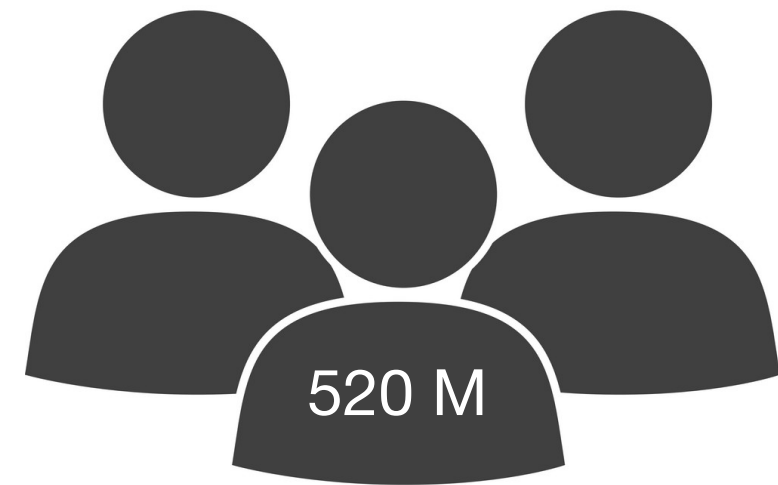
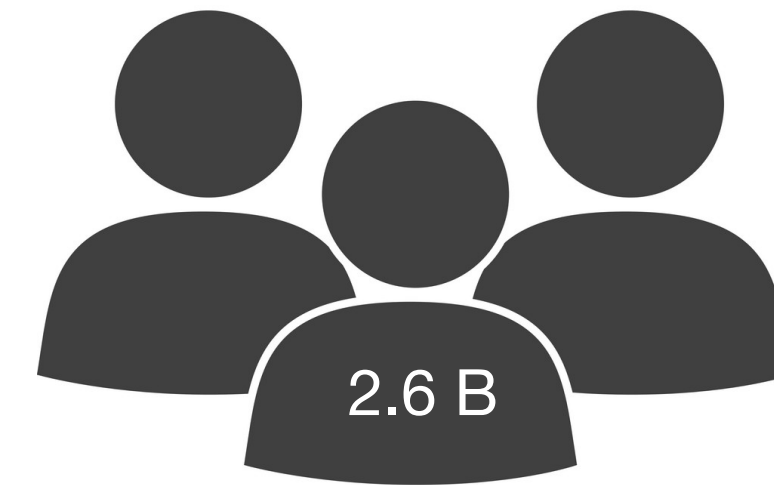


# Predicting Fishing Activity

# Context / Project Overview



Reliant on Fishing / Fishing Related Activities



Dependent on Fish as Important Part of Diet

- Illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing activities threaten global food supply
- Vastness of oceans makes direct regulation impossible
- Regulators / policymakers need an effective way to monitor and identify vessels that are fishing
- Apply machine learning models to public ocean and vessel data to identify fishing activity

# The Data

## Overview of Datasets



Global Fishing Watch

- AIS vessel track data along with is\_fishing labels to train machine learning models
- Latitude, Longitude, Vessel Type, Speed, Course, Distance From Port

+



- World Ocean Database - world's largest collection of uniformly formatted, quality controlled, publicly available ocean profile data
- Depth, Temperature, Salinity, pH, etc.

