



CATCHING VALUE:

Assessing the economic importance of Connecticut recreational shellfishing

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Background to the study

Objective: to gain an understanding of the economic value of recreational shellfishing in CT in order to improve shellfish management

This study is part of the Connecticut Shellfish Initiative (<http://shellfish.uconn.edu>) and is funded by the University of Connecticut.

Although our focus is on economic data related to recreational shellfishing, we will also collect information on commercial activity and inquire about other aspects of municipal management of shellfisheries.



Study Process

This study is a four-step process:

1. Survey of Shellfish Commissions
2. Collect permit data records from Shellfish Commissions
3. Survey of Recreational Shellfishing Permit Vendors and Wardens
4. Survey of Recreational Shellfishing Permit Holders (this may be via shellfish commission contact lists or a random sample of residents in three coastal towns)

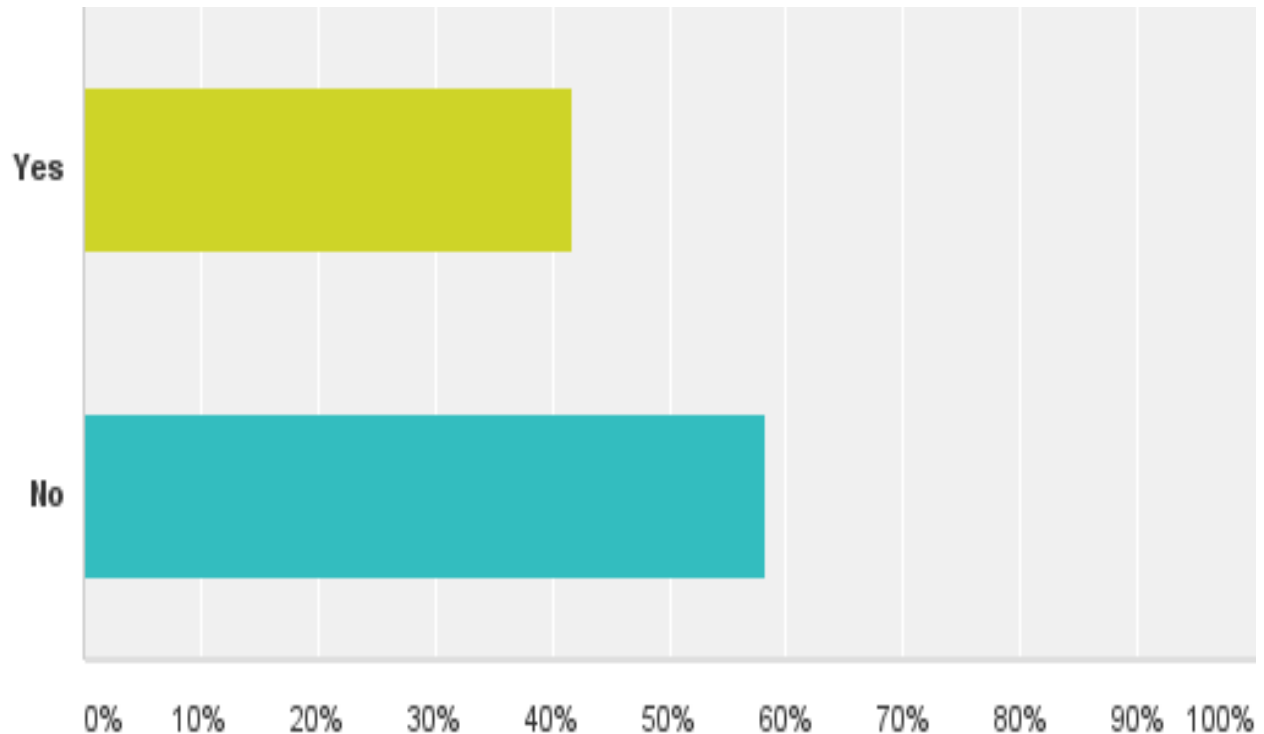


Survey of Shellfish Commissions

Responding commissions as of 01/22/15 (12):
Branford, Clinton, East Lyme, Fairfield, Groton,
Guilford, Madison, Norwalk, Stonington,
Waterford, Waterford-East Lyme, Westport

Still waiting for response (3):
Darien, Greenwich, Stamford

Q4: Do you maintain contact information for current and/or past recreational shellfishing permit holders?



