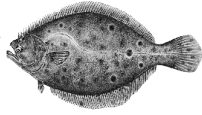
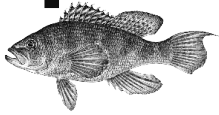
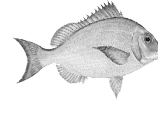


# Sportfish Angler Data Collection Team



## *Marine Fisheries*



### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

#### WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

- Obtain **RANDOM** scale samples from all species on both **KEPT** and **RELEASED** fish throughout the season (May-October).

#### WHEN?

- Fish may be caught and sampled at anytime during the month.
- Sample **every 3<sup>rd</sup> fish you catch** kept or released for that fishing trip.
- If you do not use all of the scale packets I give you, I will still gladly accept the information you have collected. Please just do the best you can.

#### WHERE?

- For this study, fish may be caught anywhere in Massachusetts waters, and may be caught from shore or by boat.

#### WHICH FISH OR WHAT SIZES OF FISH?

- All sizes of fish are important to us! We need information on all fish **BIG** or **LITTLE, KEPT** or **RELEASED** to improve conservation and management. Please avoid collecting scales from just the largest fish you catch.
- Take scale samples only when you feel comfortable doing it, and please call or email me if you have questions or difficulties.
- If a fish appears stressed, sick, or injured, do not remove scales.
- Don't forget **random** samples from **all sizes!**
- Finally, as a reminder, all participants must adhere to state regulations for each fish species. For example; striped bass less than 28 inches must be released after scale samples are removed.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Kimberly Fine  
MA Division of Marine Fisheries  
30 Emerson Ave.  
Gloucester, MA 01930  
(978) 282-0308, ext. 130 or [kimberly.trull@mass.gov](mailto:kimberly.trull@mass.gov)