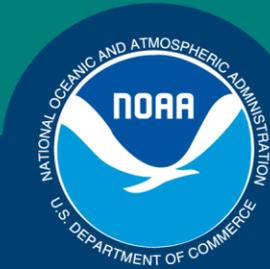


*Science, Service, Stewardship*



# Private Recreational Tilefish Permits

NOAA

**NOAA  
FISHERIES  
SERVICE**

October 4, 2023

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## Topics

- Total landings/catch each year
- Permits issued each year
- Permits with landed fish each year
- Number of trips reporting fishing activity each year
- Number of permits denied each year and why (*if any*)
- Identifying which software is being used by anglers by year
- Were there any software issues? If so, what were they?
- Any GARFO plans to build on past outreach efforts?

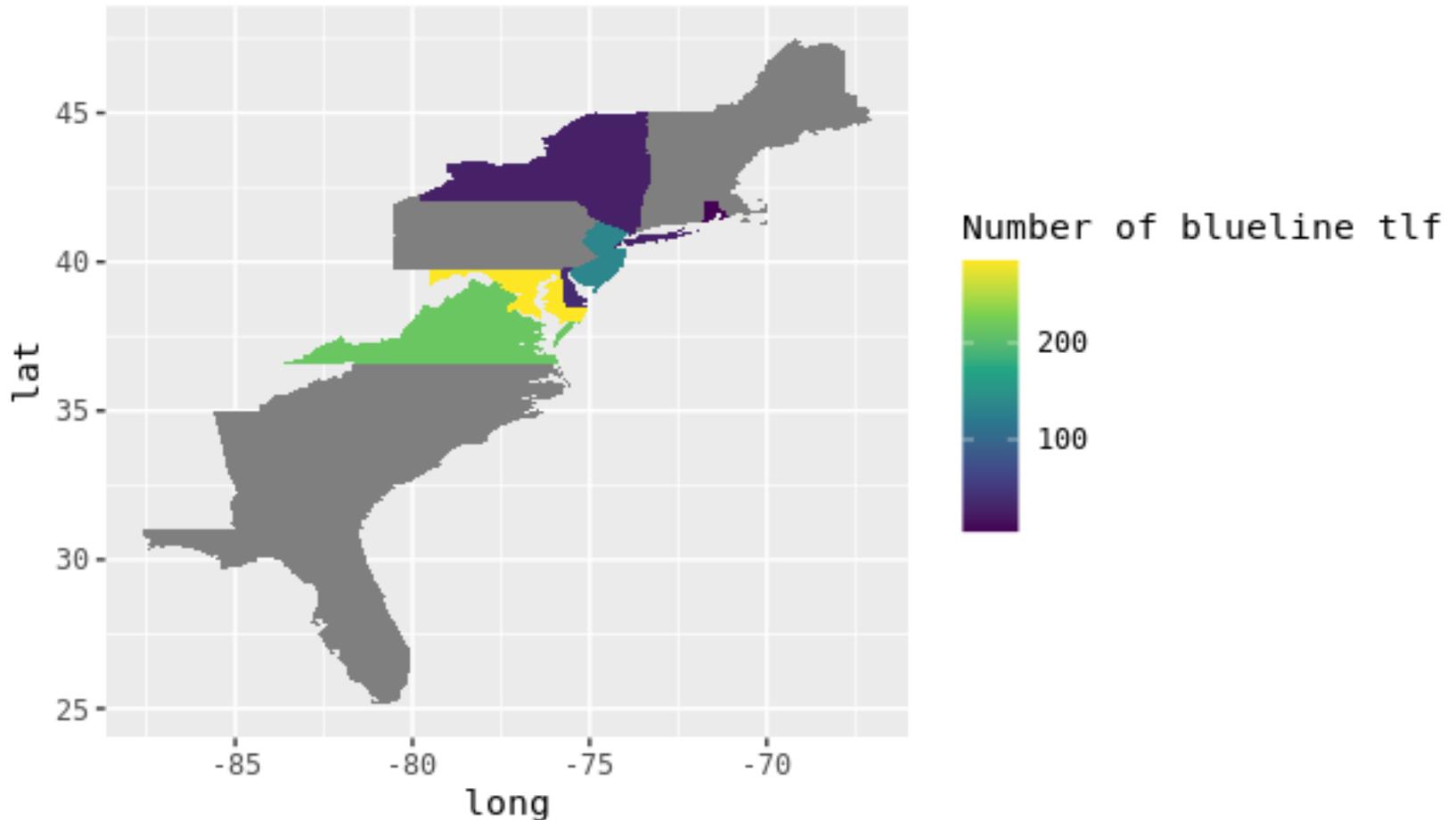


## Overview

- Since August of 2020, 1,995 tilefish landed (1,132 blueline tilefish, 783 golden tilefish and 107 tilefish spp. unknown).
- 3,074 private recreational tilefish permits issued to 1,564 vessels.
- 146 private recreational tilefish vessel trip reports (43 trips blueline and golden tilefish landed, 59 trips blueline tilefish and 37 trips golden tilefish landed).