Q5: Would you provide access to permit holder contact information so that Sea Grant may distribute a voluntary survey?

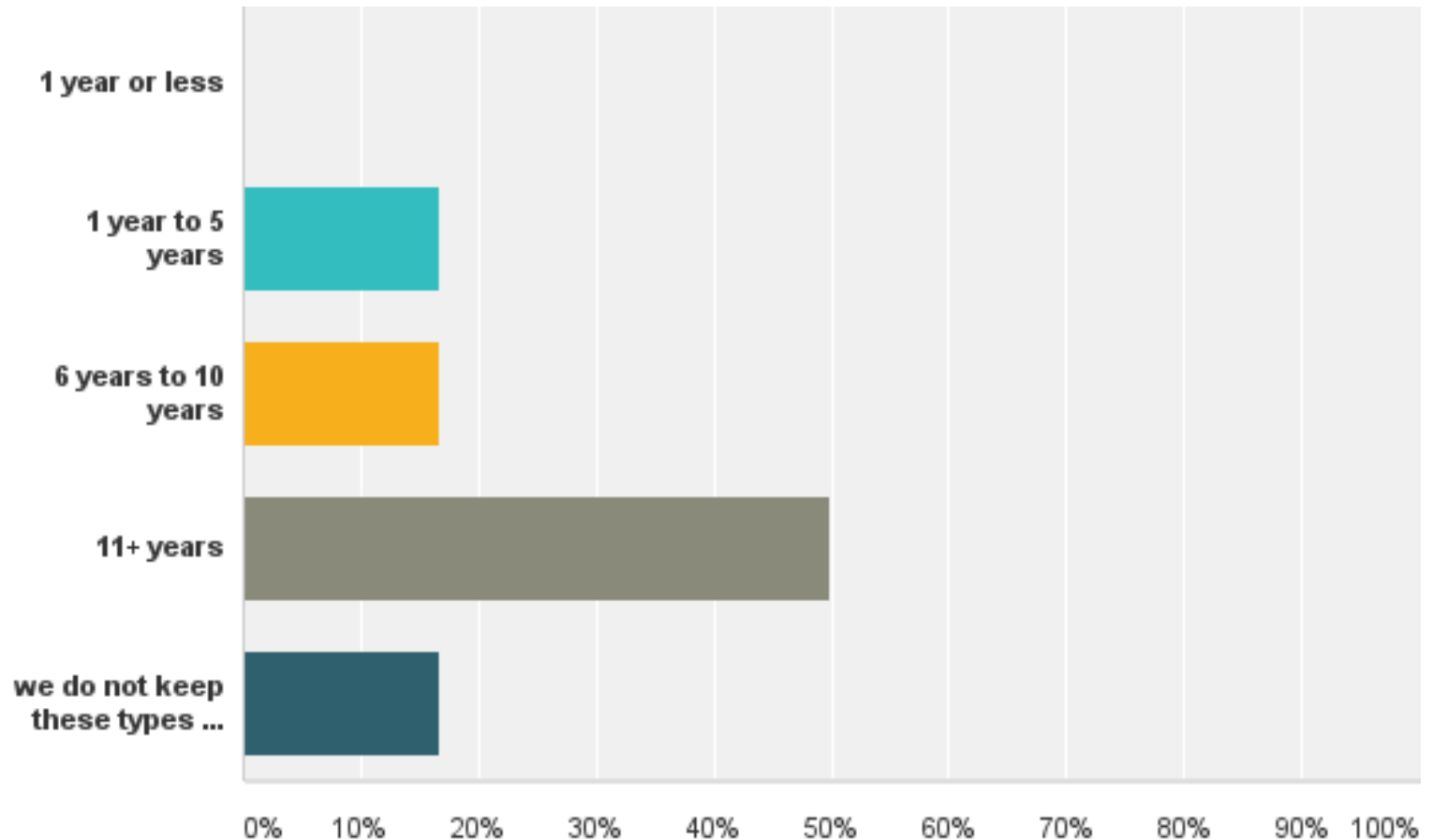
Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	85.71% 6
No	14.29% 1
Total	7

Q8: Identify and describe any new permit types.

