Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council

Why Good Fishery Data Is Important

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council manages fisheries in federal waters surrounding American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Hawaii, and the Pacific Remote Island Areas—an area of nearly 1.5 million square miles!

To do its job effectively, the Council needs complete and accurate information on what marine resources are removed from the ecosystem. The data is needed from both commercial and recreational (including subsistence and charter) fisheries.

This information is critical. Without it, fishery managers are not able to develop sensible regulations based on accurate information.

200 Mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) – Pacific Island Nations
Western Pacific Council Jurisdiction: An Area of Nearly 1.5 Million Square Miles

You can help ensure the future of your fishery by participating in dockside and telephone surveys, reporting your catch, and participating in tagging programs. This information will:

- Provide a history of catch and participation levels for any future allocations
- Allow scientists to assess the status of the stocks, and help to identify why changes are occurring in marine resources
- Show how regulations are impacting the fisheries
- Show how fisheries change over time

Do your part – participate!