NET GAINS ALLIANCE

March 2024

## Now Open for Public Comment: Draft National Marine Fisheries Service Data Confidentiality Rule

Dear Colleagues,

We write to bring your attention to NMFS' recently released draft rule on <u>confidential fisheries</u> <u>data and information</u>. The rule will be open for comment for 45 days, until April 25, 2024.

Improving fisheries data access, protection, and <u>use</u> has been <u>a core focus</u> of <u>NGA's</u> work since our inception. Our initial concern is that the rule doesn't go far enough in making critical fisheries data available for key decision-making. We are preparing our comments and will share more of our perspective with you in the coming weeks. We encourage you to read the draft rule, consider how it may impact your work, business, and communities, and submit your comments before the deadline.

Regards,

The Net Gains Alliance Team

George Chmael II Kate Wing George Lapointe