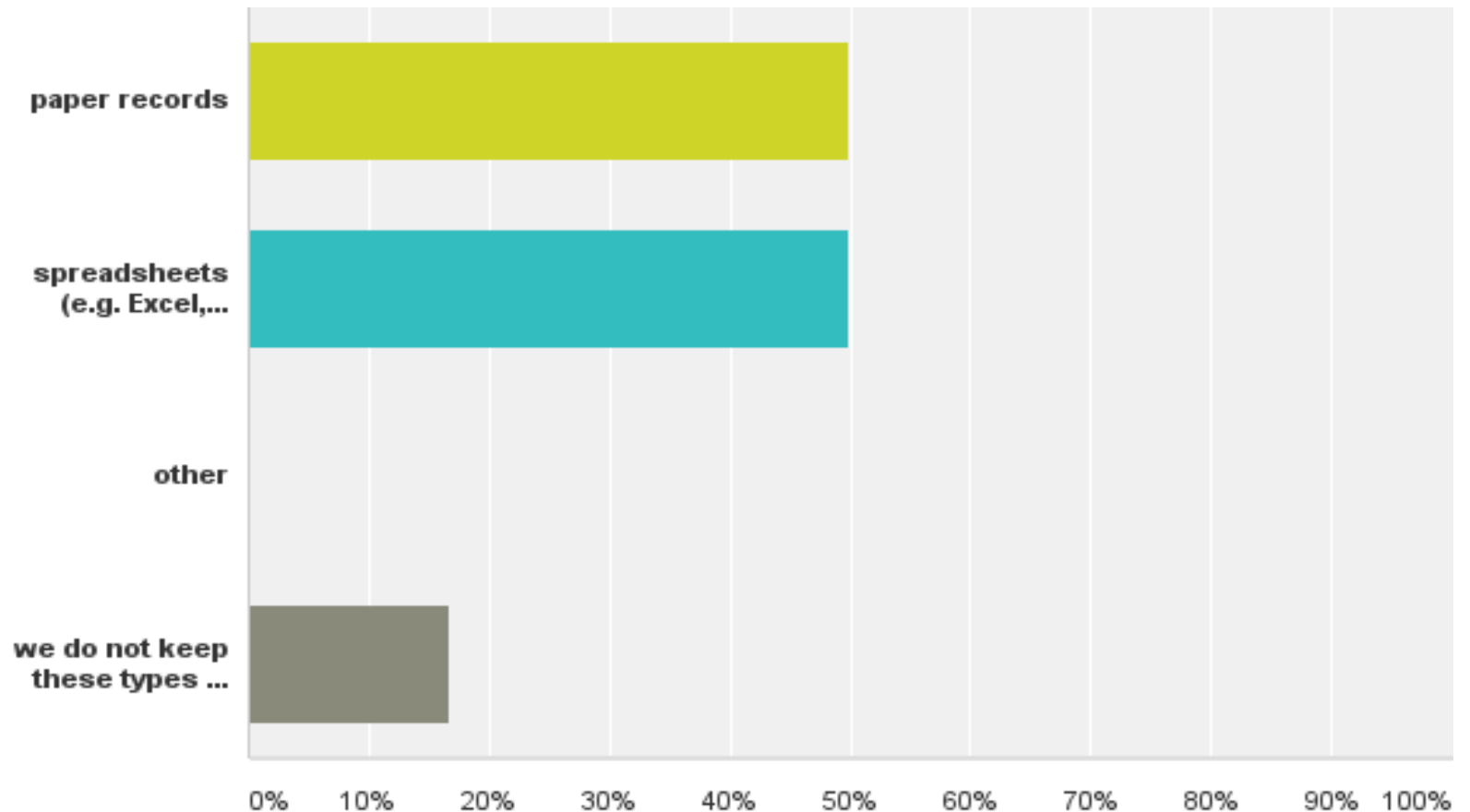
Yes response: 3 No response: 9

- There is a new fee schedule in 2014, but no new permit types.
- For our Community Clam Digs, a one-day pass sells for \$25. It is available only that day and only at the "Dig" site

Q9: Indicate how long you have been keeping records on permit sales. (We will be gathering this data at a later date.)



Q10: Indicate the format of your records.





Next Steps

Robert Pomeroy, CT Sea Grant and Di Yang, graduate student, will:

- be contacting the commissions in February to collect permit data records
- conduct a short survey of permit vendors and wardens on permit sales and purchases of equipment by recreational shellfishers
- Expected project completion by year-end 2015