish should he report? How do you report catch from a trip that takes place in several different water bodies? What about fishing in the EEZ? What about the people that lack the technology to report electronically or print a report card? All of these questions lead back to the main one we started with – how effective will a mandatory reporting system that achieves less than 100% compliance be in replacing the MRIP survey?</p> <p>This is a very big job, and we assume that the Division will do their best to get it right. It will require a great deal of support and as much angler buy-in as possible. It is a great opportunity to evaluate how the internet can be used to support or provide improvements to any existing or new data collection programs.</p> <p>We have heard it mentioned that the new program could potentially help support MRIP. That will be a stretch. The only problem with MRIP that we are aware of has to do with the order of the questions asked during the “Fishing Effort Survey” and how the effort estimates may be inflated. We are aware of the pressure that NOAA is under to improve MRIP or turn it over to the states.</p> <p>We recommend that DMF and WRC staff visit the Gulf coast state fisheries managers to hear about how they were able to exit MRIP and if they are happy with the results. There may be some opportunities for NC to benefit from what is working for them.</p>
1829	Christopher R England	High Point	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	<p>I have no issue whatsoever with reporting harvest. My issue is how it will be enforced. We know already that we do not have enough enforcement officers on the water, so how do they enforce more regulations. It is clear through the observer program that the commercial industry knows how to get around reporting already. This just seems like another half hearted attempt to get around the real issues affecting our fisheries.</p>
1830	Michael C Sigmon	Raleigh	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	<p>I am in favor of any and all regulations to address the demise of our fishery. I am a lifetime license holder as are my three children. I do not even take a rod to the beach because there are no</p>

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						fish left. My son just spent two days surf fishing at Okracoke and had little success. It may be too late, but commercial taking of non-revenue fish needs to be eliminated.
1831	JONATHAN LANE	WASHINGTON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Requiring recreational fisherman to report their catch puts an undue burden on them and you will see a decline in recreational fishing in North Carolina. This will also put more strain on our wildlife officers who already have too much on their plate. As most wildlife legislation it appears this law was passed quietly and now the state is trying to figure out how to force it on its citizens. North Carolina legislators need to be promoting outdoor sports in our great state not discouraging it. Unchecked commercial fishing has caused the shortage of fish in our waters not recreational fishing. However, the recreational fisherman is always the one who is penalized. Close commercial fishing in the sounds and rivers and you will see the populations come back like the state of Virginia saw in the Chesapeake Bay several decades ago.
1832	William Yopp	Hapstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1833	Paul Richardson	Durham	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is micro managing and extra work for no good reason. When would we report them? When we get home? At the ramp? This only punishes the law abiding citizens. The people who are breaking the law will not be reporting anyways.
1834	Randy Veroline	Murphy	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	As fishing has been a favorite pass time of many individuals that enjoy the leisure activity of fishing, this rule would not only steal the joy and fun of fishing but put undue and unnecessary stress on a sportsman that is designed to actually have the opposite effect. Having limits and seasons on these fish is more than sufficient to maintain their population or numbers. Most states known for their incredible fishing have made an honor system for daily limits. Plus, most sportsmen understand the importance of limits to prolong the population of these fish for future generations to enjoy. While I'm sure this one single voice may fall on deaf ears, I think anyone one of you that have enjoyed fishing as a youth and then passing that pleasure on to your children would agree that the simple pleasure gained from fishing will far outweigh the beurocratic desire to add more regulations that would steal that joy. Respectfully, Randy Veroline
1835	Donald O'Neal	Rockingham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	My main concern is how the reporting by the fisherman is to be carried out. I also fail to see how you expect to get any valid information realizing even though you are saying it is a mandatory requirement, I fail to see how you expect to verify reporting of all harvests. I would also like to know the plans on how the data is to be used. Thank you

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1836	Brent Newman	Hope Mills	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I feel like people that purchase fishing licenses should be able to harvest any fish as long as if it is within the slot size of the fish. Rules that apply to NC fisheries don't apply to other state fisheries and seem to be thriving. Some people rely on fishing to put food on the table especially with extremely high prices for food. If regulations continue to change why even spend the money for licenses in the first place. Having to report on harvest will take too much time away from the fishing and would make it a lot less enjoyable.
1837	Dianna Parker	Columbia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Please just let people fish they have being fishing for a long time and there still fish out there. They just trying to make a living for their families.
1838	Nick Lamiania	Fayetteville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	There should never be rules or fines for harvesting. Stop the nonsense. We are already paying with licensing. Make it easier to hunt and fish and not more difficult and expensive.
1839	Justin Shortt	ROCKY POINT	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't think it's fair for the recreational fisherman to keep having to bend over backwards when the commercial guys don't, commercial gets 10x the season, 3x the harvest amounts but yet contribute the least amount. Recreational guys outnumber commercial 100 fold, recreational fisherman are the bread and butter for the state, tourism, boat sales, tackle purchases, licenses just all the way around. The recreational guys are the ones you should be looking after. Compare NC to all the other states on the eastern seaboard and gulf coast. NC is the only one left that still allows inshore netting, and is the worst for inshore fishing. All the other states have a BOOMING inshore fisheries.....makes you think..... what's truly the problem? Recreational fisherman aren't the ones hurting the fishery all these other states have PROVEN that
1840	Bennie Lee Spencer	Oak Island	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	What's the use, your boss will tell you to disregard any comment that is negative to the commercial boys. Because they donate to the reelection campaign.
1841	Scott Skinner	Franklin	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How do you report, how long do you have before you report, how will you have proof that you reported, will the state guarantee availability to report in places without assistance in a standard process. There is a difficulties on water, especially in remote waters that would need addressing to make this useful. This is burdensome to the rec. angler and to law enforcement and should not be enacted on such a board scale. A one fish angler is not a problem and in the long run it will hurt revenue for wildlife funds.
1842	Don Inman	Lumberton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The amount of restrictions on the recreational coastal fishermen is becoming ludicrous in North Carolina now add to that a mandatory harvest requirement. I always abide by the law and so does everyone I know that fishes. Check my license, check my cooler I dont mind. The state doesn't need to know every dam fish I catch. It is completely irrelevant compared to commercial fisheries take. What you're gonna end up with if you keep coming down on folks with more regulations and rules is people that fish illegally all the time and we dont need that or want that. Please stop

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1843	Felicia Joyce	Mouth Of Wilson	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think we need to make it easier for ordinary people who fish for recreation & food to fish, care about fishing, & invest in the NC coast (where we fish) NOT HARDER!!!
1844	Anthony	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Mandatory harvest reporting section 6 Say a nonlicensed weekender went to the coast and fished from a pier, since they would be covered under the piers blanket license, would they have to report it to the pier or marine fisheries? If they were unaware of the new regulation and got checked who would be liable? The individual or the pier? Will there be signage posted on piers once the new regulation takes effect?
1845	Ahna Gibson	Walhalla	South Carolina	Both rules	Against	Mandating reporting is just another way to try and control fishing regulations. Reporting should be voluntary.
1846	Donald E Caison	Bolivia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I wholeheartedly disagree with this legislation. State regulators continue more and more to infringe on the ability for recreational fishermen to responsibly enjoy our natural resources and that is exactly what this proposed rule will do. Now, when I go fishing during the very abbreviated recreational flounder season that I am given, I have be limited to one flounder per day and now you are asking me call it in and report it? Meanwhile, thousands of juvenile flounder are being killed on the culling tables of shrimp boats and countless pounds of adult flounder are being harvested by commercial fishermen. Please come to your senses and start placing some restrictions on commercial fishermen and stop infringing on my ability to just go on the water and enjoy my time off.
1847	Jim Black	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Reporting on day to day basis might not might not be possible with cell phone on island.
1848	Todd Miller	China Grove	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We don't need more laws and fines. Feels like we need a law degree just to go fishing now especially with the flounder season. How about permanently banning the use of gill nets inshore. I see people in our backwaters killing fish needlessly. Start there and we should see a huge increase in stock!
1849	Rex Stewart	Shallotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I drive to south carolina and catch my limit every time and you say there's no flounder. I call bull crap on that! Haven't bought a nc license since ya'll started this crap. So no \$ 4 u.
1850	Linwood Potter, Jr.	Shawboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I am oppose to a law of having to report catches of those fishes. I believe that will be a GROSS over-reach of enforcement.

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				Harvest Reporting		<p>I have all the required fishing licenses, know the associated laws/ rules and it is already my responsibility to follow these rules.</p> <p>Again, the mandated reporting will just be an over-reach of the State and will not add anything to an individual's responsibility to follow our current creel limit rules.</p> <p>But, what the law will do is create another bureaucratic layer in the "management" system that will cost us money for no tangible results.</p>
1851	Chris West	Greenville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Complete BS that recreational fisherman are even being considered to have to report their harvest. How does the DMF or NCWRC plan to police this? It's getting more and more ridiculous all the time and I am completely against mandatory reporting.
1852	David Carter	Reidsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I'm against the proposed changes requiring reporting of the proposed species. It's a shame that North Carolina has done such a bad job with our inshore saltwater species that we are getting to this point. In fact it has gotten to the point where I'm mainly fishing in South Carolina, which means that my money is being spent there. I have also noticed that there are lots of North Carolina license plates in the parking lots also.</p> <p>How can the States bordering us to the North and South not have the issues that we have with estimated population of said species? In South Carolina I can keep 5 flounder, 10 spotted seatrout and 2 red drum.</p> <p>I ask if it could be as simple as a certain harvest procedure that is allowed for commercial fishing in NC that isn't allowed in the other mentioned states ? My simple common sense brain tells me yes</p>
1853	Dean Barnes	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	We are fishing and not glued to a computer or phone.
1854	Nat	Clark	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is absurd, like most average Joe's I get the chance to go coastal fishing MAYBE once or twice a year. You want me to have a harvest report now for the one d*** Red Drum I keep per year? Asinine y'all, come on.
1855	Martin Tobin	Greensboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	I am not sure who made this recommendation to the General Assembly, but it is obvious that the General Assembly are not made up of outdoorsman or fisherman. I cannot imagine anyone with a NC Fishing License would speak in favor of this, so that tell me this is an opportunity for "we the

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				Harvest Reporting		<p>people" to voice our opinion but in the end no one is listenly as usual. So much could be stated here beginning with the "intelligence of anyone thinking this is a good idea", but because we will not be heard I will simple say I am against the The new mandatory reporting law requires that any person who recreationally harvests Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout (speckled trout), Striped Bass and Weakfish (gray trout) must report that harvest to the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries.</p> <p>Work harder to stop the constant trawling of our NC water ways inland and ocean side that is raping our oceans of game fish! Please learn from our neigboring states!</p>
1856	Kevin Parker McCormac	Concord	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>First, I have fished in NC since I was old enough to hold a cane pole! 60 some years both Salt and Fresh water. I'm college educated and hold a Master's degree and for the life of me I can't grasp why you folks are saying "proposed changes" when in December phase one begins! Second, the rule makers obviously haven't thought this out in terms of reporting/enforcement. Can't get much more ridiculous than to ask fisherman who generate, as reported by Carolina Sportsman, close to 2 billion dollars annually to follow these rule. I've got a better idea! Stop the rape of the estuaries and sounds by netting and shrimping like the rest of the southern states and watch the fisheries grow and you wouldn't need reporting! Lastly, If N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission believe this will give accurate numbers, it's time to "drain the swamp" of ignorant decision makers!</p>
1857	Daniel Downing	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Until inshore trawling is eliminated we are wasting time and resources.</p>
1858	Thomas Geddings	Manteo	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>This rule is overly burdensome on the recreational angler, will discourage the occasional angler from participating in the sport, likely discourage first time anglers from trying the sport and is a gross and severe overreach of the NC legislature to levy fines for lack of reporting. This will have an huge negative impact on the recreational angling economy in this state for years to come. Any reporting of catches by recreational anglers can be encouraged BUT should be 100% VOLUNTARY!</p> <p>The enforcement of this rule will be difficult, at best if not impossible, and will potentially be used to harass and "up charge" recreational anglers. We recreational anglers are tired of being treated like second class citizens by the NC legislature.</p> <p>Commercial harvest reporting is a completely different issue and the fact that commercial fishermen are not required to report their harvest is bizarre. It show how much money is flowing from the commercial industry into politicians pockets and campaign coffers.</p> <p>Commercial harvests are profiting off the resources owned by every citizen of NC and therefore</p>