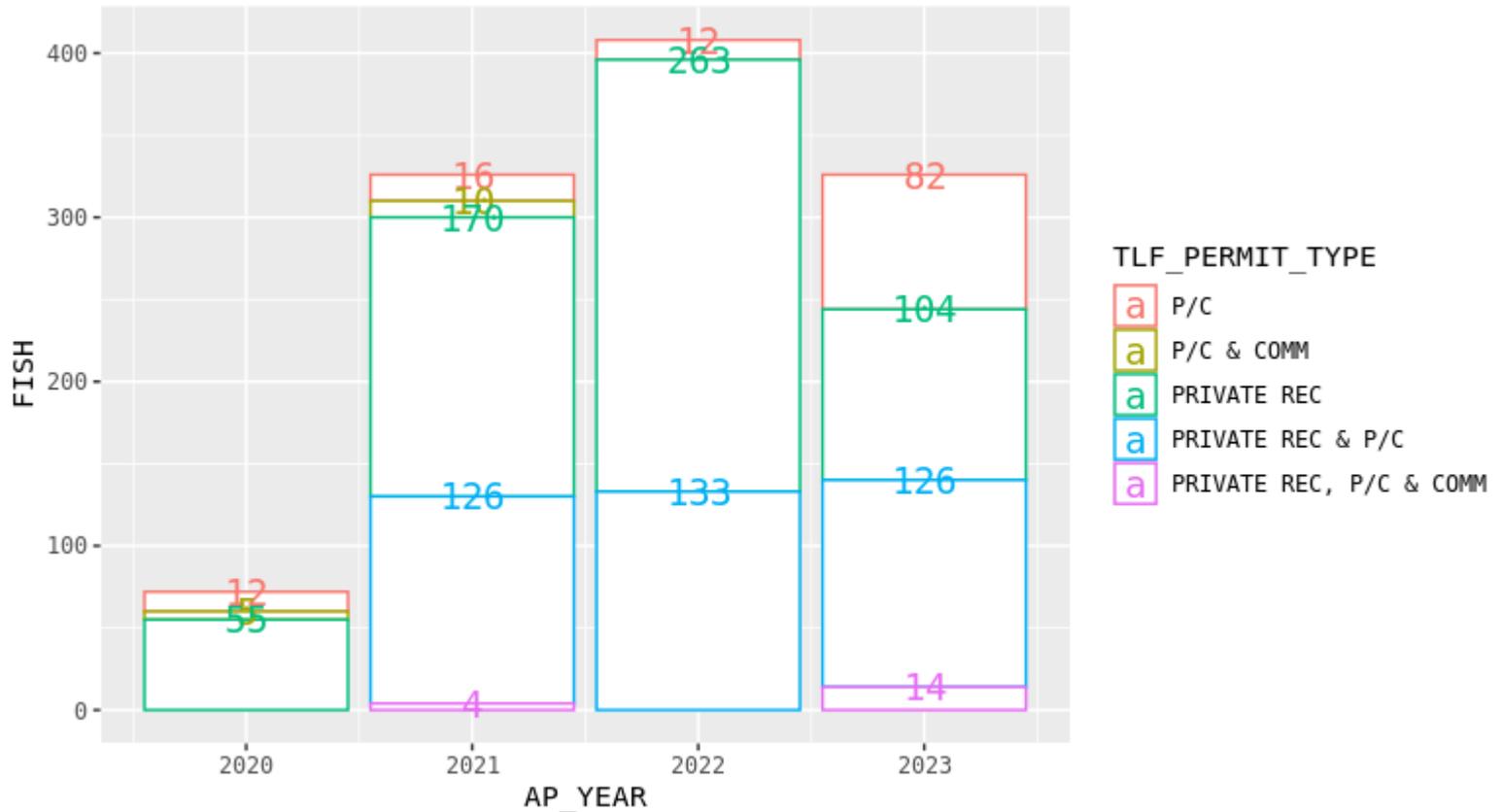
## Number of Blueline Tilefish Reported on Private Recreational VTRs (2020 – 2023)



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.



