**Appendices**

Appendix I

Interview Script

[Target length: 15 minutes]

[\*Additional directions to the interview of are provided in brackets throughout the script]

[If doing the census of commercial fishermen for black sea bass or cobia, the following language is not necessary. However, recreational anglers often target multiple species, so it’s prudent to ask what capacity they would like be interviewed in.]

[Ask the participant to identify whether they would like to take the interview as a black sea bass fisherman or cobia fishermen and record the identifying information below]

[If participant fishes for both black sea bass and cobia, ask them the following…]

So, for this interview, I’m asking for you to answer these questions as either a black sea bass fisherman or as a cobia fisherman. Which would you like to participate in this interview as?

[If it’s clear from the recruitment script that they fish for one or the other, then you don’t need to say that]

[Record ID information here, e.g., “Cobia recreational interview 1” would be COBRE01]

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I’m going to ask you a total of six questions to learn a bit about what you want out of the fishery you participate in and to get a sense of how past fisheries management measures have affected you.

With that, I’ll ask my first question, which is:

1)

Would you please briefly and in your own words tell me what is most important to you about the fishery?

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2)

Alright, thank you. For this next question, I’m going to give you a list of six possible goals for the fishery. What I’d like you to do is the pick the top three that are most important to you, and after you’ve picked the top three, rank them on a scale from 1 being most important, to 3 being the least important of that list.

So, those goals are:

1. Optimizing the yield in pounds during a season

2. Catching the greatest number of fish possible during a trip

3. Catching the largest size of fish possible during a trip

4. Maximizing the length of the season and access to the fishery

5. Conservation of the resource

6. Increased access or opportunity within the fishery

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| --- | --- |
| Goal | Mark number rank next to each of the three choices |
| Catching the greatest number of pounds |  |
| Catching the greatest number of fish |  |
| Catching the largest size fish |  |
| Maximizing the length of the season |  |
| Conservation of the resource |  |
| Increased access or opportunity within the fishery |  |

3)

Awesome, thank you. Now I am going to list six management measures that could be used to achieve the top three goals you identified in the last question. I would like to you pick the top three choices that you would use to achieve those goals, and then rank them from 1 being the most preferred to 3 being the least preferred way to achieve those goals.

Those management measures are:

1. Changing the vessel/trip or bag limits

2. Changing the size limits

3. Changing the size limit to a slot limit

4. Seasonal closures, such as for spawning

5. In-season adjustments to vessel/trip or bag limits

6. Changing the catch limit allocation to the different fishery sectors, for example commercial, recreational and for-hire recreational sectors like charters and headboats.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Management measure | Mark number rank next to each of the three choices |
| Changing the vessel/trip or bag limits |  |
| Changing the size limits |  |
| Changing the size limits to a slot limit |  |
| Seasonal closures, such as for spawning |  |
| In-season adjustments to vessel/trip or bag limits |  |
| Changing catch limit allocation to the different sectors |  |

Now I’m going to ask three questions to get an idea of how past management measures have affected your fishing behavior in the past. Each question relates to a different kind of management measure that was taken within the last 10 years.

If the management measures didn’t change your behavior, you can just say “no change,” and if you aren’t sure, you can say “I’m not sure,” and if you weren’t fishing before the changes took place, we can skip to the next question.

Alright, let’s move forward then.

How did your fishing behavior change in response to changes in vessel limits (if comm) / trip limits (if rec)?

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How did your fishing behavior change in response to change to size limits?

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How did your fishing behavior change in response to fishery closures?

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Okay, that is everything that I have. Do you have any questions for me?

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Alright, thank you very much for taking the time to complete this interview with me.

If you have any further questions about the interview and how we are planning to use the data, feel free to call me or email me at [provide office number and ncsu email].

[End call]

Appendix II

Interview Introduction and Recruitment Script

[Target length: 5 minutes]

Hi, am I speaking with [name of participant]? Hi, my name is [interviewer name]. I’m a student researcher at North Carolina State University studying fisheries. I’m calling to see if you would be interested in participating in a short interview for my research. Do you fish for black sea bass or cobia and do you have 15 minutes to spare right now?

[Allow interruption at any time to answer questions or to end the call if the potential participant is showing a strong lack of desire to participate.]

[If potential participant is interested but doesn’t have time at the moment, offer to schedule a time for a callback to continue; if potential participant declines, thank them for their time and end the call; if the potential participant is interested and agrees to participate on this call, continue with the script below; finally, if the participant does not currently fish for black sea bass or cobia, thank them for their time and end the call.]

That’s great. Thank you very much. So, I am part of a team of North Carolina State University, Duke University and NOAA scientists who are developing a management strategy evaluation tool designed to look at management measures that will benefit both commercial and recreational sectors targeting the same species. Specifically, we’re looking at the black sea bass and cobia fisheries here in the Southeast US. To try and make that tool as accurate and useful as possible, I’m doing this interview to learn more about what commercial and recreational fishermen want from their fisheries, what management measures you might prefer and how past management has affected your fishing behavior.

Before we start the interview, I want to first ask for your permission to record this record this call. You do not have to agree to be recorded to participate, but the recording is helpful for me to refer back to when I’m looking at my notes. Also, any information you give me is going to be de-identified, meaning that I’m going to assign a code to your answers and match the code to your name in a master list that only I, and those working with me, can see. We plan to aggregate answers by the different fishery sectors, so there will be no way to identify you from the information we report.

[If potential participant does not agree to be recorded but does agree to participate, proceed with the following question and then on to the interview (uploaded separately); if they decided they would no longer like to participate at this point in the call, thank them for their time and end the call]

So, before we get started, do you have any questions for me?

[Answer questions as needed and proceed to the interview]