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						should report their catch. The commercial limits far surpass the recreational angler and often our resources are sold out of state. I support commercial fishing as long as it is done responsibly.
1859	CA Pittman	Holden Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	<p>I do not have as much a problem with reporting harvests by recreational fishermen, I just have not seen any details that make sense. Allowing fishermen to report within a day or later the same day as fishing will not get the results intended. It needs to be real time, while fishing via a mobile app. The app should not REQUIRE internet connectivity, but should allow harvests to be entered while fishing, then once reconnected to the internet, the data is uploaded. If you permit fishermen to report once back at home or on land, many will simply NOT report any catches. And, unless stopped by an enforcement official while fishing, or stopped on the trip back to the dock or home, many people will not report. And, I do not blame them since the majority will believe the ONLY use of the data will be to further restrict their harvest quotas.</p> <p>How many times in history has MFC/DMF actually INCREASED creel limits after previously lowering them? None to my knowledge, and I have lived in, and fished in North Carolina my entire life.</p> <p>There HAS to be a better way to gather meaningful, accurate data, and there HAS to be a better way to manage our public trust fish resources. Thirty years of mismanagement at the State level by MFC and DMF have led to where we are now. ZERO recreational fishermen trust MFC or DMF to properly manage our fish stocks. Why should recreational fishermen report their harvests if they believe their reporting will only lead to further harvest restrictions?</p> <p>You need to address the root cause of our fisheries declines which are the continued allowance of commercial nets in our nursery areas. That HAS to stop if you expect recreational fishermen to cooperate in reporting harvests.</p>
1860	William Ashburn Jr.	burnsville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Over regulation at it's best.
1861	Nate Geddings	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Yet another "screw you" to the recreational anglers of NC. So I now have to carry around a card that I'm sure will be ruined if wet and every time I catch a fish stop and write it on a card or take out my cell phone to report to big brother? Or else, big brother will write me a fine and take away permission to utilize what is already owned by the citizens of NC? So now yet one more reason to be harassed on the beach when trying to leisurely enjoy myself. Why not make us wear helmets and live stream every cast we make?</p> <p>This is "1984" level totalitarianism. The government does not own our waterways and wildlife</p>

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						within. We the people consent to allow you to regulate the resources for the good of all, but never gave you this level of authority. This has to stop!!! Here is an idea...send out a survey just like a HIPP renewal each year asking which species we fished for, how many days we fished, and how many of each species we caught?
1862	DONALD DEFOUW	LENOIR	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1863	Kevin McGarrigle	Minnesott Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Recreational harvest reporting. Are the fisheries for these species in that much trouble? The new mandatory harvest reporting rules are excessive. Has any other state adopted this type of mandatory harvest reporting? If so is it helping? I think it's going to be a nightmare for wardens to enforce. I think it's a bad idea, and recreational fisherman will be reluctant to abide by the new rules. .
1864	Travis	Dunn	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You guys need to find a better way to protect species instead of harassing fisherman..... maybe stop the mass development of our coastal regions for a start. I will not follow your bs laws.
1865	Christopher Porter	Graham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	To make sports angler responsible for reporting is just another means of income revenue for the law enforcement if it is not done in a timely manner.bThis put an undue burden on fishermen as cell service is not available in many parts of eastern NC. This will be another opportunity for wildlife officials to delay and harass licensed fisherman
1866	Fred Stephen Clinard	Walnut Cove	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	More meddling in our daily life and recreation by our elected officials. What purpose does this rule serve other than creating another rule to follow or forget to follow and more government interference in our life.
1867	Noah Jones	Chesapeake	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is burdensome crap. Track the trawler's by catch and stop harassing people trying to fill their stomachs.
1868	Kenneth Keesler	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This places another burden on the common fishermen. While the commercial fishermen rape the waters of fish, the occasional fisherman is limited to one fish per day and only for a couple of weeks. I say follow what other states have done like Florida, and do away with commercial

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						licenses. This is what is robbing the state of people who bought a lifetime license years ago and now get nothing for it.
1869	Brad Ervin	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	We've had it up to here with your rules and restrictions. Now you want recreational anglers to do your job for you? No, thank you
1870	Bill wilson	Wanchese	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This becomes another government overreach of authority to declare that when I recreationally fish I have to submit (mandatorily with fines and loss of privilege my god given right to this resource. Purely disgusting infringement again
1871	Winfred Chapmon	Reidsville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You can regulate the industry to death and encourage people to go vacationing in other states. The harvesting regulations are already so limiting that it will encourage people to go to SC or VA. I understand that , if the numbers are down we need to know data but it seems to me, with all the pollutants in the rivers, we need to hold the industries accountable and issue severe fines to them and clean the waters up and that should increase the hatch rates. We need to ban the “forever chemicals” also from NC permanently.
1872	Blake Grund	Mechanicsville	Maryland	Both rules	Against	It is unlikely that marine fisheries will have the resources to enforce this rule. NC sound and ocean shoreline has too many miles to cover. Not to mention that this is an unprecedented level of government overreach.
1873	Darrell Melton	Salisbury	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It looks like you are trying to stop people from fishing all together. There are so many rules now that its not fun to fish any more.
1874	Roger Phillips	Burlington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	How can you enforce this? If I fish this morning and catch and can't report until tonight when I get my computer, you have to take my word for it. How can you know if I report accurately or not? I can't report on the water. This would be much more palatable if the rule making group could make decisions on when to allow fishing for flounder and other species before it gets too late to find somewhere to stay. Recreational fishermen have to plan ahead for time off, lodging, etc. We don't all live at the coast, and you should have plenty of data to make a decision earlier than a couple of months before hand. But that seems to fall on deaf ears.

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						Anyway, I'm all for reporting so we can accurately judge harvest amounts by both commercial and recreational.
1875	Richard Spore	Southern Shores	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	For the small amount of fish we catch on rod and reel it is ridiculous to be required to report each one. PLEASE remove gill nets and trawlers from the sounds and rivers. They are destroying the fishery.
1876	Ronald W Archie	Havelock	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I am unsure will there be a limit to how many fish you can harvest per year of each or just a daily limit as there is now? If there is a daily limit to harvest and all harvested fish are reported this would be a good thing and I am all for it, my question is how do you know all harvested fish will be reported. You have no way to account for ever fish taken unless all people honestly report there harvest which I don't believe will happen. I worked in the fishing industry taking customers fishing in the 1990's we had limits then and I still caught people trying to keep over limit or undersized fish by putting them in there own cooler.
1877	Jeffrey Smythe	Burlington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	I think giving the state this information will better allow us to control over fishing and preserve this scarce resource.
1878	Blake Gratton	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>PHASED-IN MANDATORY COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL REPORTING OF CERTAIN FISH HARVESTS</p> <p>SECTION 6.(a) G.S. 113-170.3 reads as rewritten: "§ 113-170.3. Record-keeping requirements.requirements; mandatory reporting for certain fisheries.</p> <p>Gill netting inshore, and trawlers within 1 mile of shore and also inshore. That is the problem. You continue to allow commercial fisherman to rape our fragile ecosystems for no gain. Change the rules for commercial fishermen that wastes bycatch and move the trawlers. A future for North Carolina is not reporting single red drum, trout, and flounder or be fined, it's identifying the problem and making the change. The proposed rule changes are beyond laughable and will only further alienate residents and non-residents from wanting to live in or visit NC.</p>
1879	Johnnie Tyson	Rolesville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Forget about how hard it's going to be to just determine your recording process I mean, do you expect people to stop fishing and record one fish at a time or one crab at a time or one clam at a time or this is the start of more regulation and more taxation you're not protecting anything with it Communism look up social

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1880	KEITH ANTHONY THOMPSON	RICHLANDS	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	What is the purpose of the mandatory reporting of the designated species being reported? I doesn't indicate a reason for the action which only appears to further limit the opportunities for recreational fisherman to enjoy the sport. Is this the beginning of more stringent limits on what species a recreational fisherman may actually harvest. Perfect example; recreational fisherman current limits and seasons for flounder fishing. Under current rules the recreational fisherman may only harvest flounder under specific circumstances; however, flounder may be purchased in stores and fish markets for the entire year. Is the revocation of licenses going to mirror revocations of driver's licenses whereas there is minimal consequence for violation of the imposed punishment. Maybe, just like in other scenarios when bills are passed by our so called representatives, only one issue should be addressed at a time and limit the amount of crockery included in law. Good luck enforcing this because there are currently individuals not following the current rules. New laws are constantly being passed when one is already in effect that is not being properly adjudicated.
1881	Michael LaPradd	Drakes Branch	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	My biggest issue is how is this enforceable and what value does it add to the resources. Look at how Flounder is currently managed for recreational fishermen. There is a 15 day season think about the mortality of the fish caught all year why not change the limit to 1 per day 20" or larger and enforce that. If you enforce the current limits Creel and size it will be way more effective for conservation. Over-fishing by commercial fishermen in the estuaries has the largest impact on the resources. I believe everyone has a right to earn a living and believe the commercial fishermen are an integral part of the economy of NC but creating a law like this has no positive impact on the fisheries.
1882	Chris	Winston salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is ridiculous.
1883	Lloyd Miller	Terrell	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Commenting on Non- Commercial Reporting: I have a Lifetime Sportsman License which includes lifetime coastal fishing. I am 83 years old and while I have a smart phone, I am not very savvy about its capabilities and I definitely do not always have it with me particularly when saltwater fishing. Also, at my insistance, my wife is soon getting her coastal fishing license which she will use about once every 3 yrs. For both of us to have to report immediate harvest is insane. Please consider removing mandatory harvest reporting. Optional reporting should be sufficient. I have fished Outerbanks about twice annually for over 50 yrs. During the past few yrs, I have become more untrusting of the numerous survey reports which I believe do not accurately

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						address recreational fishing harvest and do not appropriately restrict commercial harvest along the NC coastal waters.
1884	Cindy Dunn	Carolina Beach	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I'm ok with the commercial reporting, but as a person who likes to recreationally surf fish occasionally, my opinion is that it puts an undue burden on individuals such as myself to make a report and on marine fisheries as well. How is this going to be enforced on all recreational fishermen up and down our coast in a fair manner, the honor system? If I catch a fish from the surf and it's a keeper by current NC regs, I'm taking it home for supper, not for sale.
1885	Patrick Clifton Varnam	Burgaw	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I hope this will help to show what is happening. Until aquatic net fishing of all types are banned inshore fishing will never improve. Tired of finding schools of fish only to have them completely wiped out once netters locate them. What Florida did back in 1995 we need to do here. Improving fish stocks for the future should be paramount. No matter what it takes!
1886	Mel Morgan	Belmont	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am disgusted with how lawmakers in my home State of NC have made recreational fishing rules and regulations that hinder a common man or woman from going and enjoying a day of fishing to put food on the table. With the creel limit of flounder it is impossible! The commercial fishermen are the ones that are hurting the numbers of fish if there is really a problem? I guess they are paying someone well to get these rules changed!
1887	james Voight Troutman	Nags Head	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Too much control by government already. Should not be mandatory. Voluntary option only!
1888	Dennis Overby	Newport	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	You exist to serve the people, not to make our lives miserable with overreach. This is not a communist country. Please quit trying to justify your bureaucratic existence and curtail these ludicrous proposals.
1889	Jeff Cress	Monroe	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	So this law is already in effect as of last fall and there's nothing temporary about it, it will just be phased in over a 3 year period? The only thing that's temporary is the implementation. It sounds like the deal is done as far as mandatory reporting goes. No real need for opinion. I only fish salt water a couple times a year, and I guess I need to keep up a little better. I honestly appreciate what y'all do for the fish and wildlife in the state, and I'll call in a poacher in a minute, but it seems like govt overreach sometimes. Occasionally I have to remind myself that it's for the betterment of the fishery. I assume....
1890	Richard Willis	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	I, Richard Willis, request that the legislature revisit and review this rule. This seems to place a burden upon a fun activity such as fishing. Should I have to worry about reporting a fish I have caught. Is there a time frame for reporting your catch? Can I wait until I have returned? No cell phone is required when fishing, that I am aware of-I'm I going to be

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						<p>required to carry a cell phone as well?</p> <p>Currently the fish catch limit, in most cases, is one fish per species. Yet adjoining states are allowed a much higher catch limit per species. What doesn't add up here?</p> <p>The projected cost of 5 million dollars to implement such a program doesn't seem to be a good benefit for such reporting. Consider adding a re-stocking program or address loss of habitat/nursery areas with this 5 million dollar cost.</p> <p>What are the scientific findings expected for such reporting?</p> <p>Follow the science? What about the ongoing destruction from development along the coastal areas which have caused a detrimental impact to our primary nursery areas for sustaining our fisheries-Fry, fauna, juvenile species for food, habitat, etc. Some activities which impact this, but not inclusive, are borrow pits, cement operations, land development, beach "renourishment" homeowner runoff from developments.</p>
1891	Devin Clark	Kill Devil Hills	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	we already get a trip ticket for selling fish to the fish house so you can track what we catch. when taking charters out how am i supposed to ask them to log in and report their catch more over have checks and balance over whether they actually do it or not?
1892	Carl Christopher Prieckenfried	Hubert	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The legislation lacks any details as to the reporting mechanisms (reported how - online? by phone? by what deadline?) and how this will be enforced. I understand that there's value in collecting the data in aggregate, but I don't support adding regulations that are "unenforceable" for all practical purposes.
1893	Thomas Crutchfield	Shallotte	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	Stop flounder Giging and spot nets.
1894	Ron Chilton	WENDELL	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	For someone to go out fishing with or without children for a day of fishing, when the costs have far exceeded the same expense 20 years ago, adding another insult to that trip when they may have caught 20 fish, all 1/2- inch too small and 1 keeper for a family of 4 is unconscionable. For the over 70 years I have lived in North Carolina fishing and hunting I see this a battle over, not control, but who will win that control from our 2 party system that rules. Let the "Professional" guides group submit their catch every trip because they seem more concerned with requiring a "catch and release" only mandate.
1895	Stephen Weaver	State Road	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have been surf fishing my entire life. It is quickly becoming a sport I can no longer enjoy. Surf fishermen add thousands of dollars to the local economy with room, food and bait expenditures and it is almost impossible to enjoy the small quantity that I catch and am allowed to keep. Surf fisherman do not catch enough fish to justify the restrictions which are understandably placed on those who do. I might as well spend my money at Mrtyle Beach. I don't know anyone who wants to stand on the beach and log into their phone the fish they caught before they can exit the beach.