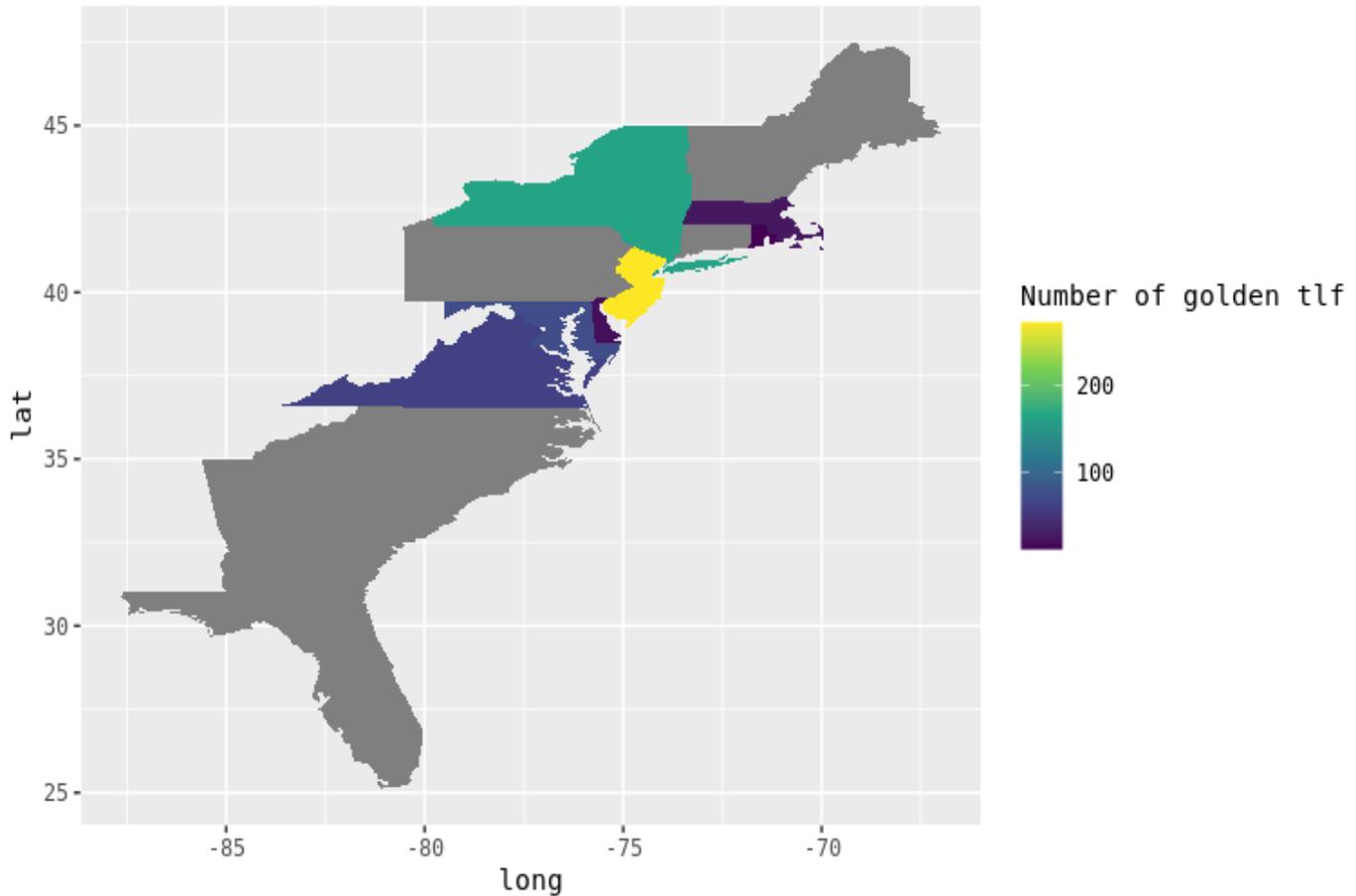
## Number of Blueline Tilefish by a Vessel's Tilefish Permit Combination (2020 – 2023)



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.



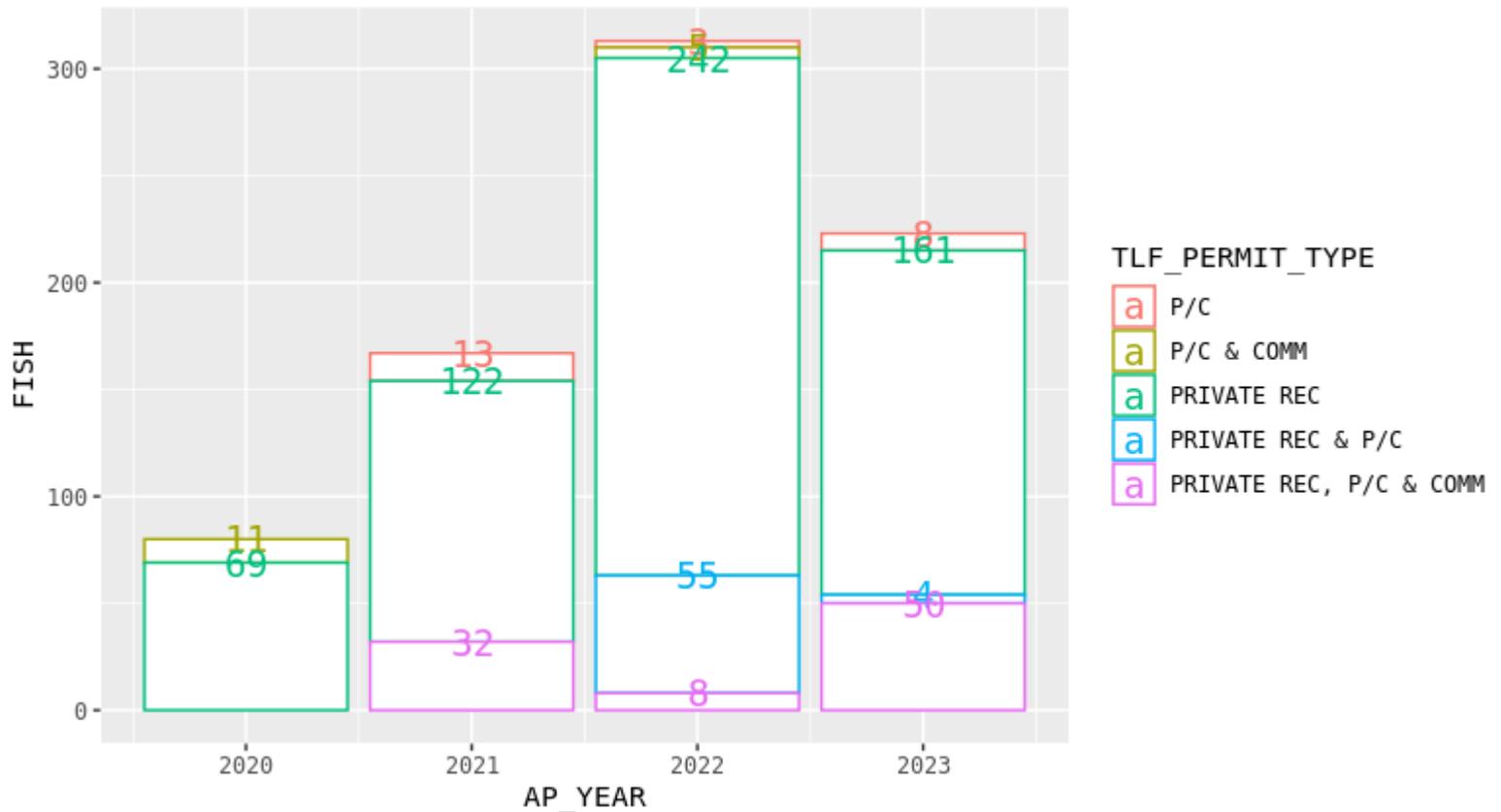
## Total Number of Golden Tilefish Reported on Private Recreational VTRs (2020 – 2023)