543,477  
Total Data Entries

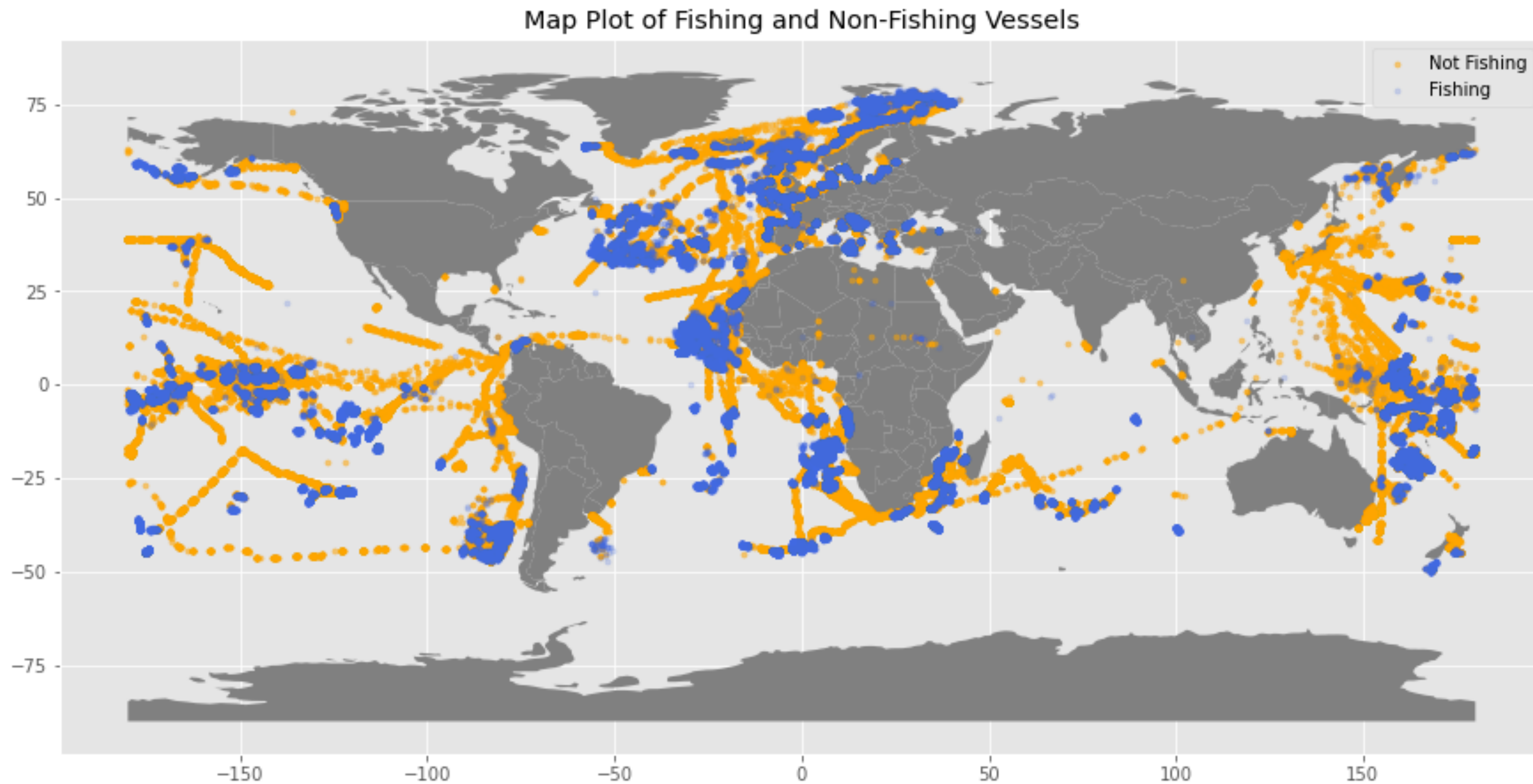
Over 22 Million  
Unique Timestamps

Time Period:  
2012 - 2016

7 Unique Vessel  
Types

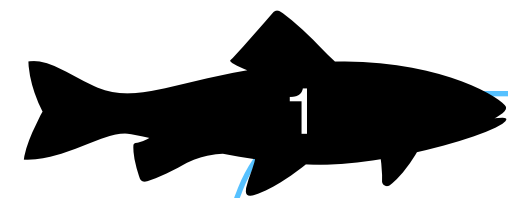
# The Data

## Geographical Breakdown of Vessels by Fishing Status

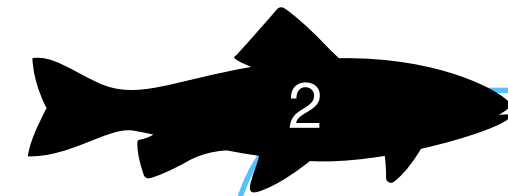
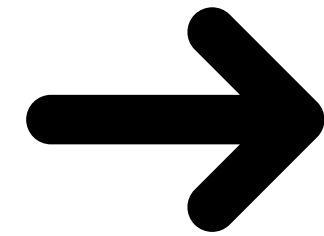


# Methodology

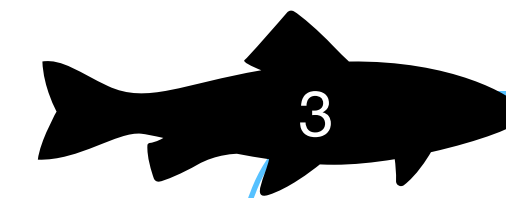
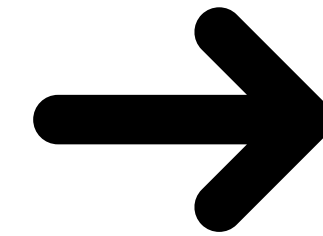
## Overview of Process



- Source data from Global Fishing Watch and World Ocean Database
- Explore Data to Understand Patterns

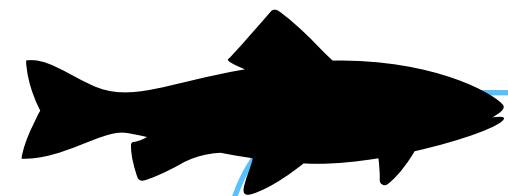


- Prepare Data for Modeling
- Iteratively model using Decision Trees, Random Forest, XGBoost, and Neural Networks

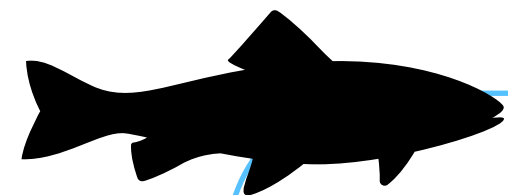


- Evaluate performance of each model primarily using accuracy and recall (explained on next slide)
- Fit final model to training data and evaluate with test set