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						Just as there are a variety of restrictions on trout waters, there should also be a carve out for surf fishing. Have you consulted with the local retailers that are going to loose revenue from rent, gasoline, food, bait and tackle, souvenirs, and the wife's shopping (\$8,000 per week for a family of 4)?
1896	Steven Hamm	Conover	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	If recreational limits are necessary for these species, regulation should be clear that it applies to the legal size limit of harvested fish (i.e. not recreationally cast-netted juveniles and not released fish). Reporting of recreationally cast-netted fish would be onerous. Reporting should offer multiple pathways, including a phone app and pre-paid post cards available in all shops selling fishing tackle within the counties these species occur.
1897	Kendall H	Apex	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Generally not against- but if this is implemented it needs to be incredibly accessible- phone app, 1800 I-GOT-ONE etc. and be able to be done with no cell signal (WRC big game works this way)
1898	Bryan Green	Rocky Mount	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Not sure what is to be gained through this this? Even the revenue gain from tickets and fees will most likely not offset the damage it will do from fishers from out of state. In addition, this legislation will likely only be followed by the fishers that are currently following bag and size limits individuals that are not following these rules and regulations are not going to comply with this and give any information. I am completely against this new law
1899	Brad Shore	Asheville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I am not in favor of the new legislation required mandatory reporting of trout, flounder, drum, etc for recreational fishermen. We already have an extremely short period to harvest flounder and there are already set creel limits. 14 days to fish for one fish. I live over 320 miles from any flounder fishing in NC...you have taken all "recreation" out of my flounder fishing. Now we are required to report the number of fish we caught? I fully understand that legislation has already been signed, let's change it. This is recreational fishing....well, not anymore I guess. Instead of requiring fishermen to report their catch each day, why not have something like the migratory bird hunting annual HIP certification? That would satisfy the legislation requirements as well as require fishermen to report their catch prior to renewing their fishing license. I am all for management of our wildlife resources but we both know that recreational fishermen have not destroyed the flounder population in NC waters. I like to eat flounder too so I am not against commercial flounder fishermen but all of these regulations seem to target the recreational fishermen more so than the commercial fleet. I am fishing for fun...well the state is making not so fun anymore. Please do the right thing here, please?

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						Thanks, Brad Shore~
1900	Gregg Kreizman	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I appreciate the need for reporting to help manage fish stocks.</p> <p>However, I suspect that the law and the rule will be practically unenforceable. I read the annotated text of the law through its iterations, and to enactment, and noted that penalties for noncompliance were first going to be a warning, and then a reiteration of the warning, and then somebody decided to make a small fine part of the enforcement.</p> <p>I am not familiar with the resources of wildlife resource commission and the division of marine fisheries, but I am highly skeptical that there are enough resources to enforce such a reporting requirement. Even if the intent of the law was actually to just encourage reporting, and even if the point of establishing a fine for noncompliance was to have the public take this law seriously, I don't see it being effective.</p> <p>I think that your best hope is that some subset of the population will be interested in reporting and that the department should seek to understand the demographics of the people who do the reporting such that proper analysis can be done on the data, and to be realistic about what the data may accurately show versus how that data is actually skewed towards a subset of people who are willing to report and not on those who don't, of course.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to respond.</p>
1901	Michael Gibbs	Engelhard	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I'm a recreational fisherman and enjoy being on the water some Saturday mornings , just seems like you're trying hard to take the fun out a simple sport.
1902	Alva Nichol	ANGIER	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Im already against fishing license. People still drive without a license. Fishing is a way for us to feed our families. Just another reason to control the people of this "free country".
1903	James W Weston	ARCHDALE	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Mandatory Harvest Reporting ... If the information is used to properly to identify the total catch and who's catching it, I'm for it, unfortunately I do have my doubts, it seems the regulations have overwhelmingly favored the Commercial fishermen in recent years.

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1904	matthew green	charlotte	North Carolina	Both rules	For	If it is needed to track population I think you should do it.
1905	William Cummings	Pleasant garden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Until we are all on the same reporting program "commercial and recreational "you aren't going to get information to make a informed decision. You have cut the recreational bag limits and gave commercial more without any idea of what is being harvested .Recreational has put more money into the economy than commercial could if they tried. I understand they have to make a living however when commercial vessel are coming in from out of state harvesting fish and flooding the market and driving the prices down. Who is conducting surveys with out of state commercial vessel ? The DMF is to short handed to check everyone now. Recreational fishermen have no say so in what's going on now anymore than we had before we had to get a license. If DMF could stop the trawling in the estuaries like the rest of the East coast we could have more fish to make it to adulthood and maybe we wouldn't be in the shape we are now.
1906	Greg Christiansen	Sneads Ferry	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	There is no compelling reason to add more government bureaucracy and opportunities for government enforcement to levy more fines and fees to recreational sport fishing. There is already a catch limit that is flexible. We don't need more regulations and bloated government. There is no achievable goals with meaningful outcomes that put more burden on the tax payer. DEQ/ NC wildlife have already mismanaged the flounder escapade and will mismanage these new mandates.
1907	Alva Nichol	ANGIER	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Im already against fishing license. People still drive without a license. Fishing is a way for us to feed our families. Just another reason to control the people of this "free country".
1908	Chadwick Carter	morehead city	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This abuse of power on regulations directed at the highest contributors to the wildlife fund (recreational outdoorsman) in North Carolina has gone way too far. It is getting to the point it's not worth purchasing a license. You've already cut off almost every inshore season to nothing, using data back from 2019 during a freeze. Now this requirement?</p> <p>If you want to know numbers then put people at the boat ramp to question as you have done in the past. Plenty of money coming in to go toward this. We get out to enjoy our time in nature and possibly catch food for the family at home, not to do your job for you. That is why licenses are sold in the state, to pay you to do your job.</p> <p>Stop punishing your recreational users and move the out of state commercial boats to the 3 mile mark like every other state.</p>

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1909	Lisa Huffman	Hampstead	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	It is none of Roy Cooper's, nor the government's business as to what we as citizens are catching. the only reason for this rule is so that the government can take over all food sources. this is yet another ruling for the purpose to make this country a communist country. Attacking all food sources, controlling socialism, and all monies is tyranny. All of you cohorts have no right to try and force your will on the American people. May God intercede in any and all attempts to make this country a communist country. in God I Trust and in God I trust and pray Amen!
1910	Greyson Gwaltney	Gibsonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1911	curtis pelt	ROCKY MOUNT	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	THIS IS THE DUMBIST PROPOSILE I HAVE EVER HEARD OF . I'M 83 YEARS OLD AND HAVE SEEN FISHING IN NC IN THE CONDITION LIKE IT IS NOW . I WILL NEVER COMPLY WITH THIS LAW AND HAVE TALKED WITH MANY OTHERS THAT FEEL THE SAME WAY . COME TAKE MY FISHING PERMIT !!!
1912	Phil Johnson	Oak Island	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	No more than recreational fishing harvests bring in compared to commercial fishing, it seems ridiculous to require weekend fishers to report the few fish they may be lucky to catch.
1913	Richard Stone	Ronda	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Requiring fisherman to report every flounder, trout, or red drum caught is a huge overreach by the NCMFD. There are ready size and catch limits in place. I can no longer fish for flounder since its restricted to one month of the year. If the NCMFD can not do their job, the leadership needs to be replaced with someone who can do the job without placing onerous rules and threats of fines on recreational fisherman who catch only a few fish per year. I promise you I will contact my Congressional representatves and other fisherman to make sure this rule is retracted. If that fails I will spend my time and money in SC where I can fish for flounder year round and not be harassed.
1914	Morris Isaacs	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	North Carolina already has the stupidest regulations on the East Coast. They just want to make it so hard on fishermen that they will quit fishing. It has nothing to do with science-based management!
1915	Morris Isaacs	Supply	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	North Carolina has gone crazy with their fish management strategy. It has nothing to do with actual science. It just discourages people from fishing!
1916	curtis pelt	ROCKY MOUNT	North Carolina	Non-Commercial	Against	come get my fishing permit , will never comply with this stupid rule . my god what are ya'll thinking ?

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				Harvest Reporting		
1917	Maxwell klietsch	Durham	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think the rules are the rules and if daily limits are already in place should that not be enough? A typical sportsman that hunts and fishes already has to keep tabs on so many specific rules based on location, day, time, species, sex, public/private land. It's just one more piece of red tape we have to worry about at the end of the day. People who are going to break rules regardless, are not going to report their harvest anyways. This is regards to the new rule regarding mandatory harvest reporting for speckled trout, flounder, and red drum (I think 2023-137 section 6)
1918	Paul Inscore	War	West Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Whatever happened to the public just going to the beach and enjoying fishing. I think it is ridiculous for people to have to report fish they catch when the fish have the whole ocean to travel. I might could understand reporting from ponds or lakes but for the ocean that is just plain stupid. The ones that need to report are the commercial fisherman not I dividials who just want to relax on vacation.
1919	Mason Cox jr	Morehead City	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Thank you for making these changes I do hope it will help our fish populations
1920	Dallas Underwood	Randleman	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Way too many rules and regulations already
1921	Clinton Parham	Surf City	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is a waste of money. What is going to incentavise anyone to report diligently? Everyone knows that there has been little enforcement on existing rules so why will they bother with these new ones? Plus, we're wasting time and won't have any accurate data to act on down the road.
1922	Richard Wright	MANTEO	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Save the proposed 5 million dollars to implement the reporting system and try and spend it more wisely if you can.
1923	Roger William Smith III	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It seems unnecessary. I get that it is to prevent people from going over their limit, but as someone who inshore fishes quite often and always follows the law, this extra step is kind of annoying.
1924	Jeffery Rhodes	KILL DEVIL HILLS	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I would be curious to know how much time and money was wasted in the process of passing a law that seems virtually impossible to enforce. The endless array of surveys, regulations and changing catch limits have recreational fishermen frustated to say the least. 99% of all fishermen are ethical people, we are not hurting the population of these species. It doesn't make sense that our bordering states of South Carolina and Virginia have common sense, year around Flounder

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						regulations yet we have this ridiculously short, 1 fish season. When I know the fish are there and yet I can't bring back enough for my wife and I to have a meal, it sure seems like over reach. Please loosen the chains. Thank you for allowing comments.
1925	george c worrell jr	snow hill	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	You people do not need to make more rules. And, to have to have a clipboard and have to write down what kind of and how many fish you have in your possession is one of the stupidest things I have ever heard tell of !!!!
1926	Edward A Metcalf	Stella	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	1. Every fisherman should be required to report, commercial AND non-commercial. 2. The non-commercial do more damage to the mortality rate of the fish (gut hooked and filet and release) that aren't properly checked by law enforcement. 3. The state has done a great job of regulating the commercial fisherman out of business 4. You want to help stop all the construction on the sounds and rivers contributing to the loss of fishing grounds- killing of the eel grass from runoff, etc. 5. The state already get's the reporting from the trip tickets- why more paper work? I know my tax dollars could be put to better use than having to hire someone to record all the reporting that you collect. (Another example of more over reach by the gov't picking on a group of people, that make a hard job harder.) Shame on you all, sitting in a building, not trying to make a living as commercial fishermen, making rules haphazardly to burden hard working men.
1927	Rusty Ricks	Cary	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Will the foreign commercial fishing vessels (Vietnam and Chinese registry) that harvest from our waters and return to their home port be required to submit catch data? Not hardly. Even the charter vessels that operate out of SC and Virginia will harvest off Oregon Inlet and Frying Pan Tower will return to their home ports to offload their catch without reporting regulations. Get ALL the nets out of the water. That will be the only way to recover the resources to levels we had 50 years ago. This type of mismanagement is the reason the resources have been on a continuous southern slide since the 1970's. The commercial fishing lobby in NC will continue to grease the palms of politicians to invent methods, such as this proposal, that allow the continued use of nets in our waters. I have seen first hand the damage done from netting in nursery areas. Thousands of flounder, no more than 3 inches long, filled the nets on a shrimp trawler off Emerald Isle. There were only 8 lbs of shrimp in the net; and at least 300 or 400 lbs of juvenile flounder - none marketable - that became food for the seagulls. Simple math - one vessel catches 400lbs of flounder, each about 2 ounces apiece - about 3200 dead flounder. One trawl, one boat. On the other hand I catch ONE flounder, any size, and it is usually returned to the water alive. I see a real disconnect in management here.