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.



## Number of Golden Tilefish by a Vessel's Tilefish Permit Combination (2020 – 2023)



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.



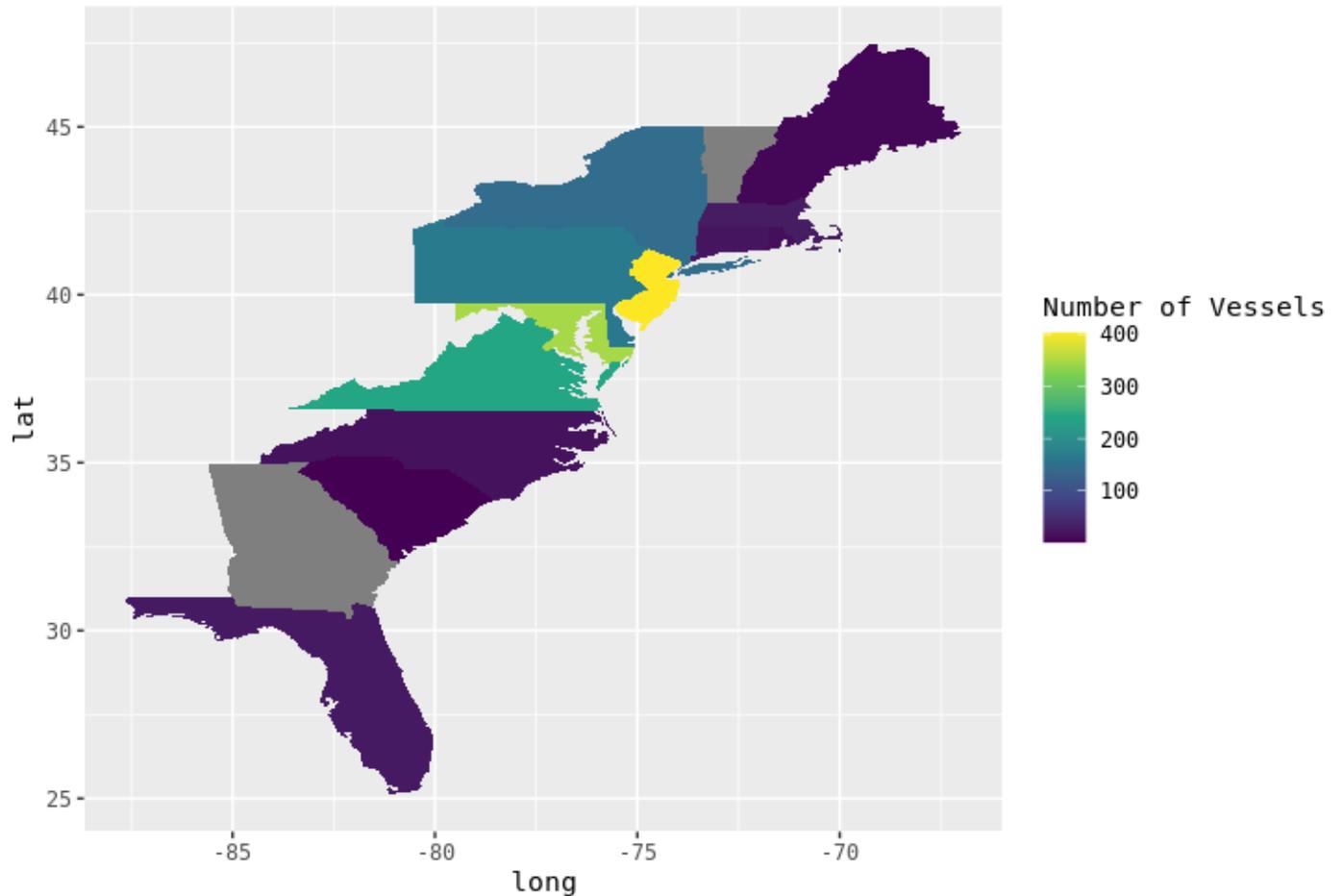
## **Private Recreational Tilefish Permits**

<b>AP YEAR</b>	<b>PERMITS</b>	<b>RENEWED</b>	<b>NEW</b>	<b>DID NOT RENEW</b>
2020	447		447	
2021	779	364	415	83
2022	902	496	406	283
2023	946	620	326	282

\*Data pulled from the permit database on 9/25/2023.



