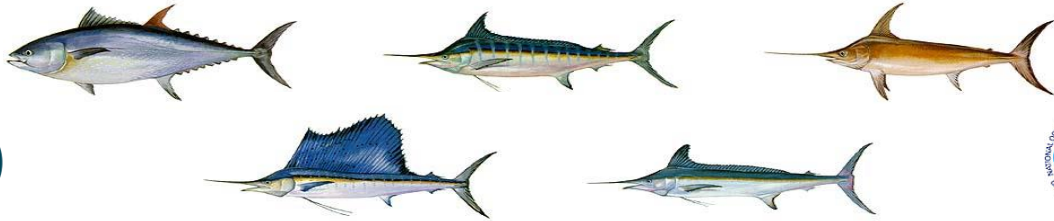


# North Carolina Recreational Highly Migratory Species Reporting Information



## North Carolina Recreational Highly Migratory Species Reporting Requirements

The following **Highly Migratory Species (HMS)**, Atlantic bluefin tuna, blue marlin, white marlin, sailfin, and swordfish, landed recreationally in North Carolina must have a **Landing Tag** affixed before removal from the vessel. Captains or operators from trailered vessels must have the Landing Tag affixed before the vessel is removed from the water. Captains or operators of permitted vessels in North Carolina must use this method instead of the NMFS call-in or website reporting process. **HMS released alive should not be reported. Dead discards of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna should be reported. Highly Migratory Reporting Stations** have been established throughout coastal North Carolina. Please note that roundscale spearfish have been added to list of species that must be reported.

## 2025 North Carolina Recreational HMS Landings Updated 3/27/2025 (Number of Fish)

Month	2025 Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Landings			
	Northern	Central	Southern	Total
Jan	31	0	0	31
Feb	103	0	0	103
Mar	47	0	0	47
Apr				
May				
June				
July				
Aug				
Sept				
Oct				
Nov				
Dec				
Total	181	0	0	181

Month	2025 Billfish Landings				
	Blue	Sail	Sword	White	Total
Jan	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	0	0	0	0	0
Mar	0	0	0	0	0
Apr					
May					
June					
July					
Aug					
Sept					
Oct					
Nov					
Dec					
Total	0	0	0	0	0

Highly Migratory Species Permit Information

Apply or renew online at NMFS Permit Shop (<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/>) or by phone at 888-872-8862. If you have any questions about the reporting process, please contact Dallis Tucker (North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries at 252-948-3816 or [Dallis.Tucker@deq.nc.gov](mailto:Dallis.Tucker@deq.nc.gov)).