The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council manages fisheries in federal waters surrounding American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Guam, Hawai‘i, and the Pacific Remote Island Areas—an area of more than 1.7 million square nautical miles!

For effective management, the Council needs complete and accurate data on the characteristics of the fishery. This data helps the Council to assess the status of the fishery and understand the biological, economic and social aspects of the fishery. Each island area uses a different combination of methods to collect this information. Accurate information, provided by fishermen and through scientific research, is critical to developing sensible fishing regulations. Working with fishermen and the seafood industry, the Council has supported various initiatives to address permitting and reporting gaps:

### Data Collection Method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pacific Island Area</th>
<th>Hawai‘i</th>
<th>American Samoa</th>
<th>Guam</th>
<th>CNMI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>💡 ☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>💡 ☑️</td>
<td>💡 ☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Commercial</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishery Independent</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit/Logbooks (federal)</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catch Reporting (state/local)</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercept Surveys</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Bottomfish Permit</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
<td>☑️ ☑️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Why Are Good Fishery Data Important?

#### Hawaii
- Aerial surveys for akule (bigeye) scale biomass
- Alternative estimation methods for annual catch of federally-managed species
- Fish biosampling to obtain life history data
- Pulse market surveys for whole ahi and other local fish products at local retail fish markets/vendors
- Registry, Permit, and License Feasibility Study

#### CNMI
- Community-implemented pilot creel surveys at unsampled ports and shoreline areas
- Data tool development for creel surveys
- Mandatory Catch Recording and Reporting (Public Law 17-89)
- Archaeological and historical data review on reef fishing in Guam and CNMI
- Commercial receipt book program and small-boat fishery reporting app
- Fish biosampling to obtain life history data
- Naval base and rare events data collection

#### Guam
- Commercial receipt book program and small-boat fishery reporting app
- Community-implemented pilot creel surveys at unsampled ports and shoreline areas
- Data tool development for creel surveys
- Mandatory Catch Recording and Reporting (Public Law 17-89)
- Archaeological and historical data review on reef fishing in Guam and CNMI
- Commercial receipt book program and small-boat fishery reporting app
- Fish biosampling to obtain life history data
- Naval base and rare events data collection

#### American Samoa
- Commercial receipt book program and small-boat fishery reporting app
- Community-implemented pilot creel surveys at unsampled ports and shoreline areas
- Data tool development for creel surveys
- Mandatory Catch Recording and Reporting (Public Law 17-89)
- Archaeological and historical data review on reef fishing in Guam and CNMI
- Commercial receipt book program and small-boat fishery reporting app
- Fish biosampling to obtain life history data
- Naval base and rare events data collection

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council
  - 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
  - Honolulu, HI 96813
  - Telephone: (808) 522-8220
  - E-mail: info@wpcouncil.org

- National Marine Fisheries Service
  - Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
  - Telephone: (808) 725-5360
  - www.fisheries.noaa.gov/region/pacific-islands#science

- National Marine Fisheries Service
  - Pacific Islands Regional Office
  - Telephone: (808) 725-5000
  - www.fisheries.noaa.gov/region/pacific-islands#management

- American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources
  - Telephone: (684) 633-4465
  - www.americansamoa.gov/department-of-marine-wildlife

- Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Division of Fish and Wildlife
  - Telephone: (670) 664-6000
  - www.dfw.gov.mp

- Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources
  - Telephone (671) 735-0281