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1928	Jake Chambers	Salisbury	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is ridiculous. It seems you are trying to take the fun out of our rights. There is a limit on a catch and there is no reason to have to make a phone call to report a fish. Send a form out at the end of the year and ask us to report an estimate. Your guys are ruining the sport.
1929	Kevin R Royal	Roseboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Flounder has been lowered to nothing already. I drive 2 hrs to gig one flounder and now you want me to take my time to report one flounder. I think this is crazy. The commercial ones are the reason we can gig anything now. Rules for them are ok. Why not give us a punch card allowing us say 20 per year. We punch it like deer tags and then report that end of year. Atleast it wouldn't cost me hundreds of dollars to go gig 4 or 5 flounder.
1930	Aaron Wolff	Corolla	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Asking folks to keep up with this is going to be a nightmare of enforcement. Then you will ask for more fish cops, then more tickets! Fishing is supposed to be fun, not a headache of , d*** did I do everything right? What's next a d*** card to carry around. Mr Green Jeans will burn you're a** if you don't have that with you. Don't even get me started with that stupid Go outdoor app crap! Even when you want to do it correctly, that d*** thing will not work for you.
1931	Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation	Washington	District of Columbia	Both rules	Undecided	Ms. Catherine Blum North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries P.O. BOX 769 Morehead City, NC 28557 RE: 15A NCAC 03I.0124 NON-COMMERCIAL HARVEST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS Dear Ms. Blum, On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and the American Sportfishing Association, we thank you for the opportunity to comment on the temporary adoption of Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting Requirements. A fundamental challenge to successful marine fisheries management is reliable catch information on which to base both stock assessments and to monitor landings and discards for management purposes. North Carolina has a unique, well-funded opportunity to develop a mandatory reporting requirement for both recreational and commercial fisheries that, if structured correctly, could significantly enhance the sustainability of the state's marine resources while providing additional access for North Carolina's recreational anglers. With a new and significant burden placed on

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						<p>recreational anglers who do not benefit financially from enjoying their public trust resources, it is imperative that any mandatory reporting system for the recreational sector provides reliable data that can effectively supplement or replace the highly variable angler catch information currently provided by the federal Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP).</p> <p>However, we are concerned that the proposed data requirements for angler reporting, along with the method of reporting, will not yield much in the way of statistically valid information that can be used beyond long-term trend data, which would be duplicative of the already poorly performing MRIP. Instead, we encourage you to develop a task force or working group comprised of recreational anglers, fishing tackle retailers, and academia to work cooperatively with the respective agencies in developing a meaningful harvest reporting program that significantly improves on current data collection methodologies. Anything less would be a disservice to North Carolina anglers and the waste of significant financial resources made available for the mandatory reporting program.</p> <p>In the absence of a more calculated, cooperative approach to developing a worthwhile program, we have several suggestions regarding what is currently being proposed for the temporary rule. Specifically:</p> <p>(b) - For the method of reporting, adding a simple-to-use smart phone application that allowed for easy, quick reporting would result in less recall bias, would be less time consuming and burdensome, and would help to reduce non-reporting when anglers return home and are occupied with other tasks.</p> <p>(b)(4) - This requirement should include the number of each species harvested and released, rather than harvest only, to allow for estimates of discards.</p> <p>(b)(5) - This requirement would not be valid for science purposes as it is unlikely that most anglers would have a reliable measuring device or know how to effectively measure a fish for the level of accuracy required for a length-frequency histogram or other use of the length data. Little confidence in the data renders this an unnecessary reporting field.</p> <p>(b)(6) This requirement presents an ambiguous question that will precipitate a high degree of reporting errors. Reporting the county where the fish were landed would offer more consistent general location data.</p>

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						<p>Line (b)(7), the type of gear used, should be a simple selection box or a selectable choice from a drop-down menu.</p> <p>To increase the likelihood of angler compliance and data credibility, there needs to be a sharp vision from the agency and a belief by anglers that reporting their data will contribute to both the sustainability of their fisheries resources and the likelihood of increased recreational fishing access (e.g., longer seasons). That vision is not clear in either the proposed temporary rule or the background information presented on the agency website. Additionally, we recommend consulting with the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program regarding any required reporting elements to ensure they meet data standards.</p> <p>The red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico presents real-world examples of how state-developed angler harvest information programs can lead to better management and more angling opportunities. Faced with only a three-day red snapper season in federal waters – that was largely driven by poor angler harvest estimates using MRIP – all five Gulf States developed their own data collection programs. Today, anglers in those states enjoy months, not days, of opportunities to fish for red snapper. North Carolina’s mandatory reporting requirement could greatly benefit from learning from the Gulf States, both in their successes and their mistakes in developing independent data collection programs.</p> <p>In closing, we urge you not to implement a mandatory reporting program that will have little value simply because the legislature directed you to do so. Instead, we encourage a very purposeful, cooperative approach between the agencies, anglers, academia, and regional fishery management bodies that will yield better data, increase trust from the recreational fishing community, have the potential to be expanded to federally managed fisheries, and set an example for other Atlantic Coast states to follow.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Chris Horton Senior Director, Fisheries Policy Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation</p> <p>Michael Waine Atlantic Fisheries Policy Director American Sportfishing Association</p>

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1932	Donald Newsome	WINSTON SALEM	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is not fair. Most people I know goes to coast two a year to fish, others goes in summer with family to have fun with maybe teach kids how to fish. Like I said it not right and fair. NOT NOT DO THIS.
1933	Robert Newton	DISPUTANTA	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I see this as nothing but more bureaucratic red tape interfering with recreational fishing in coastal waters probably for the purpose of justifying government jobs. When will you lightening up on imposing evermore regulations and leave well enough alone?
1934	Matthew Baise	Alexandria	Virginia	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I have fished North Carolina for nearly 40 years. If this rule is passed I will no longer visit your state. This is total regulatory capture of the legislature by commercial fishing interests.
1935	Scott McIntyre	Ayden	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	The proposed rules add to the growing hurdles that make it difficult for new anglers to enter the hobby of recreational fishing. Adding reporting requirements with penalties to punish individuals that fail to report is another step in the wrong direction. We should be welcoming new people into the hobby and encouraging them to be good stewards of our natural resources. This rule fails in that area.
1936	Edward Palumbo	Sunset Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Requirement for reporting is awkward ,possibly inaccurate and certainly unenforceable.
1937	Eduardo Martinez	Pfafftown	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I go to the beach a couple of times a year for about a week and maybe go fishing every other day during those weeks. I do not have a problem reporting, but needs to be simple. Will we get paper form to fill out? How soon after a catch do I have to report? I definitely do not want to have to take any electronic device to the beach.
1938	Brandon Koch	Wilmington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I completely understand the intent. Trying to enforce this is absolutely absurd and going to add additional work on already overworked game wardens. The consistency of additional restrictions is getting out of hand and it's obvious to me the lobbyist are flush with cash to have gotten this through the assembly. Keep politicians out my waters.
1939	Joey Eason	Roper	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I disagree I think it's uncalled for but the Government will continue to dictate whatever decisions they make to keep us all off the water from future fishing. There are already so many rules now you can't keep up with you need a d*** officer with you at all times so you don't get a ticket.I and the majority of people that fish can't even identify all our these fish. But we pay taxes for boating, registration, license inland/ coastal waters what's next do we need to get a Doctors approval to do anything recreational

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1940	William Harrell Jr	Kill Devil Hills, NC	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is ridiculous, I am always legal in my catching of fish wherever I happen to be. To put a requirement that I register these species of fish when I pull up to the ramp is wrong. I have had wardens WHEN DEER HUNTING YELL AT ME TO HANG UP MY PHONE WHEN IN THE MIDDLE OF REGISTERING A LEGAL DEER SHOT. THIS WILL BE THE SAME HARASSMENT BUT AT THE BOAT RAMP.
1941	Kenneth Helderman	ALBEMARLE	North Carolina	Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Go ahead if you want to run all commercial fishermen out of N C
1942	Michael E Collins	Sunset Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	No rules on recreation fishing at all. Recreation fisherman have no chance at all now.
1943	M E collins	Sunset Beach	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1944	Allan T Smith	Hendersonville	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Harvest reports should be mandatory to help regulate wildlife populations. We're all aware many will not report their catch but what info is gathered should greatly educate biologists and law enforcement with valuable information. Thank you.
1945	Bobby Ray Carawan	Grantsboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It is getting to a point ,where it is more trouble to fish than it is worth.Limit is only 4 speckled trout now,which I have no problem,but if I am reading this right I guess I will have to report 1 fish?
1946	Bruce Loughry	Harbinger	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think the new regulation accomplishes little. The tendency I believe, is going to be to not comply. Couple that with the fact that if there is enough man power to enforce the new regulations, then you already have personnel in place to get the numbers you are looking for without this added step.
1947	WILLIAM J LAYNE	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I think I understand necessity of the reporting, however if the reporting is made simple - a website that is always available - and a simple user interface - just enter my WRC ID(or name). with a pull-down for species, and a pull-down for quantity, then a submit button, then I suppose the rule would be less onerous. Thank you.
1948	WILLIAM J LAYNE	Raleigh	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I Just submitted some feedback on the proposed rule, but one thing I neglected to add, is there needs to be an acknowledgement email sent to the submitter when they've reported a harvest, to cover their butt/avoid a ticket, if needed.

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						Thank you.
1949	Greer Creed	Yadkinville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I'm 56 this year and grew up in NC fishing with my dad. On evenings or weekends we would just "go fishing" for a while together. It made us closer, and established my love of the outdoors. I am a lifetime sportman license holder and donkr to the Fund. I am considering leaving my farm and property to outdoor conservation. But this proposal is making me reconsider all that.</p> <p>I pay taxes on my boat. I renew my registration. I buy fuel for my boat and truck to go to the coast to fish. I buy bait and tackle. Ice and drinks, and snacks for a day on the water. I've got \$-hundreds spent before I cast a line that morning. I guess I'll just stop all that, and go play golf instead... it's cheaper closer, and I won't be regulated to death.</p> <p>Right this minute, if I fish in my favorite place in Pamlico County, I can't keep a d*** flounder anyway. Nor can I keep a striper. I can only keep 1 drum. We almost never see weak fish up in the Neuse, so all I have to go for is the trout, which go to ocean in the summer anyways. What's to Report?!?! I spend \$1000 to go fishing at the coast and bring home 1 drum and 4 trout if I have a good day. What's that, like \$150/\$200 per pound and almost enough to feed a family of 6 at a gathering? It's already not much fun anymore... now you going to make me login to a website, enter my credit, and tell you I'm keeping 1 speckled trout 15" long... you guys have lost your marbles.</p> <p>I guess it's time I look to South Carolina or Virginia for my family outings and fishing trips. I'll go somewhere they want my money and appreciate me bringing it.</p> <p>One last thing... this reeks of communism. The government wants to oversee everything you do. How many fish I caught?!?! Next we'll be monitoring where my boat goes and what I'm using for bait? No fishing past 7pm or before 9am.</p> <p>I respect our laws and I am friends with many biologists and wildlife officers. I report violations when I see them. I only keep what I am going to eat, and probably don't keep 10% of what I catch these days. I resuscitate the bull reds and stripers when I release. I use single hooks on hard baits. I care about the resources, and want to protect and enjoy them and leave them better than I found them. But this is overreach.</p> <p>If you want to make the reporting optional to "help" the management of the resource, I'm all in, and 99% likely to participate. I'll grab a tablet and tell you what I caught last weekend on a slow Tuesday night when I have time, even where and when I caught. But to make it mandatory with</p>

