

6.1 Appendix I: Advance Letter to Survey Respondents



Name
Street address
City, State, Zip

Month Day, Year

Dear Name,

Now is the time to demonstrate the economic importance of charter boats and head boats. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) currently has no data on the economic performance of your industry. Lack of data makes it impossible to show the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils just how important you are to the economic health of your coastal community, or to accurately assess the economic impact fisheries policies have on your industry and community. The 2011 Recreational For-Hire Economic Survey (RFHES) aims to change that and we need your help. Please join us in this critical effort to establish your industry's economic importance by participating in the survey.

The enclosed RFHES questionnaire and FAQs were developed and tested with the assistance of for-hire boat captains and owners like you. Our interviewers will be calling you in the next two weeks to determine your eligibility for the survey and to request an in-person interview. We understand the confidential nature of the information sought and will take all appropriate steps to protect your privacy. We know your time is valuable, but hope you will agree to participate. A small token of appreciation is enclosed as a way of saying thanks for your help.

QuanTech is conducting the RFHES under a contract with NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center, the research arm of NOAA Fisheries in the region. For more information, please contact:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David C. Cox".

Dr. David C. Cox
President, QuanTech

QuanTech

Quantitative Technologies for Research and Analysis