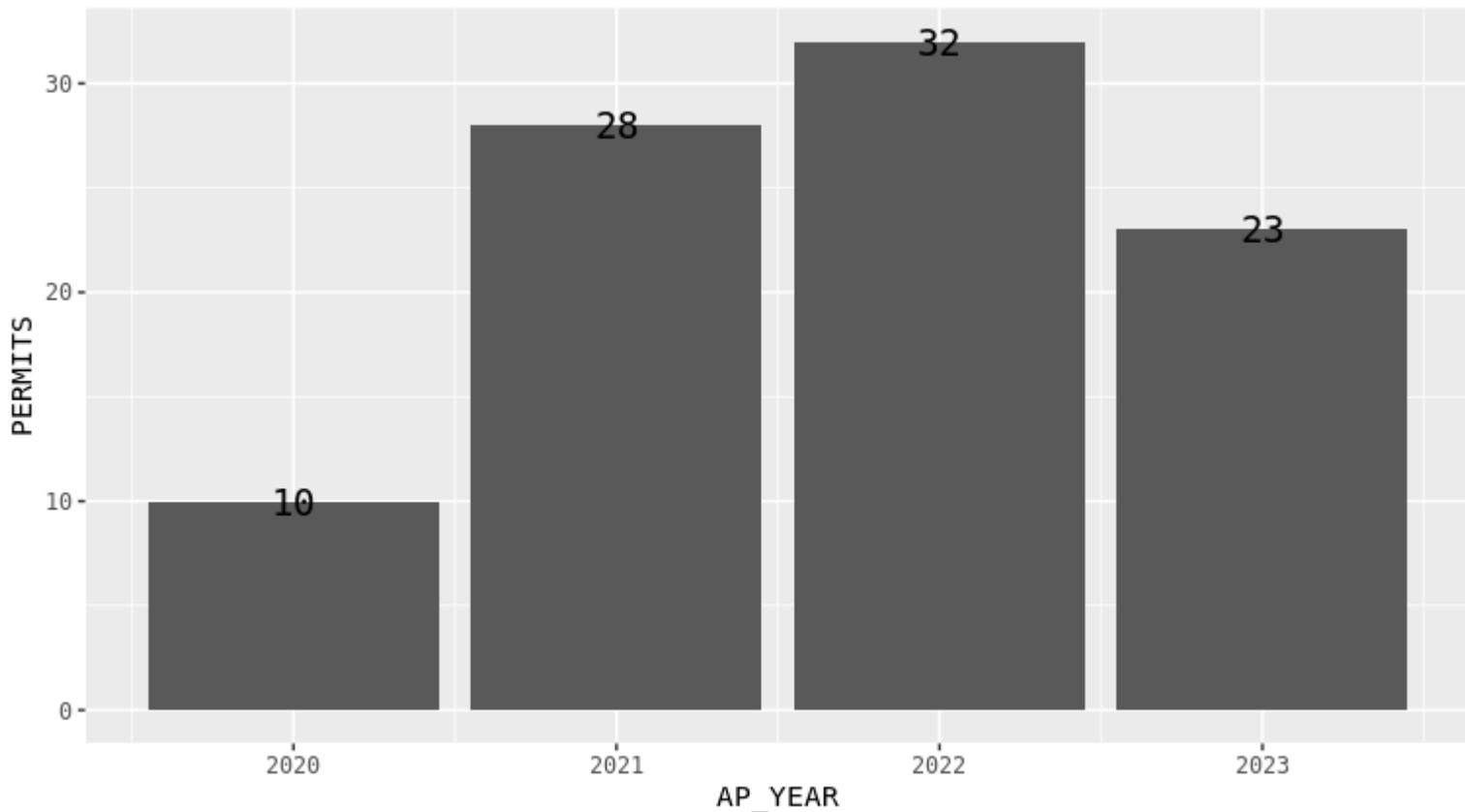
## Number of Vessels with Private Recreational Tilefish Permits (2020 – 2023)



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.