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						<p>penalty for noncompliance is overstepping and wrong.</p> <p>That's my story. Please consider.</p> <p>Also, know that I am getting older and have both more money and time on my hands. If I were to be cited for not reporting, I just might be the kind of person that decides to take it to the public and the courts to see what we can do about putting it back the way it was. Check me at the ramp, look in my livewell and count what you see, check my PFDs, my registration, my fire extinguisher, and all that stuff. Then let's smile, shake each other's hand, wish each other a safe afternoon, and go on our way. I wasn't aware that was such a bad system.</p> <p>Respectfully, Greer Creed</p>
1950	Earnest I Townsend	China Grove	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>You have to know that not all people will register their catch accurately or at all. The data this rule gathers will be so inaccurate that all efforts will be a waste of time and tax payers money. Good luck with your hair brain idea.</p>
1951	R Gurley IV	Princeton	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Don't complicate fishing period</p> <p>Commercial should be regulated but recreational should have limits but not reporting a single fish</p>
1952	Paul Smith	Columbia	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>In my opinion this proposal will burden recreational fishermen with a legal requirement that will generate inconclusive data at best that can be used to support whatever conclusion ncdmf wants to arrive at. If fishermen get on board and diligently report all catch of species that are already suspected of being overfished the conclusion could be that the stock is being overfished. If most fishermen opt to not participate in reporting catch and harvest numbers appear to be low the same conclusion could be arrived at, the stock is overfished. The accuracy of this research will only be as good as the data that is collected. I believe that the millions of dollars that will be spent along with the burden of reporting that will be placed on the backs of recreational fishermen will yield inconclusive results that ncdmf will be able to cite to support whatever conclusion they feel is the correct one to arrive at.</p>
1953	Bonnie Reaves	Dunn	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>These rules are ridiculous. Surely you don't think that every fish that's taken will be reported. Get your head out of your asses and stop wasting tax payers money. I've been fishing coastal waters in NC for over 50 years. YOU have stopped maintaining the sounds and this has caused the fish population to decrease. Dredge our water ways, get them opened back up so that bate fish move in and then the targeted fish will re-populate without the ridiculous limits and the stupidity of reporting what God put here for us to take.</p>

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1954	robert broyles	chuckey	Tennessee	Both rules	Against	Every bit of over regular with send that business elsewhere. I understand there should be limits. My tax dollars should allow you to set them. You shouldn't have to big brother us.
1955	Mike Honeycutt	Statesville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Big Brother! Too much !
1956	Wirth Wells	Rocky Point	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Session Law 2023-137, Rules "d" and "e": In theory the rule makes a lot of sense to keep track of harvest totals. However, just like fences and posted property, only the ethical patrons will participate in the program. The true violators will continue to do as they please. There are not enough enforcement eyes available to make these rules valuable. It does nothing to curb the underlying issues that our coastal waters have been plagued by for decades. NCDMF continues to allow politics to rule over common sense law when it comes to our valuable water resources. The problem has been both a recreational and commercial problem for a long time. The recreational problem was removed by taking our flounder season away, but commercials are still allowed to rape our fisheries with trawls and set nets during their seasons. The general public should not be forced to go to a store to receive their seafood when the resources should be available to acquire sustainably in the wild. Until North Carolina gets past its devastating political influence and follows the policies that have brought sustainable fishing back to other southern states, the smoke and mirrors and lack of seafood resources will remain in our state.
1957	Willie Cope	Sylva	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Hello, I am against the reporting for recreational fishermen especially for flounder where they are only open for harvest for two weeks and you can keep one per day WTF just, close the season for both, commercial and recreational, it pains me that I cannot flounder fish like I used to ,to go thru all that effort for one fish just ain't feasible. However I can go to the seafood store anywhere in NC and buy a 12 inch whole flounder there which happens to be illegal for me to catch and keep. So until you figure out that everyone should play by the same rules, you will always be in this position. We are not dumb we know who is catching all the fish and it ain't the recreational fisherman. Commercial fishing needs to be overhauled and regulated on their by-catch which by the way should not be happening, if they can't figure out how to do it with out all the other species being scooped up ,then they should not be allowed to operate. It should be more targeted to the fish they are after. Let's face it anyone could drag a net across the sea floor and fill it. Is that sustainable? No... We can do better than that. I will be fishing elsewhere in the salt where I can actually keep a few fish outside of NC.

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						<p>However I do look forward to someday returning to my home waters and retracing my youthful steps in Oregon inlet/outerbanks.</p> <p>Stalking flounder in the flats of dark filled nights under the stars with spear and light in hand... oh how I long for these days again. It is like a yearly fever that comes on all by itself and I have to fight it off because of the current fishing situation.</p> <p>So I spend my vacation money in SC to satisfy that desire for stalking a few flounder under the nite stars.</p> <p>Thank you for listening</p> <p>William Cope</p>
1958	Jack	Lexington	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Crazy crazy crazy. Go after the commercial guys as they do the damage but the recreational folks are just having fun, bonding with friends, and maybe getting dinner. There is no way you will get the good ol boys to report and everyone will know it and you will end up punishing those that do not know and would be trying. The rule are half baked since no info provided on how to report and the timeframe allowed for reporting. You can inspect the commercial guys at the dock with their huge load but how are going to fairly and consistently monitor the folks fishing on the beach or in a small fishing boat? This is horrible legislation and smacks of infringing on individual rights. We all know that over fishing by the big commercial guys is the problem but the line the politicians pockets with big dollars to influence the rules. You can continue to make all the rules you want but only the folks trying to follow rules will adhere...and there are darn few of us left. Watch the news! Gun laws, drug laws, laws on theft, laws on physical abuse.....all ignored on a massive basis. More "laws" will not help...just enforce what is already on the books. Stop picking on the good people and focus on the bad ones!</p>
1959	Mike carter	Gloucrster	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1960	Barry C Shoaf	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I can't see that someone will stop fishing to check a fish into some agency, maybe at the end of the day or trip. Some fishermen/fisherwomen don't have the means or know how to check catches in while they happen. Maybe could see checking at the end of the day or trip, but still not a smart idea at all. There are wardens for checking catches, let them do their jobs!</p>
1961	darryl english	sophia	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>These rules create a cumbersome burden on any person who fishes. There are already rules and regulations in place for each species. Creating a reporting requirement on top of existing rule sand regulations is simply an unjust burden that serves no purpose other than to impose hardship on visitors to North Carolina and its citizens.</p>

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1962	Robert B. Wethington	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	Seems as though ever new rule takes away just a little more freedom to enjoy life ! In the end there is always a fine imposed to collect money without calling it a tax.
1963	Thomas H. Dunlap	Wake Forest	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Are there other southern states with this kind of harvest registration requirement? This seems like an administrative burden placed on recreational fishermen, and one more gate to discourage folks from leaving their smart phones and their distractions behind and enjoying North Carolina's natural beauty.</p> <p>Is there really some measurable value expected from this? If yes, I'd sure like to see the stats in the later 2020s. Before this is implemented even temporarily, I'd like to understand more about the expected benefit, and how it is superior to other states efforts.</p> <p>THD</p>
1964	Charles Gryb Jr	Oriental	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	It's already complicated enough. Why don't you just stop all fishing and get it over with. Another way to create law breakers and extort money from the public. Take all the fun out of fishing. Now I have to carry a computer to go fishing. Defund DMF
1965	Tony Nodine	Matthews	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1966	Christopher Elkins	Gloucester	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Why mandatory self-reporting is Dead on Arrival (H600v8.pdf (ncleg.gov))</p> <p>Recently legislation by the NC General Assembly mandated self-reporting for commercial and recreational fisheries. There are less than 2000 (actual) commercial fishermen (based on trip tickets-see below) and about 1 million recreational saltwater fishermen.</p> <p>Background, Commercial Fishing. This legislation was prompted initially by the fact that about 60% of commercial fishermen have no harvest associated with their license. Commercial harvest is monitored through a trip ticket program. When fishermen sell their catches to a fish dealer, that dealer is required to report that harvest to the NC Division of Marine Fisheries. The data is used in stock assessments and subsequently those stock assessments are used in Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs). On the commercial side, this legislation was designed to capture those fish that were harvested but did not go through the trip ticket plan. Currently, this is a huge data gap.</p>

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						<p>There is another way to close this data gap (see below).</p> <p>Background, Recreational fishing. Unlike Commercial fishing in NC in which every fish is supposedly counted, recreational fishing harvest is based on surveying a small subset of fishermen and extrapolating that figure to 1 million total. Not every fish needs to be counted in recreational fisheries management nor is it possible. Two reasons were cited for the imposition of recreational self-reporting of harvest. First, the Federal program, MRIP, which is responsible for estimating recreational harvest has been shown to have some significant deficiencies, data gaps and errors. Secondly, the Commercial sector, when confronted with self-reporting, adamantly demanded the same for the Recreational sector.</p> <p>Why self-reporting will not work.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NC already has a mandated self-reporting program as part of the Sea Turtle/ Atlantic Sturgeon Incidental Take Program (ITP). Commercial gill net fishermen are required to self-report interactions (“takes”) or deaths of these endangered species when observers are not present on a trip (unobserved trips account for 93-99% of total trips). It is estimated that less than 5% of interactions are reported, a huge deficiency of the ITP. Most importantly, self-reporting of endangered species interactions is in their interest to maintain the ITP, and does not count against the interactions quota; this self-reporting has been a complete failure and informs us as what is in store for additional self-reporting systems. 2. Critically, self-reporting of fish harvests by both commercial and recreational is not in their interest since this would mean that quotas are filled more quickly, and the result is that fisheries are closed earlier, overages may occur, and next year’s seasons harvest/seasons will be smaller/shorter or even non-existent. Why would someone report harvest if it means less fish for themselves? 3. The data cannot be used for fisheries management. We all want better and more data. What we don’t need is bad data confusing the issue. 4. Implementation of this program will cripple the Division of Marine Fisheries mission. Handling the data from 10 million anglers is a monumental task. While the trip ticket program covering about 2000 fishermen is viable, a program 500 times larger will require multiples of the 5 million dollars promised by the legislature. All to gather data that is either useless for management or can be obtained by current programs. 5. This newly proposed system, like the ITP self-reporting system, is unenforceable. While the ITP system is/was unenforceable with about 1000 gill netters, enforcing a million anglers catches is preposterous.

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						<p>6. Self-reporting of recreational fishing is not needed. What is needed is shoring up the current system.</p> <p>Solutions.</p> <p>Background, Commercial Fishing. Get rid of latent licenses. Most commercial fishing licenses do not have any record of catches. This makes stock assessments and the subsequent FMPs based on them, inaccurate; some say useless for management.</p> <p>Persons obtain and keep these commercial licenses for a few reasons:</p> <p>First, some recreational fishermen, upset with the paltry recreational bag limits have obtained commercial licenses to harvest more fish. For example, the recreational bag limit for flounder is one fish during the 2 week season. Whereas the commercial trip limit (the equivalent of the recreational bag limit) is unlimited. Similar discrepancies exist for other popular recreational fish, such as speckled trout, cobia, weakfish.</p> <p>Secondly, some “commercial” fishermen obtain licenses to avoid paying taxes on fishing and boating supplies and equipment, since commercial fishermen are exempt. I personally know of several recreational fishermen who obtained these licenses for this reason.</p> <p>Thirdly, some commercial fishermen just want to hang onto the license in case they want to go fishing or sell it later at a higher price.</p> <p>Since most commercial licensees do not harvest fish for consumers and their catches do not go thru the trip ticket system why do we continue to issue these latent licenses? There is a movement to restrict licenses to fishermen who harvest a certain amount or value of seafood. By making commercial catches go thru the trip ticket system the data used for stock assessments and FMPs would be more accurate and fisheries management in NC would improve. I have seen proposals that set that number at \$5000 and % 10,000 dollars. This would cut the income to the Division of Marine Fisheries substantially. To solve this problem, license cost should be doubled or increased to fulfill the needs of DMF and additional funding for DMF sought.</p> <p>Background, Recreational Fishing. Use the proposed 5 million dollars to shore up the current recreational estimates and marine enforcement.</p>

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						Funding in General. Funding for the Division of Marine Fisheries has been cut over the last few decades, impeding their mission. This is the face of some extreme inflation in the marine industry. Boat prices have doubled in the last 10 years. Marine Patrol officers, staff and Division Biologists have pitiful salaries. How can NC expect to have a top notch fishery when the people in charge of fisheries get such paltry salaries. The SAFMC has stolen many of DMF staff due to salary issues.
1967	Nathan Rowe	Murfreesboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is stupid. More government overreach. Look at better sampling techniques and better ways to manage the amount taken by commercial fishermen.
1968	George Washington	Carteret County	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Rules for thee but not for me! Of all the things the government could be using our money for, they use it to attempt to restrict our ability to live off the land more and more. WHEN IS IT ENOUGH?
1969	Frank Norris	Charlotte	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	How many recreational fishermen are going to report catching any of these fish on a vacation trip to the beach? I think it's a detriment to promoting recreational fishing.
1970	OSCAR HARPER	Kinston	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	My concern is how this will be enforced since there's not enough manpower patrolling our waters now. I've seen both sides of fishing rules being broken. Just don't have enough proof to report. I've seen commercial guys in inland waters before daylight, no running lights or I can't get boat numbers. I've also witnessed recreational fishermen make trips in and out on occasions....dropping off their catch and returning. I do keep the fish I catch...mostly 16 to 20 inch trout. I do obey the current regulations and limits. I can only speak for myself. I'm afraid this reporting the catch is going to bottleneck at some point. Guess we will see. Hope this will help our fishery now and later. Thanks !
1971	Douglas Stuart Pungler	Winston Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This rule fails the basic cost benefit analysis test. I doubt that many, if not most, recreational fisherman will comply. Thus creating an unnecessary burden on fish wardens to police the waterways of NC.
1972	Dexter Davis	Mebane	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This needs to stop, you are ruining this sport with nonsense rules and regulations

