

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.

04/2025