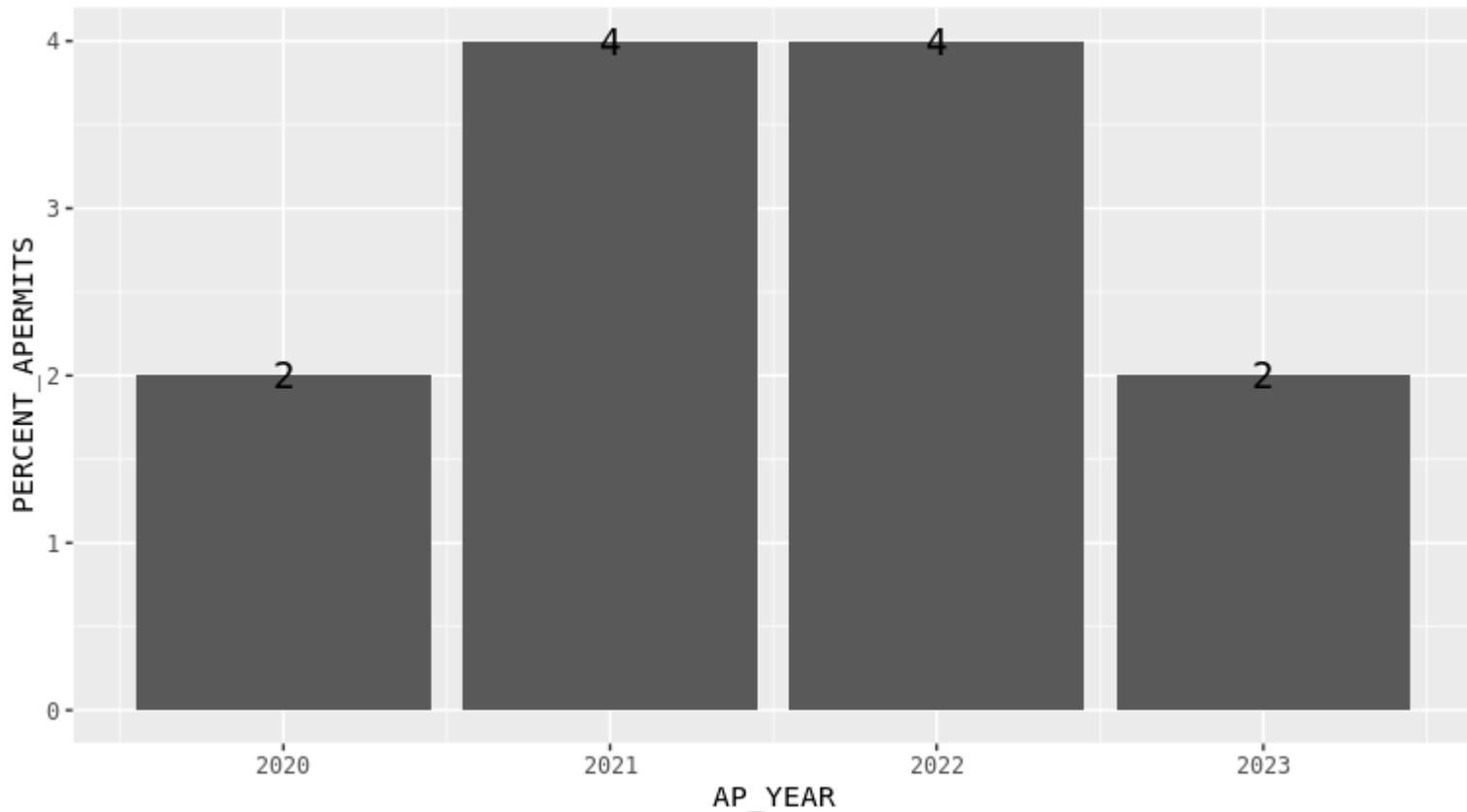
## Number of Active Permits Reporting Private Recreational Tilefish



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.



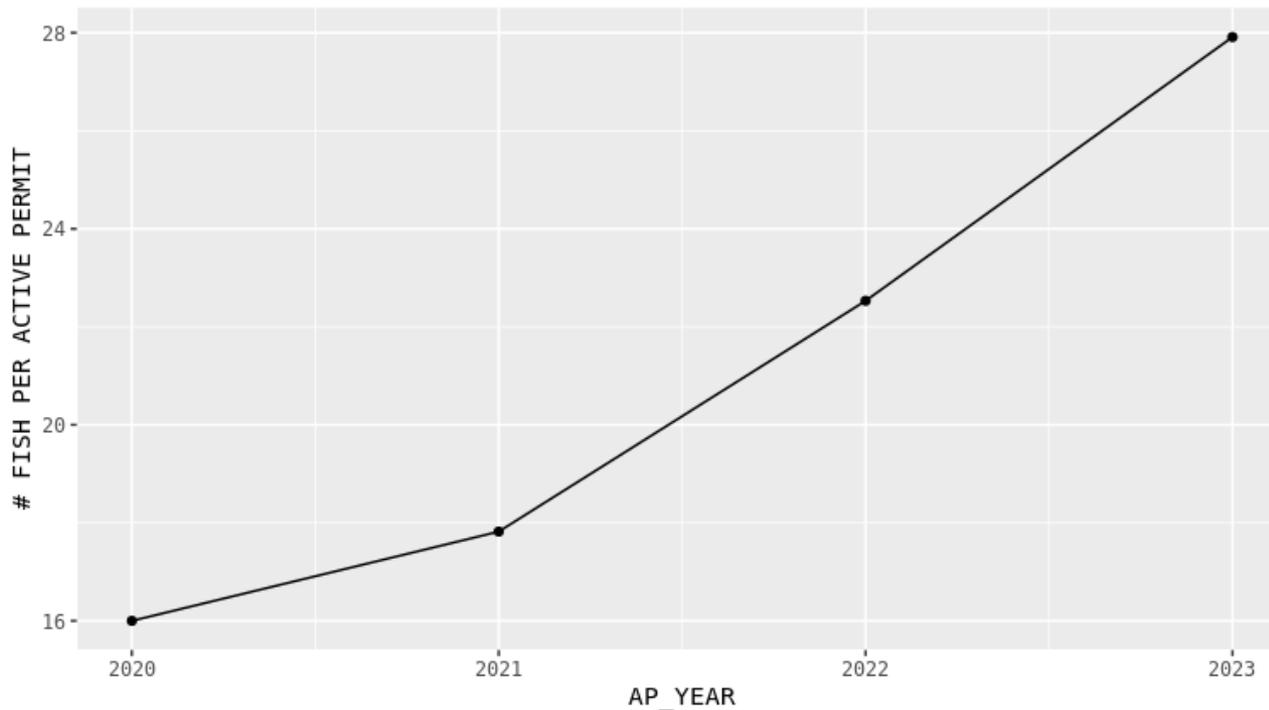
## Percentage of Active Permits Reporting Private Recreational Tilefish



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.