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1973	Jimmy Sutton	Pine Level	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	These changes make it very difficult for me to enjoy fishing for any of the species I have to report catching. I wouldn't be able to do it without a lot of trouble or asking someone to do it for me. I don't mean to take extra fish or anything that's in short supply. I just enjoy fishing like I have for almost 80 years.
1974	Concerned	Voter	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Non-commercial Harvest Reporting. Rather than regulating NC citizens, regulate out of state license holders only.
1975	Wm Dean Lisenby	Holly Springs	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	
1976	Jeffrey Swing	Leland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I believe this mandate is a legal over reach without provocation that interferes with recreational fishing. God gave us dominion over all the animal kingdom and I don't believe that bureaucrats have the right to conscript the reporting of fishing success from those who recreate on the waters of the ocean. You have already reduced our ability to catch a reasonable limits by putting us in the wrong regional grouping, imposed lower bag limits, set slots too low and size limits too aggressively. You haven't suggested how you can oversee reporting requirements equitably, what methods you would employ to ensure all catches are reported. Will you be putting drones out to spy, send wildlife "storm troopers" in force to storm personal docks, require all boats to pass through an inspection station? Isn't this ridiculous that you would even propose this mandate and expect all to fall in line; think about it, you obviously have nothing else to do.
1977	William	Greenville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1978	Colton	Greenville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
1979	Rick Abernethy	Winston-Salem	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I fish to relax and unplug. I feel that this reporting requirement would be burdensome and detract from the pleasing and relaxing nature of recreational fishing.
1980	Jamie Allen Privette	Zebulon	North Carolina	Both rules	For	Thank you for taking this step. I wish it was possible to set a yearly harvest limit for individuals and a system to police it. Many of us are not able to fish every week and it is ridiculous that some harvest a daily limit two or three times a week while others harvest 6 or 7 fish a season.

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						<p>Finding a way to tag your catch and limit these tags would go a long way to growing our stock.</p> <p>Thank you again Jamie Privette</p>
1981	Michael Lewis	Swansboro	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments pursuant to Session Law 2023-17-137, Section 6. While my comments are against the enactment of the rules change, I wish to discuss my opinion related to three criterion: enforcement, reporting and inability to have input to the previous rule change consideration.</p> <p>1. Reporting. Presently, NC Wildlife has already established the prescribed catch limits, size and seasons for the stated fish rules change. Speckled trout, gray trout, flounder and drum are all heavily regulated against the recreational fisherman in favor of the commercial fishing entities. Therefore, creating an additional reporting requirement above and beyond the established regulations is in fact a waste of funds, law enforcement actions and adds no additional benefit to the State Fisheries Department. The stated reporting procedures are not clearly stated other than the penalties established within Section 6. Most importantly, for the recreational fisherman who do not own or do not take any phones aboard their vessels are deemed already at a disadvantage in the reporting requirement, depending upon which rules and procedures are established. Additionally, since reporting is perceived to be a criterion of the enforcement, recreational fisherman who utilize public or state provided launch facilities for their fishing trips are more unfairly targeted and are therefore most likely will the most penalized.</p> <p>2. Enforcement. As previously stated above, enforcement for both commercial and recreational fishing is already established and being conducted, even though it is perceived as unfair for a very large portion of the recreational fishing enthusiasts based upon the Department of Wildlife current methods. In reality, the Department of Wildlife and Marine Fisheries only pull very limited boat checks on the water, as to not disturb those fishing. this is greatly appreciated and the merely their presence being noted is sufficient. Therefore, more inspections and boat checks are conducted on the public and state ramps. This primary practice does not complete the enforcement process. Literally there are millions of privately owned boat lifts within the stated coastal inland waterways for which it is perceived by all, that the new rules changes cannot be enforced upon these recreational fishermen which therefore genuinely disenfranchises the entire rules change. At some point in time, based upon the proposed rules change and enforcement criterion to be establish, this law or regulation may be introduced to the courts for judgement and could negatively impact the state in liabilities and damages.</p> <p>3. Inability to provide input to the rules change proposal before enactment. Currently, the NC</p>

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						<p>Wildlife and Marine Fisheries are heavily lobbied and funded by the commercial fisherman entities. Prior to the Section 6 regulation and rules changes being considered, there was no notifications sent out to the recreational fisherman for input. Additionally, there were no local or public hearings conducted. From a recreational fisherman's point of view, there are little or no coastal recreational lobbying entities to provide reasonable and sound inputs to the coastal fisheries program. Currently, NC is the only state along the entire east coast and gulf coast that allows commercial netting and fishing of its intracoastal and inland waterways. Based upon science and reporting allowing NC commercial fishermen to net and trawl our intracoastal and inland waterways have significantly reduced, depleted, and have required more restrictive regulations on the recreational fishermen and tourist industries. It is an insult when as a recreational fisherman I am only allowed one flounder per day during an established 14-day season. Whereas commercial fisherman can catch and waste more fisheries resources than can be replenished in these waters. They continue to be allowed to catch and retain fish that are out of season "known as by-catch" which reduces the waters fishing populations. This practice is not afforded to the recreational fisherman where, if fishing for drum or trout and a flounder is caught it cannot be kept as long as it meets the size and catch limit.</p> <p>In closing, I would like to thank you again for the opportunity to provide my inputs to the proposed Section 6 rules changes.</p> <p>Respectfully, Michael Lewis</p>
1982	Charles Tanner	Chocowinity	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This seems to be a solution in search of a problem and one that cannot reasonably be enforced. What kind of technology is going to inform the authorities that a recreational angler kept a fish that they didn't report? Enforcing catch and size limits is already beyond your control and relies on the honesty of the angler. I do believe most recreational anglers want to follow the rules and know that they are there to help sustain the fishery. I think first if you want to start this system for recreational anglers, you make it voluntary. Appeal to good nature of your licensed anglers and perhaps use the carrot approach rather than unenforceable stick approach. Have drawings or contest based on the harvest reports and showcase anglers who are leading the way. Otherwise, all this money you spend simply to act like an overreaching government to slap our hands will fail.</p>
1983	Henry Daniels	Ahoskie	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Need to listen to the fisherman that are on the water on a regular basis. They know more about the numbers of certain species more so than anyone else. I am 62 years old. In my many years of striper fishing in the Albemarle sound, the last 5 years, It seems to be more stripers around than ever before. The young people that measure and weigh the fish at the docs are NOT very aggressive in finding out what you caught. Some will approach you, some will not. If marine</p>

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						fisheries is going by the information that they turn in, I will say that does NOT give a accurate number of fish which is being caught. The numbers they turn in will be low. Therefore it gives a false number that fish are not being caught making it look like the species is low in numbers in the sound. Just my two cents worth.
1984	David Dilday	Hertford	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I cannot imagine recreational fisherman reporting. This requirement is a waste of time and taxpayer dollars.
1985	Stephen Daniels	Newport	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	This is another clearcut case of government overreach I feel that the fisherman are more in tune with what is needed in our lakes, streams and rivers, and also our coast, than people that are sitting in offices that don't even go fishing or understand how the ecological cycle works at all leave the fishing to the fisherman, you don't try to tell the Mechanic how to fix your car do you?
1986	John G. Walenty, Jr	Zebulon	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't mind paying for my license, or even having to pay \$120.00 a year not to be able to enjoy driving and fishing on the beach at Hatteras, since you all have closed down so many parts of the beach that the parts that we can drive on are so frigin crowded that it is taking away from one of the main reasons I LOVE to go down there, to unwind and unplug. Now you all want me to report all the fish I catch and put more restrictions on me and my fellow RESPONSIBLE fishing and recreational friends??? I will not submit to this ridicules infringement on what is already getting to be an over restrictive activity. I have an idea, instead of more regulations, why don't you ease up on the people that support the financial wellbeing of the Outer Banks and it's residents. How about raising the "Slot Limit" on Red Drum to 30" instead of 27", I have seen so many fish that are caught 28" and better that it would be the right thing to do.
1987	Howard Handorf	Wilson	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't agree with the reporting requirements. Not taking the time at the boat launch to answer questions. If an officer is checking for limits and size I'm fine that's all.
1988	Matthew Seipt	Emerald Isle	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	Additional reporting can become ackward and unrealable if not made incredibly easy for the recreatioal angler. Without reading the legislation - I can't find the exact rules on any of your pages. I support additional research to conserve fisheries. However, please make it simple - something that can be done by phone at point of capture or at conclusion of a days trip. Locations combined with total caught, sizes, and those released would seem to be enough. The inshore charter fleet should be top priority - they are the ones who constantly find the fish. Plus the piers and FWS launch ramps could be monitored for additional information easily. By catch and off

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
						season harvest by commercial gill netters and trawlers kill a lot of juveniles and all needs to be recorded.
1989	Eric Ward	Clinton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I think this will take away the freedoms of recreational fishing and recreational sport as a whole. This imposes too much strict regulation on the sports who is a hobbyist. If anything make the commercial restrictions stricter due to recreational fishing not putting a dent into the percentage of recreational fish harvested.
1990	Joe Biggerstaff	Charlotte	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	When will the long line boats be pushed back off the beaches. As a recreational fisherman we are always at the bottom of the list. Go back to old ruled that push boats off the beach. Fishing at Topsail Island the boats come in so close I can hit them casting with my surf rod??? And then I watch as they keep fish that i can't due to horrible rules. Do the right thing, push the boats back! Thanks, I hope and expect a discussion about this in your meetings.
1991	Clay Strickland	Clinton	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	MANDATORY HARVEST REPORTING For the Commercial fishing industry and the preservation of our fishing, This is good for commercial fisheries. But for non commercial it's an over reach. Unless you can keep dip s**** from fishing around private docks.
1992	Thomas Darnell	Lexington	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	To whom it concerns, I am writing to voice my opposition to the requirement for recreational fishermen to report what they have caught. This proposed requirement would place undue burden and responsibilities on recreational fishermen, who are only responsible for a small percentage of this harvest, with no real benefit to the recreational fisherman or agency. Again, I and my family are against this requirement.
1993	Joseph Mclamb	Jacksonville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	All commercial harvests should be recorded, not recreational as we recreational fishermen have the least impact. The state has been notorious in that nothing is ever temporary. Red drum has recovered and harvest regs have not changed, with large schools of drum impacting blue crab numbers. SELL TAGS FOR OVER SLOT RED DRUM. PUT QUOTAS ON COMMERCIAL SHRIMPING or close it in the fall. The worst impact on our fisheries are shrimp boats tossing tons of cull overboard every fall when small fish migrate out of the estuaries. Millions of small fry wash up on our beaches every year. Ban all nets in the estuaries. NC is the worst managed fishery of all the states.
1994	Gary C. Wood	Smithfield	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	Comment regarding Session Law 2023-137 Section 6 House Bill 600 - This appears to be a bill that had the proposed changes to require reporting of harvest inserted into it where it would not be seen and challenged before passage of the bill into law. The proposed rule in the bill is not relevant to the title of the overall Bill which is "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FURTHER REGULATORY RELIEF TO THE CITIZENS OF NORTH CAROLINA". This is not providing relief from regulation but is placing more regulation on the

