Table 1.2-3. Recreational databases used in NFMP data analyses, summaries, reports, etc.

MRFSS (Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey- recreational landings by fishing mode)

Strengths	Weaknesses
Samples four fishing modes at all fishing access sites	Cost associated with two sampling efforts (field and phone surveys) higher than logbooks
All observed landings are by species	Low % sampling rate of angler trips
Information recorded by professional samplers	Effort derived from randomized digit phone survey of households in coastal counties, non-coastal effort estimated from ratios in the field survey
Provides historical record (1980 -present with break from 1990-1992)	In large sampling regions, difficult to sample fishing sites proportional to effort; this sometimes leads to rural areas having too few samples
Provides important source of socio-economic information	Allocation of field samples based upon past fishing information; recently new closed seasons are considered when allocating samples
Length, weight, and discard data available	Phone survey not designed to estimate effort for small geographic regions and depends on 2-month angler recollection of number of trips
Precise catch location recorded for party/charter vessels since 1999	Estimates of catch and effort only available by 2 month periods in southern or northern California
Estimates are made by weight as well as numbers	Sampling of party/charter vessels limited to cooperative vessels
Estimates are made of identified kept fishes, unidentified kept fishes, discarded fishes, and effort by region and by mode	For some sampled trips, discarded and filleted catch information depends on angler recollection
	The importance of a rare event catch (such as a marlin) is magnified in the estimates

Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel Logbook (CPFV) (Logbook trip information)

Strengths	Weaknesses
Information available for entire State by port and Fish and Game block; can be summarized at multiple geographic scales	The species of catches are not always recorded
Provides historical landings and effort by trip for 1980 - present; summarized landings by block available since 1936	Catch data not recorded by professional samplers
	Accuracy varies by species and CPFV operator
Includes landings information for dive CPFVs	No biological data (lengths or weights) recorded
Costs less to collect data than sampling programs	Location recorded on a gross scale (10-by-10 nmi)

	Logbook reporting varies between ports and years and usually is less than 100% (17-100%)

Table 1.2-3 cont. Recreational databases used in NFMP data analyses, summaries, reports, etc.

CPFV Central/Northern CA Observer Program (Sports Fish Restoration Act - CPFV onboard sampling program)

Strengths	Weaknesses
Sampled vessels by port each month (as high as 5% sample rate)	Information only for central and northern CA
Catches identified to species level	Low sample size for area north of Cape Mendocino
Information recorded by professional samplers	Cost associated with sampling effort higher than logbooks
Includes location information (loran, latitude/longitude coordinates)	Sampling limited to cooperative vessels
Includes length and by-catch information	Uses adjusted CPFV logbooks to estimate effort
Catch estimates by port and month	
Rockfish species composition can be used with CPFV logbook data to generate estimates of rockfish catch by species	