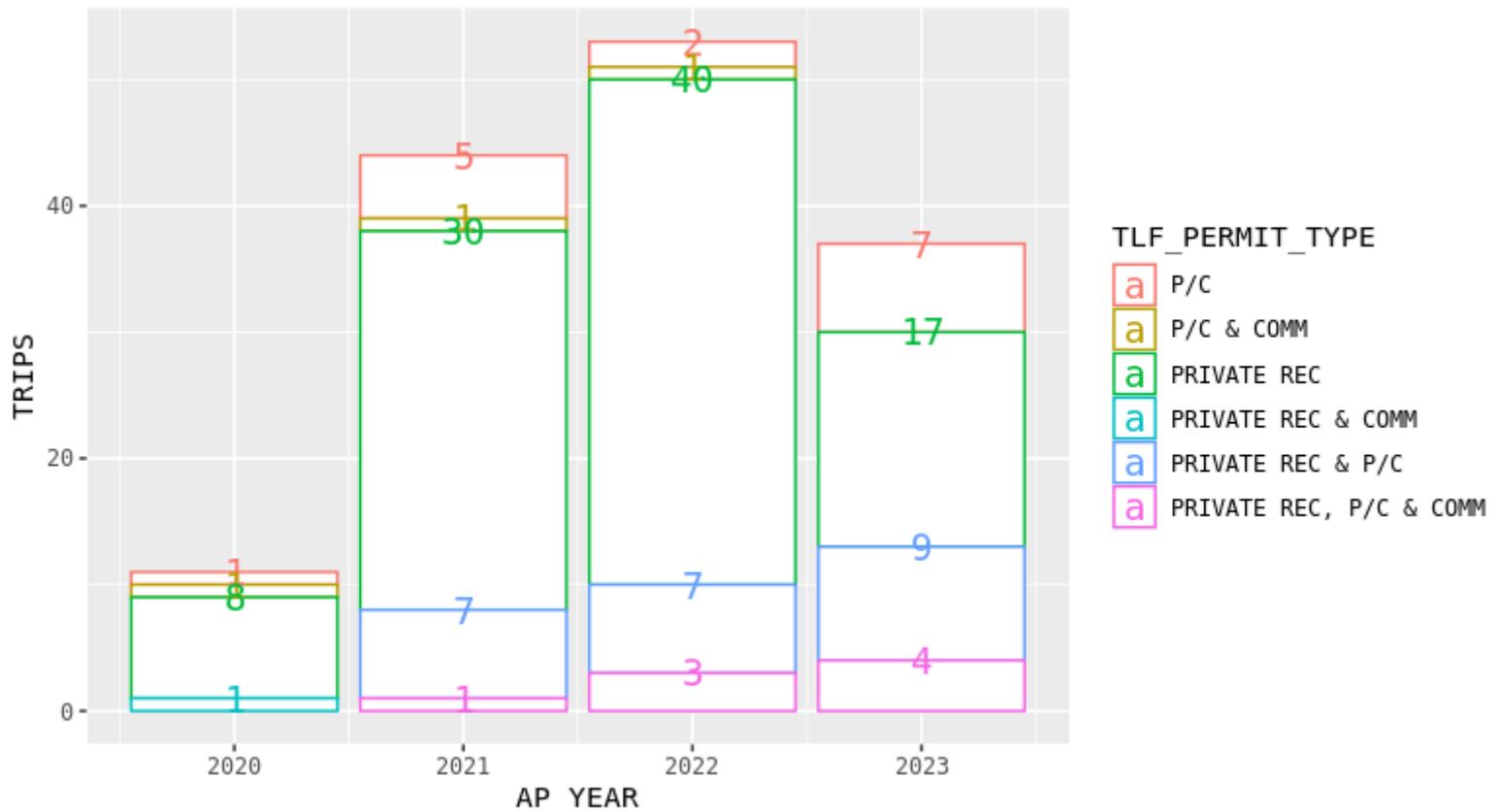
## Average Number of Tilefish per Active Private Recreational Tilefish Permit



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023. Only includes data through mid September of each permit year.