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						<p>citizen which in this case is a fisherman. The bill was inserted in where the majority of language is on waste water management, storm water, dredging, etc. so why is it necessary to report fish caught in this section of law? Why is this being done in NC and no other neighboring states are requiring this? Older fisherman will not have the capability to report online or via smart phone because many are not tech savvy. Also, many areas do not have cell service to report online. The bill states you can "print" the form out to report - - many folks especially older citizens do not have computers and printers to do so. Why is this targeting "coastal fisherman", why do folks fishing in fresh water not have to report this way? What data is this reporting going to provide? Do you have data available to you now to compare what you collect with this reporting requirement? This bill and reporting requirement is a burden being placed on recreational fisherman and should be removed from law. Other than big game harvest reports, no other hunting or fishing activity is required to report as detailed as this is. Also, collecting fines is another way to generate profit from the sportsman. There are creel limits, so why have to report every fish caught. A duck hunter, a quail hunter, a squirrel hunter does not have to report each time they harvest something. Shame on whoever allowed some special interest group to have this inserted and passed into law. Please resend this unnecessary reporting requirement! It is putting more regulation on citizens, not giving relief from regulation!</p>
1995	bruce griffin	kernersville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This represents over reach of the MFC. I don't believe another fine is needed. We already have fines for harvesting to many fish and wrong length - now another fine for Not reporting a legal catch. This is beyond what is necessary.</p>
1996	Ernest Shearl	Timberlake	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>Myself like most law abiding citizens will comply with the rules that are passed. I really don't see how they can be enforced. If you are genuinely interested in preserving the fishery you need to look at the commercial harvest and the shrimpers by catch. Last year off the south point at cape lookout while surf fishing I witnessed a commercial guided trip where a group of fisherman caught and kept around 40 flounder. We caught some from the surf but had to release them. Check B&J seafood and buy yourself some undersized flounder.</p>
1997	Davis Crater	Yadkinville	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>Limit commercial fishing not recreational. I very much enjoy going to the coast and fishing. We make several trips a year. I may keep 5 flounder and 5 redfish every year. You limiting me is not doing fish population any good. All it does is piss people off. I'm at the point where it's not enjoyable or practical to follow all the stupid rules and regulations. It's a total mess. And the one week recreational flounder season is a joke. The real numbers are in the commercial fishermen and bycatch. Push the netters 2 miles offshore. That's how you fix all these so called problems in fish populations. Keep recreational fishing fun. I understand some rules and limits but this is insane. Recreational comes first. All these laws/ rules are just a money grab anyway. If I can</p>

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
						drive 5 hours to the beach put my boat in and catch "limits" of puppy drum and flounder the fishery is great. I would struggle at my local lake to catch a 12 pound bag of bass. The NC coastal fishing regulations are a total joke for the common recreational fishermen.
1998	Thomas Gibson	WALHALLA	South Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	I don't think recreational harvesting is even 1% of the total harvest. Commerical fishing is the problem.
1999	Scott Hackler	Efland	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	This is a rule that will only hurt the recreational fisherman.... Please understand that reporting will only lead to more regulations. This is suppose to be be a relaxing recreation not one tied up with regulations...
2000	Joseph Balleydier	HOLLY SPRINGS	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	Although I am happy that we can start collecting real harvest data and not just speculation on recreational harvest numbers, I am concerned that the means of harvest reporting will not be easy. I often find it difficult to keep up with current proclamations and the NC Division of Marine Fisheries web site is extremely lacking compared to other states such as Florida and South Carolina. I think the state should implement a web-based application to aid in the ease of reporting harvest by mobile phone immediately after returning to the dock. Without the ease of reporting, compliance with this proposed regulation will be difficult.
2001	steve frazier	Asheville	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	
2002	Jot Owens	Wilmington	North Carolina	Both rules	Undecided	However this rule is put into place, it must be user friendly. If the state wants anyone to report these catches. A simple App would be best.
2003	Edward Plank	Oriental	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	I'm question the purpose of the proposed rule. The data will only represent legal size harvested fish. I harvest about 2% of my catch...98% are released both legal and undersize fish. How is this data, not recorded, play into the overall fishery status? Does the proposed manitory recording of harvest include non resident. ie vacationers?
2004	Chad Thomas	ELIZABETH CITY	North Carolina	Both rules	For	I strongly support the implementation of the mandatory harvest reporting program for the purpose of filling longstanding fisheries data gaps in both the commercial and recreational sectors. With regards to 15A NCAC 03I.0124 (b)(2), I would suggest that additional verbiage be added as follows: "Harvest data to be reported shall include, but not be limited to:" Regarding the means of commercial reporting, I suggest that additional verbiage be added to the

#	Name	City	State	Which Rules?	For or Against?	Comments
						<p>end of 15A NCAC 03I .0123 (b)(2) to include, “unless otherwise specified,”</p> <p>These minor additions to both rules would give the Division the flexibility to add other fields over time (like number of fish caught, county, and waterbody) as identified by Division staff to better inform harvest trends, and to modify commercial reporting requirements if other processes proved more efficient.</p>
2005	Lawrence D Mercer	Beaufort	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>This an infringement into personal liberty. Where and how an individual takes a legal limit of fish is strictly no concern of anyone else or any government agency. Consistently good producing fishing areas are difficult to find and should be a strictly private matter. Since recreational fishermen are considered to be incapable of discerning any of the three species of flounder in our waters, there is only a one in three chance that a flounder will be reported correctly. Speckled and gray trout may be misidentified as well. The state should provide monetary compensation to recreational and commercial fishermen for any expense incurred in reporting their catch to the state as there has been \$5,000,000 set aside to provide for this program.</p>
2006	Mike Maynor	Pembroke	North Carolina	Both rules	Against	<p>I personally think that addressing this issue should only affect commercial fishermen. Hook and line fishermen can't abuse the rules to the extent they can.</p>
2007	Wilbur Vitols	New Bern	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Against	<p>I may be assuming incorrectly, but I suspect that the mandatory reporting will be enforced in the same way that it is mandatory to use deer tags and reporting that harvest within a period of time. But with fish it seems to me that if I have my catch in ice chest, and I have pulled up to the dock or boat ramp, or fishing on the beach, it may be a purely arbitrary call by the enforcement person as to how long I have been in possession. If I'm required to immediately report it via cell phone, then this is an onerous law which requires a person to have a cell phone on them. What about recreational fisherman that cannot afford a smart phone?</p> <p>We already have enough confusing, and in many cases wholly unfounded on real evidence, laws that makes this national pastime of recreational fishing less then "recreational" but more like running a legal gauntlet .</p> <p>Do not adopt this Mandatory Reporting Law</p> <p>Wilbur Vitols New Bern NC</p>
2008	CRAIG ROBBINS	ZEBULON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	For	<p>I'm totally fine with reporting any species of fish that you feel is needed to assist in resource management. We've been doing this forever with wildlife and has never been an issue to the ethical sportsman. However, I would like to see you end specific date seasons (specifically for flounder) and simply go to an annual limit. Your recreational fisherman doesn't always have the</p>

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						luxury of taking specific dates off and allowing an annual limit would give us the opportunity to keep a few fish legally anytime, while reporting the numbers to you. Based on last year, the most fish you could possibly keep would have been 14-15 based on the 2 week season. Seems fair to allow us something in that ballpark for the entire year and when you reach your annual limit, you're done. Everyone would be somewhat happy and you get all your info reported. There's plenty of recreational fisherman that only get a few good weekends a year to fish and to not allow them to keep a few good flounder is just insulting to all of those that spend money on a license, equipment, gas, etc...I'm a proud lifetime inland and coastal license holder and would love to see you make this change. I believe it would change everyone's attitude about flounder fishing and make it fun again for everyone, not just the select few that can go everyday of the short season.
2009	BILL BENCKER	CLAYTON	North Carolina	Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting	Undecided	If you implement this accelerate it all for December 2024. No need to roll it out over 2 years. Audit all enforcement groups, apply money to enforcement, make sure educational programs do not run in the red, up fines for existing infractions, and eliminate all recreational netting. Maintain creel limit on gigging. Impose new fines on industrial polluters proportionate to their profits. Start a program to install pervious concrete on all streets and adjacent to all stormwater basins within 1 mile of waterways. Pollutants then enter into ground biome and are broken down. Heavy metals are kept from the waterways.
2010	Nicholas Klietsch	Greensboro	North Carolina	Both rules	For	<p>I'm really amazed by the amount of people who are up in arms over this proposal. I'm not sure what people think is going to happen when everyone and their brother comes down to gig a cooler full of flounder or take a picture with 10 fish on the dock weekend after weekend, while at the same time the commercial guys can net what they want and call it bycatch. Something has to give.</p> <p>Ask any old-timer how the fishing now compares to back in the day and they'll all tell you the same thing - there's no comparison. Why would that be?</p> <p>The supply is not limitless. When the population of mature, spawning fish begins to dwindle, the effects are exponential, not linear. Recovery can take decades.</p> <p>Deep down, we all know it's the right thing to do; we need good data to make good decisions. Quite frankly, I think it's long overdue.</p> <p>I'm happy to see the initiative taken to gather real data so we can better maintain and protect the thing we all enjoy doing. I'd much rather report my catch and respect the limits so this place doesn't look like the Mediterranean in 20 years.</p>



North Carolina Wildlife Federation

Affiliated with the National Wildlife Federation

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Charlotte, NC 28205
(704) 332-5696

1024 Washington St.
Raleigh, NC 27605
(919) 833-1923

15 May 2024

NC Marine Fisheries Commission, NC Dept. of Environmental Quality
217 West Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27603

NC Wildlife Resources Commission
1701 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699

Mandatory Fish Harvest Reporting Program

Dear Chairman Bizzell and Chairman Crump,

The NC Wildlife Federation (NCWF) represents the interests of our state's fish and wildlife species and supports using the best available science to determine policies related to the proper management of these resources and the public who utilize them. Thus, we submit our organization's comments on the Mandatory Fish Harvest Reporting Program to the NC Marine Fisheries Commission and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) during the public review process.

The new law (S.L. 2023-137) requiring mandatory reporting to the NC Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) of five species by recreational anglers and all species caught by commercial fishermen and women who do not sell their catch to licensed dealers will continue to foster an inaccurate reporting system for marine fisheries in North Carolina. The DMF has been allocated \$5 million to develop this requirement and we believe these funds would be better spent addressing the on-going shortcomings of the licensing and reporting systems, as well as gaps in enforcement, as opposed to proposing new reporting requirements that will further promote the inaccuracy of estimates, leading to unwise management actions affecting our public trust resources.

While there is a long history of problematic issues associated with the licensing and reporting structure for marine fisheries in North Carolina, it is essential to understand the depth of these shortcomings to ensure efficient and effective solutions are proposed.

The new law may be able to provide some comparative statistics to current data collection programs, but those comparisons will only be meaningful after years of data collecting and fine tuning the reporting to best capture the information. Based on the current status of the stocks, we believe immediate action is necessary to address these concerns. Therefore, while we can agree that some useful information may result years from now, the concerns for our marine resources are immediate.

The state has long praised their commercial trip ticket landings reporting system as the best in the nation and the envy of other states; however, because of issues unique to North Carolina, only the landings from commercial fishermen and women who sell their catch to licensed dealers are accounted for during the reporting process. This lack of required reporting for all commercial license holder causes inequities among those consuming and/or selling public trust resources, while potentially skewing important scientific data in the process, resulting in sub-par management implications for numerous species. Because North Carolina allows fishermen and women to 'hold' licenses that do not require the license holders to sell their catch to licensed dealers, there are many commercial and recreational commercial gear license (RCGL) holders who harvest unknown quantities of fish using unknown quantities of gear, resulting in unknown levels of bycatch.

Data for the North Carolina License and Statistics Annual Report document that more than 60% of all commercial license holders do not sell their catch to licensed dealers, while some licenses may not be used at all (latent or inactive licenses). A study by the DMF (Hadley 2015) showed that ~30% of commercial license holders who do not sell their catch to licensed dealers use their commercial licenses to avoid complying with recreational harvest limits or use commercial gear to harvest commercial quantities for "personal use", church fundraisers, and neighborhood fish fries. The most popular species taken by commercial fishermen and women who do not sell their catch to licensed dealers are blue crab, shrimp, southern flounder, striped mullet, and spot. All of these fisheries, with the exception of shrimp, whose status is currently unknown, are either collapsed or collapsing, meaning they are not capable of producing more than what is lost annually without mandatory corrective measures.

The lack of reported landings from commercial license holders who do not sell their catch to licensed dealers consequently results in unreliable stock assessments. Failing to account for all known fish mortalities renders the assessments inaccurate, resulting in mismanagement of numerous fisheries because the unknown landings are not counted toward species quotas. As a result, overfishing of valuable stocks continues to occur, negatively impacting the ability of fish populations to rebound in total numbers and appropriate age class structure for future population growth and sustainability.

Conversely, recreational fishing statistics are currently collected by a national, peer-reviewed program designed to assess catch, bycatch, size frequency, and other fisheries-related data. While some argue those data are flawed, there is no evidence to suggest they are biased after having undergone rigorous biological and statistical review. The proposed rule for non-commercial harvest reporting requires recreational and RCGL holders to report their harvest of flounder, red drum, spotted seatrout, striped bass, or weakfish online or on a division-issued report card. The reporting requires species identification, number of each species, species length (if applicable), area of harvest, and gear type. It seems these are the same data that are collected by staff in an existing program that monitors the marine recreational fisheries of the state and nation. However, an important difference to note in the reporting process is that DMF staff are well trained in fish identification and proper measurement techniques while most anglers are not, potentially making data collected under the new law less reliable than the current system.