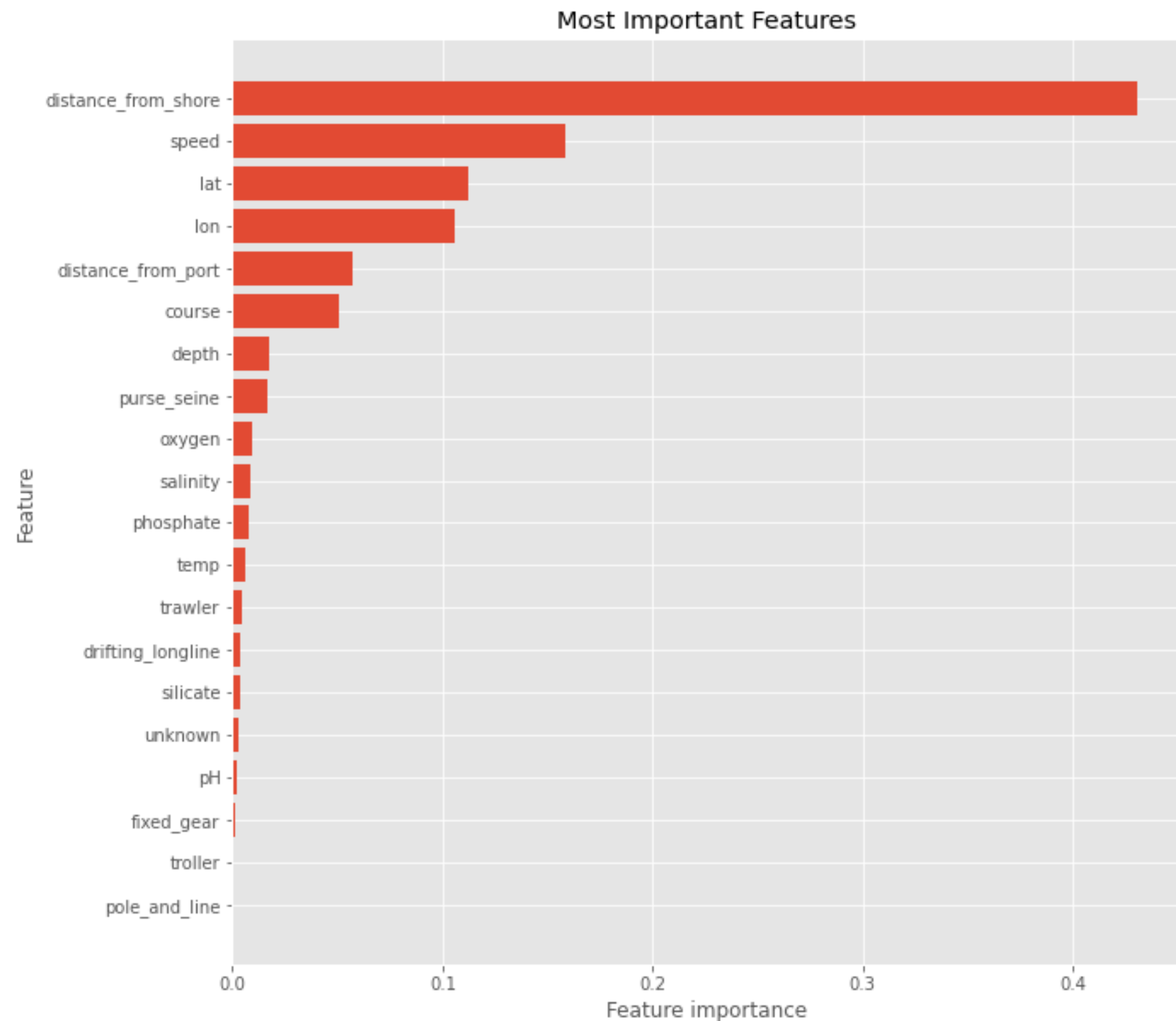
# Results and Feature Importance



- Accuracy: 93%
- Model correctly classified 93% of all test data

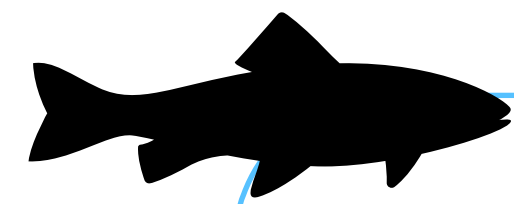


- Recall: 96%
- Of all data points actually labeled as fishing, our model was able to correctly identify 96% of them



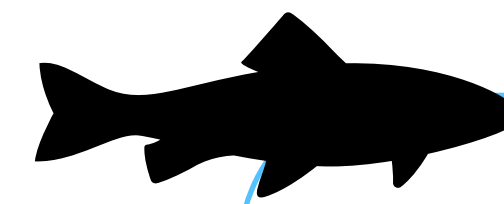


# Recommendations and Future Work



## Recommendations

- Use classifier in conjunction with public AIS data to start tagging vessels as fishing or not
- Cross reference vessels labeled as fishing with illegal fishing zones and regulated areas
- Physically search ships arriving at port that have been flagged as potential violators



## Areas for Future Work

- More accurate ocean measurements per coordinate
- Layer in aspects of time of day / season / tide direction
- Add data from additional vessel types