
California Commercial Fisheries Data Update Steps

Data Contact Information:

California Department of Fish and Game
Marine Fisheries Statistical Unit
4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
(562) 342-7100
<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/>

The following steps should be performed by someone familiar with ArcGIS, spreadsheets, and database tables.

1. Email a data request to the DFG's Marine Fisheries Statistical Unit Supervisor. Joann Eres (JEres@dfg.ca.gov) is the current Unit Supervisor (June 2010).

Include the following information:

- The reason for the request.
 - The year(s) you are interested in.
 - Ask for the data to be summarized by Year, Month, Block, and Species.
 - List all of the fields that you would like as part of the dataset: Year, Month, Block_Code, Port_Code, Species_Code, Value, Pounds, Port_Name, Species_Name, and Gear_Description.
 - Request the data to be in the format you are most comfortable working with. The MFSU provided the original commercial fishing data in Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.
2. Once you've received the data, preview it to make sure the fields are correct and the data types are compatible.
 - Remove all spaces from field names.
 - Ensure that all numeric values are stored in a numeric data type instead of as text.
 - All the numeric fields in the CA_Commercial_data table in the fisheries geodatabase use the "double" data type.
 - If you received the data in Excel Spreadsheets, you may need to open the file and format the cells and values to be stored as numbers with the correct number of decimal places. Make sure the word "null" is not used in any numeric fields.

3. The update may contain records from blocks not included as part of the CA_Blks feature class in the fisheries geodatabase. This should not affect the functionality of the custom tools or your queries. However, you could perform a relate in ArcMap between the CA_Blks and the data to identify the non-matching records and remove them (if you received the data in Excel spreadsheets, you may need to first save the data as a dbf file or geodatabase table to perform the relate).
4. Use ArcCatalog to load your new data into the CA_Commercial_data table in the fisheries geodatabase.
 - Right-click on the CA_Commercial_data table and choose Load > Load Data.
 - Verify that the “Target” and “Matching Source Field” values match during the load process. The data types should match (double or string) or the Load could fail. Make sure the field names match correctly (they do not need to have the exact same name, but they should be equivalent fields).
 - If you are given an error, it most likely means there is a data type conflict. You will need to go back and review the formatting to ensure that the field values and field data types aren’t causing the conflict.
 - One troubleshooting method is to create a temporary file geodatabase and export your data to it. Open the new geodatabase table in ArcMap and evaluate the fields there to see if you can identify the problem and fix it. Then try to load the data again using the table in your temporary geodatabase.
5. After you have successfully updated the CA Commercial Fisheries data, you can also update the custom tools to reflect the new range of years in the drop-down menu.
 - Open the Fisheries ArcMap document.
 - Open the VBA editor.
 - Open frmTools.
 - Open the code window for the form.
 - Find the following variable which stores the name and edit it:


```
Dim strCaCommFish As String
strCaCommFish = "CA Commercial Fisheries (1972 - 2009)"
```

 - You can carefully edit the text inside the quotation marks, such as the years. However, you must be sure not to delete the quotation marks surrounding the title or the VBA code for this variable will cease to work correctly.
 - Save and close the VBA editor.