

2025 Maryland Catch Card Census Program

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the National Marine Fisheries Service designed a mandatory reporting program to monitor recreational landings of bluefin tuna, swordfish, billfishes, and sharks (except spiny dogfish) in Maryland. HMS permit holders landing in Maryland **MUST** report at a state-operated reporting station. You may NOT report using the NMFS toll free number, HMS Reporting App, or online.

- The vessel owner must have a valid Atlantic highly migratory species permit from the National Marine Fisheries Service to fish for or keep bluefin tuna, swordfish, billfishes, or sharks in Federal waters. A shark endorsement is also needed to fish for sharks in federal waters. A person with a highly migratory species permit for their vessel cannot use that permit on a different vessel.
- HMS permit holders are required by regulation to complete the appropriate catch card(s), which are available from reporting stations or online; exchange the completed card(s) at a reporting station to obtain a landing tag. **This tag must be affixed to your catch** prior to its removal from the vessel. Bluefin tuna, swordfish, billfishes, or sharks on board trailered vessels are required to have the tag affixed to the fish before the vessel is removed from the water.
- Kiosks only have catch cards available and the detachable receipt replaces the tag. **HMS permit holders must keep the receipt** and drop the completed catch card in the mailbox. Kiosks are to be used only when reporting stations are closed.
- Completing a catch card is fast because most information can be copied from your highly migratory species permit. PDFs of the catch cards are available online at dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/coastal/tagging.aspx. Save time by completing it on the way to the reporting station to get your tag.
- **Don't forget to report live and dead releases on the catch cards.** There is no penalty for dead releases. If turning in several catch cards for the same vessel/species per day, please fill in the releases on only one card per species. This information meets a reporting requirement to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

Reporting Station Information

| Station | Address | City | Phone | Billfishes / Swordfish | Bluefin Tuna | Sharks |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Alltackle | 12826 B Ocean Gateway | Ocean City | (410) 213-2840 | X | X | X |
| Assateague Island National Seashore Visitor Contact Station | 6633 Bayberry Dr. | Berlin, MD | (410) 629-6603 | | | X |
| Assateague Island National Seashore State Park Ranger Station | 6915 Stephen Decatur Hwy | Berlin, MD | (410) 641-2918 | | | X |
| Atlantic Tackle | 12930 Sunset Ave. | Ocean City | (410) 213-0421 | X | X | X |
| Bahia Marina | 2107 Herring Way | Ocean City | (410) 289-7438 | X | X | X |
| Buck's | 11848 Assateague Rd. | Berlin, MD | (443) 513-4661 | | | X |
| Fisherman's Marina | 12806 Sunset Ave. | Ocean City | (410) 213-2478 | X | X | X |
| Ocean City Fishing Center | 12940 Inlet Isle Lane West | Ocean City | (410) 213-1121 | X | X | X |
| Pines Point Marina | 869 Yacht Club Drive, Suite B | Ocean Pines | (443) 859-5544 | X | X | X |
| Pines Point Provisions | 869 Yacht Club Drive | Ocean Pines | (862) 686-7582 | X | X | X |
| Sunset Marina | 12911 Sunset Ave. | Ocean City | (410) 213-9600 | X | X | X |
| Talbot Street Pier & Marina | 311 Talbot St. | Ocean City | (410) 289-9125 | X | X | X |
| White Marlin Marina | 205 Somerset St. | Ocean City | (410) 289-6470 | X | X | X |

Kiosk Locations

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|------------|----------------|---|---|---|
| Assateague Island National Seashore Visitor Contact Station | 6633 Bayberry Dr. | Berlin, MD | (410) 629-6603 | | | X |
| Assateague State Park Dune Crossing at Nature Center | 6915 Stephen Decatur Hwy | Berlin, MD | (410) 641-2918 | | | X |
| Assateague State Park Boat Ramp | Rt. 611 & Verrazano Bridge | Berlin, MD | (410) 641-2918 | | | X |
| Maryland Department of Natural Resources | Colonel Jack Taylor Boathouse 12917 Harbor Road | Ocean City | (410) 213-1531 | X | X | X |
| West Ocean City Boat Ramp | Sunset Ave. by restrooms | Ocean City | | X | X | X |

The NOAA Fisheries Atlantic HMS Compliance Guides, identification and catch and release information is available online:

www.fisheries.noaa.gov/atlantic-highly-migratory-species/atlantic-highly-migratory-species-fishery-compliance-guides.

Dusky, sandbar, shortfin makos, and many other sharks are prohibited. If you cannot identify the species, let it go in the water. Individuals should monitor the Atlantic HMS website (<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/atlantic-highly-migratory-species>) under Notices and Rules for updates.



Maryland Department of Natural Resources
12917 Harbor Road, Ocean City, MD 21842
410-213-1531 | 800-688-3467
dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries

The facilities and services of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources are available to all without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin or physical or mental disability.

This document is available in alternative format upon request.

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