**Estimation of Northeast For-Hire Passenger Fees**

NOAA Fisheries conducted their first marine angler expenditure survey in 1998 (Steinback and Gentner 2001; Gentner, Price, and Steinback 2001). Additional surveys were conducted in 2006 (Gentner, Price, and Steinback 2008), 2011 (Lovell Steinback, and Hilger 2013), and 2017 (Lovell et al 2020). For-hire passenger fee data collected from these surveys provided the baseline for calculating average annual fees by region/state from 1997 to 2019.

Linear extrapolation was used to estimate average for-hire fees for years with no survey data. For example, in Steinback and Gentner (2001), the average for-hire fee in Maine in 1998 was $46.20. The next angler expenditure survey, conducted in 2006, found the average for-hire fee in Maine was $63.65 (see Gentner, Price, and Steinback 2008). To calculate average fees for the years between 1998 and 2006 we simply extrapolated linearly between the two known data points. This same procedure was used to extrapolate values for all years between the four survey years.

Average for-hire fees in 1997, the year preceding the first survey, and in the two years following the last survey (2018 and 2019), were calculated using industry specific Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) output deflators. Specifically, we used BEA output deflators shown for Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries (North American Industry Classification System code 713000), which include recreational fishing guide services. Nominal values were converted to 2019 dollars using the same BEA output deflators.

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