We have concerns as to why recreational fishermen and women would be asked to report data that they already submit when interviewed by a DMF recreational port agent, and how accurate the data will be based on an individual angler's knowledge. While some species like striped bass or red drum may be easy to identify, some anglers may mistake spotted seatrout for weakfish or vice-versa or have difficulty identifying the three species of flounder not differentiated in the legislation. Therefore, the resulting data from public reporting will likely have a measurable degree of error, potentially far greater than the error associated with the data currently collected by the state.

Also, we are unsure of why recreational fishermen and women are only required to report the catch of five species when many more are potentially harvested, and once reported, how will these new data be used in combination with existing data? We also have concerns regarding the collection of accurate measurements of length for fish. With the standard measurements in millimeters, there is even variability among biologists when measuring fishes; therefore, it should be expected that the measurements provided by the public will contain greater error. Further, discarded fish are a critical component of recreational mortality so reporting of discards should be required by all anglers since the number of discards is currently surveyed by the DMF. Additionally, the data from the DMF include weights and sex and age when available, which is extremely important to evaluating the long-term health and productivity of fish stocks. We acknowledge these are biological data that the public will likely not be able to provide to the larger data sets, assessments, and analyses.

Equally concerning is how already over-extended agency staff will verify and validate the data provided by the public. We suggest DMF and WRC use a portion of the funding to create new staff positions, providing a much greater value to the public in the form of additional biologist or law enforcement personnel. The new proposed reporting requirements seem to do little in the way of decreasing poaching or increasing law enforcement abilities within the agencies and local communities. Also, the new law does not address the problem of under-reporting/lack of reporting in the commercial fishing industry, with many of same issues (apart from species identification) that are listed above for recreational anglers.

The proposed penalties for noncompliance of the new reporting requirements for both recreational and commercial fishing are one year of verbal warnings, one year of written warnings, and ultimately a \$35 fine with no court costs. Based on the history of reporting requirements not being directly overseen or visually inspected by state officials, this will not be an effective way to penalize non-compliance. The law foregoes financial penalties for the first two years and then sets a \$35 fine with no court costs for a violation, with the Fisheries Director able to suspend or revoke licenses if fishermen and women continue to fail to report their catches. This penalty is likely of little to no consequence to most recreational and commercial fishermen and women and will likely not deter noncompliance, furthering inaccuracies in the reporting of species caught, causing on-going delays to sound data collection and the repair of fish stocks.

We believe the first step in addressing inequities and shortcomings in the licensing system is to eliminate the commercial fishing licenses held by fishermen and women who do not sell their catch to licensed dealers. This modification would be consistent with the first license reform that occurred under the Fisheries Reform Act. Only those fishermen and women who sell their catch to licensed dealers are truly commercial fishermen and women and are dependent upon commercial fishing as a livelihood. These are the commercial fishermen and women the system should be designed to value and protect, and they should be acknowledged as such. NCWF fully supports a new license reform effort by the DMF to define a commercial fisherman or woman as one who shows proof of sell of their catch to a licensed dealer. Additionally, there should be a requirement that commercial licenses be relinquished to the state after a period of inactivity, i.e., without consistent sell of catch to licensed dealers in the state.

Most commercial license holders who do not sell their catch to licensed dealers retain their fish for “personal consumption or to give away” with the current level of bartering or ‘under the table’ sales of unreported catches unknown. It is likely that fishermen and women who currently hold commercial licenses but who do not sell their catches to licensed dealers, have less incentive to follow rules, use gear appropriately, submit correct reporting (if any at all), and they continue to compete with true commercial fishermen and women for access and resources. We

believe S.L. 2023-137 causes additional burden for recreational anglers, furthers inequities between segments of the commercial fishing industry, creates more work for agency law enforcement, and all with no guarantee of improvements to the level and accuracy of reporting of marine fisheries species, further complicating assessments, management, and delaying the improvement of fish stocks.

We hope the DMF and WRC will provide these comments to the Legislature and ask that they consider implementation of the suggestions contained in this letter. We ask the General Assembly to initiate license reform to eliminate the Recreational Commercial Gear License and require any commercial fisherman and woman renewing their Standard or Retired Commercial License to provide trip ticket data from the DMF that shows they landed at least 1,000 pounds of seafood or registered 10 commercial trip tickets in two of the previous three years beginning 1 July 2024. Failure to meet these pre-determined conditions would result in nonrenewal of their licenses while maintaining available licenses for new commercial fishermen and women to enter the fishery if they meet the qualifying criteria.

We believe S.L. 2023-137, in its current form, fails to fix the critical data gaps that has resulted in decades of ineffective marine fisheries regulation and management at the state level and continues the collective failure to accurately assess marine resources and properly manage them as public trust resources.

Sincerely,



Dr. Louis Daniel
Senior Marine Scientist
NC Wildlife Federation



Tim Gestwicki
CEO
NC Wildlife Federation



NORTH CAROLINA *Environmental Quality*



Submit Public Comments on Mandatory Harvest Reporting Temporary Rules

The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission are accepting public comment on proposed temporary rules for mandatory harvest reporting. To submit comments on the Marine Fisheries Commission's proposed temporary rules, use the form below. To submit comments on the Wildlife Resources Commission's proposed temporary rules, please see [the Wildlife Resources Commission website \(https://www.ncwildlife.org/\)](https://www.ncwildlife.org/).

The North Carolina General Assembly passed [Session Law 2023-137 \(https://ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/House/PDF/H600v8.pdf\)](https://ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/House/PDF/H600v8.pdf) in the fall of 2023. Section 6 of this legislation requires any person who recreationally harvests Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, and Weakfish to report that harvest to the Division of Marine Fisheries. Additionally, it requires anyone holding a commercial fishing license who is engaged in a commercial fishing operation to report all fish harvested to the Division of Marine Fisheries, regardless of sale.

The legislation phases in the requirements over a period of three years. The first phase is effective **December 1, 2024**, and includes a verbal warning for failure to report harvest. Warning

tickets will be issued starting **December 1, 2025**, followed by an infraction with a \$35 fine starting **December 1, 2026**. These infractions count towards suspension of fishing licenses and permits. Temporary rules are needed to be able to implement the requirements starting December 1, 2024.

No return address

Information on these proposed rules can be found on the [Mandatory Harvest Reporting Information webpage](https://www.deq.nc.gov/mandatory-harvest-reporting) (<https://www.deq.nc.gov/mandatory-harvest-reporting>). **Please submit comments on the Marine Fisheries Commission's proposed temporary rules through the below form from April 22, 2024 through 5 p.m. May 20, 2024.**

All information entered via this form is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law, will be published to the Division of Marine Fisheries website, and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official. Do not include any information that you do not wish to be publicly disclosed.

contradictory

Indicates required field

Name

Gregg Caulder

City

Harkers Island

Which rules are you submitting comments about? *

- Commercial Harvest Reporting
- Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting
- Both rules

Are your comments for or against the proposed rulemaking? *

- For
- Against

Undecided

Please enter your comments on proposed changes to the rules and cite the rule or rules on which you are commenting.

Please listen, I'm a 70 year old recreational fisherman. I've fished all my life and I have never abused the privilege to do so. I continue to watch the government infringe upon the rights of the fishermen. Well, you've finally done it. You, the Marine Fisheries people and our legislature, have absolutely gone crazy. If you think that recreational fishermen are going to report every fish they catch of those species listed, you are crazier than "Baines A█". The marine fisheries have overstepped their area of concern by a wide margin on this, and it will cause unrest in the fishing community that will definitely have major political repercussions. Every Legislator will have to face this at election time. Anyone who signs this rule does not understand fishing and the people who fish.

NORTH CAROLINA MARINE & ESTUARY FOUNDATION

May 20, 2024

Ms. Catherine Blum
North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
P.O. Box 769
Morehead City, NC 28557

Dear Ms. Blum,

The comments provided herein are regarding the notice of text for temporary rulemaking pertaining to **15A NCAC 031.0124** and **15A NCAC 031.0123**. Our Foundation strongly supports the implementation of the mandatory harvest reporting program for the purpose of filling longstanding fisheries data gaps in both the commercial and recreational sectors.

The benefits of expanding the commercial harvest reporting to include all species kept regardless of sale has been discussed for decades, and the proposed reporting requirements will help inform this activity. Regarding the means of reporting, we suggest that additional verbiage be added to the end of **15A NCAC 031 .0123 (b)(2)** to include, "unless otherwise specified," which would give the Division the opportunity to improve or modify the commercial reporting requirements if other processes proved more efficient.

The benefits of having a new recreational harvest reporting data stream for our state's five most important inshore species include:

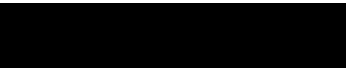
- opportunity to ground truth the Marine Recreational Information Program data
- assistance with quota monitoring when MRIP data coverage is sparse, or creel surveys are not in place
- providing the Division with a new data program to evaluate harvest trends over time

With regards to **15A NCAC 031.0124 (b)(2)**, we suggest that additional verbiage be added as follows: "Harvest data to be reported shall include, but not be limited to:"

The addition of this verbiage would give the Division the flexibility to add other fields over time (like number of fish caught, county, and waterbody) as identified by Division staff to better inform harvest trends.

Our Foundation commends the Division of Marine Fisheries for your work in the development of rulemaking over the last several months, and for your commitment to work toward successful implementation of the reporting platform. We look forward to learning more about your education and outreach efforts that will soon follow. Please let us know if we can assist with any step in this process.

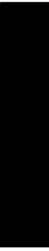
Best regards,



Chad D. Thomas
Executive Director

P

William M. Piercy



RECEIVED
MAY 22 2024
BY *[Signature]*
NC DEQ

1001

N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality
217 West Jones St.
Raleigh, N.C. 27603

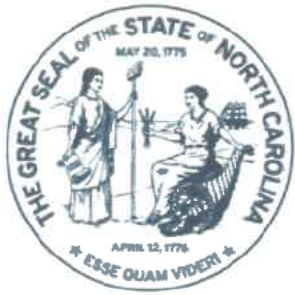
Public Affairs

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NORTH CAROLINA *Environmental Quality*



Submit Public Comments on Mandatory Harvest Reporting Temporary Rules

The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission are accepting public comment on proposed temporary rules for mandatory harvest reporting. To submit comments on the Marine Fisheries Commission's proposed temporary rules, use the form below. To submit comments on the Wildlife Resources Commission's proposed temporary rules, please see [the Wildlife Resources Commission website \(https://www.ncwildlife.org/\)](https://www.ncwildlife.org/).

The North Carolina General Assembly passed [Session Law 2023-137 \(https://ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/House/PDF/H600v8.pdf\)](https://ncleg.gov/Sessions/2023/Bills/House/PDF/H600v8.pdf) in the fall of 2023. Section 6 of this legislation requires any person who recreationally harvests Red Drum, Flounder, Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, and Weakfish to report that harvest to the Division of Marine Fisheries. Additionally, it requires anyone holding a commercial fishing license who is engaged in a commercial fishing operation to report all fish harvested to the Division of Marine Fisheries, regardless of sale.

The legislation phases in the requirements over a period of three years. The first phase is effective **December 1, 2024**, and includes a verbal warning for failure to report harvest. Warning

tickets will be issued starting **December 1, 2025**, followed by an infraction with a \$35 fine starting **December 1, 2026**. These infractions count towards suspension of fishing licenses and permits. Temporary rules are needed to be able to implement the requirements starting December 1, 2024.

Information on these proposed rules can be found on the [Mandatory Harvest Reporting Information webpage](https://www.deq.nc.gov/mandatory-harvest-reporting) (<https://www.deq.nc.gov/mandatory-harvest-reporting>). **Please submit comments on the Marine Fisheries Commission's proposed temporary rules through the below form from April 22, 2024 through 5 p.m. May 20, 2024.**

All information entered via this form is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law, will be published to the Division of Marine Fisheries website, and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official. Do not include any information that you do not wish to be publicly disclosed.

* Indicates required field

Name *

William M. Piercy

City *

Morganton

Which rules are you submitting comments about? *

- Commercial Harvest Reporting
- Non-Commercial Harvest Reporting
- Both rules

Are your comments for or against the proposed rulemaking? *

- For
- Against

Undecided

Please enter your comments on proposed changes to the rules and cite the rule or rules on which you are commenting.

It's getting so over regulated that you need to take a lawyer with you to know what laws you are about to break. And the Flounder regulations are crazy. I have disabilities that I have to have treatments for and the last two years I was having treatments and missed Flounder season. I'm 68 and live 340 miles from my RV.

I tried to submit online yet it was still trying to submit 25 minutes later.
William Piracy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com