

## **Appendix B**

### **Data Sources for this *Annual Status of the Fisheries Report***

Three primary types of fishery-dependent data (that is, data collected directly from the fishery) were used in this *Annual Status of the Fisheries Report* (ASFR):

- Commercial landing receipts for commercial landings
- Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS) for estimates of recreational catch
- Commercial passenger fishing vessel (CPFV) logbooks for landings of recreational catch from CPFVs

Some reviews used other fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data sources; these sources are described in the individual reviews.

#### Commercial Landing Receipts

Landing records for California's commercial fisheries have been collected and compiled since 1916. The landing records are in the form of landing receipts, also commonly called market receipts, dealer receipts, fish tickets or pink tickets. Each landing receipt contains the following information:

- Weight of the finfish or shellfish landed by market category (general groupings of fish that are not species-specific)
- Price paid to the fisherman by market category
- Date the fish was landed
- Type of gear used to harvest the fish
- Port of landing
- General location where the fish was harvested

By law, a fish buyer must complete a landing receipt when the fishermen delivers the fish, and must submit the landing receipts to the DFG on a semi-monthly basis.

Fish buyers sort finfish and shellfish into market categories that often contain more than one species. Commonly, buyers group fish by value (price per pound) or some other criteria.

#### Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey

MRFSS has collected data on recreational catch of finfish (not on shellfish) in California since 1979. Data are available from 1980 through 1989 and from 1993 through the present. Field survey and telephone survey data are combined to produce estimates of fishing effort and catch. In the field survey, fishery technicians interview anglers at the end of the angler's fishing day and sample the anglers' catch. The information collected in the field survey includes:

- Number of fish caught by species
- Length, weight and sex of each fish (when possible)
- General catch location

- Amount of time spent fishing
- Mode of fishing

The randomized phone survey of households in coastal counties collects data on fishing effort such as:

- Number of anglers per household
- Number of fishing trips per two-month period
- Fishing mode and location of each trip

MRFSS estimates catch and effort by species, area, and fishing mode, and can provide separate estimates for the area north of Point Conception (Santa Barbara County) and for the area south of Point Conception. It can also provide separate estimates for each mode: fishing from beaches or banks, from man-made structures such as piers and jetties, from private or rental vessels, and from CPFVs. MRFSS estimates the total number and weight of the fish that were:

- Caught, landed whole and available for identification by fishery technicians
- Caught but not available for identification by fishery technicians because they were released dead, given away or filleted
- Caught and released alive

In the ASFR, the total number and weight of the fish removed from the fishery resource (the sum of the fish that were caught, landed whole and available for identification by the fishery technicians and the fish that were caught but not available for identification) is used.

### Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel Logbooks

Since 1936, operators of CPFVs in southern California have been required to record data on individual fishing trips in a logbook and then submit the logbook to DFG. The CPFV logbook program was suspended for a six-year period during World War II (1941 to 1946), but resumed again in 1947. In 1957, CPFV operators in northern California were also required to submit logbooks. The data collected includes:

- Number of anglers
- Number of hours fished
- General fishing location
- Port of departure
- Type and number of fish caught and number of discards

The CPFV logbooks provide the landings reported by CPFV operators and submitted to DFG, while MRFSS provides an estimate of catch by CPFVs.