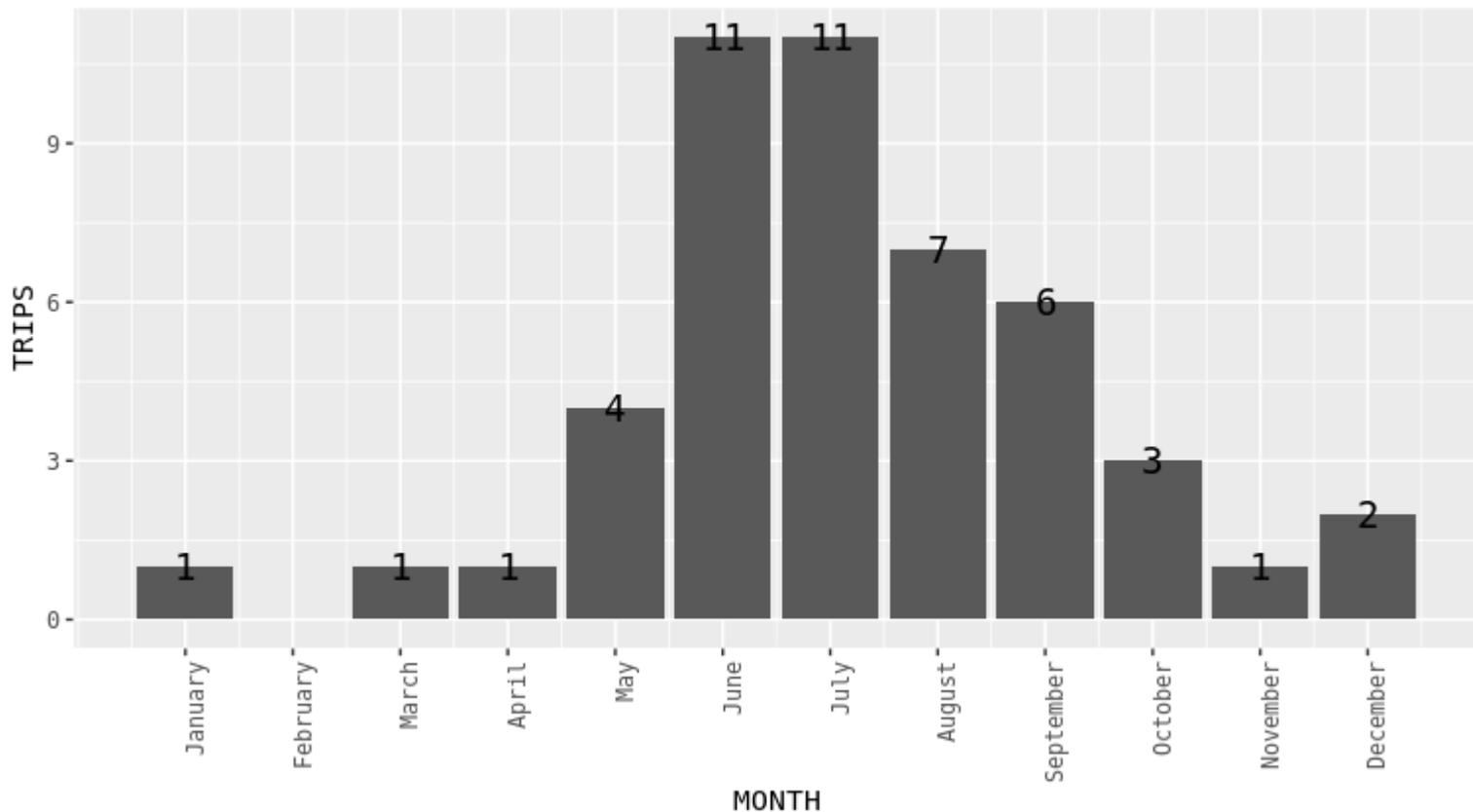
## Number of Private Recreational Tilefish Trips by a Vessel's Tilefish Permit Combination (2020 – 2023)



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.



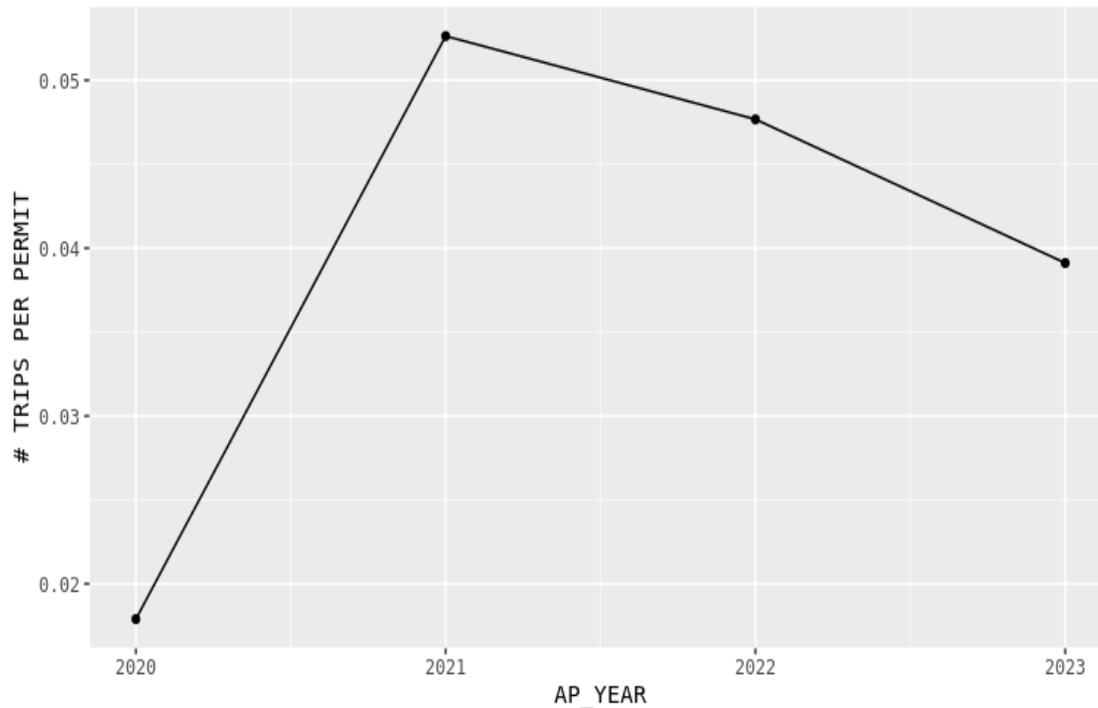
## Mean number of Private Recreational Tilefish Trips by Month (2021 – 2022)



\*Data pulled from CAMS on 9/25/2023.



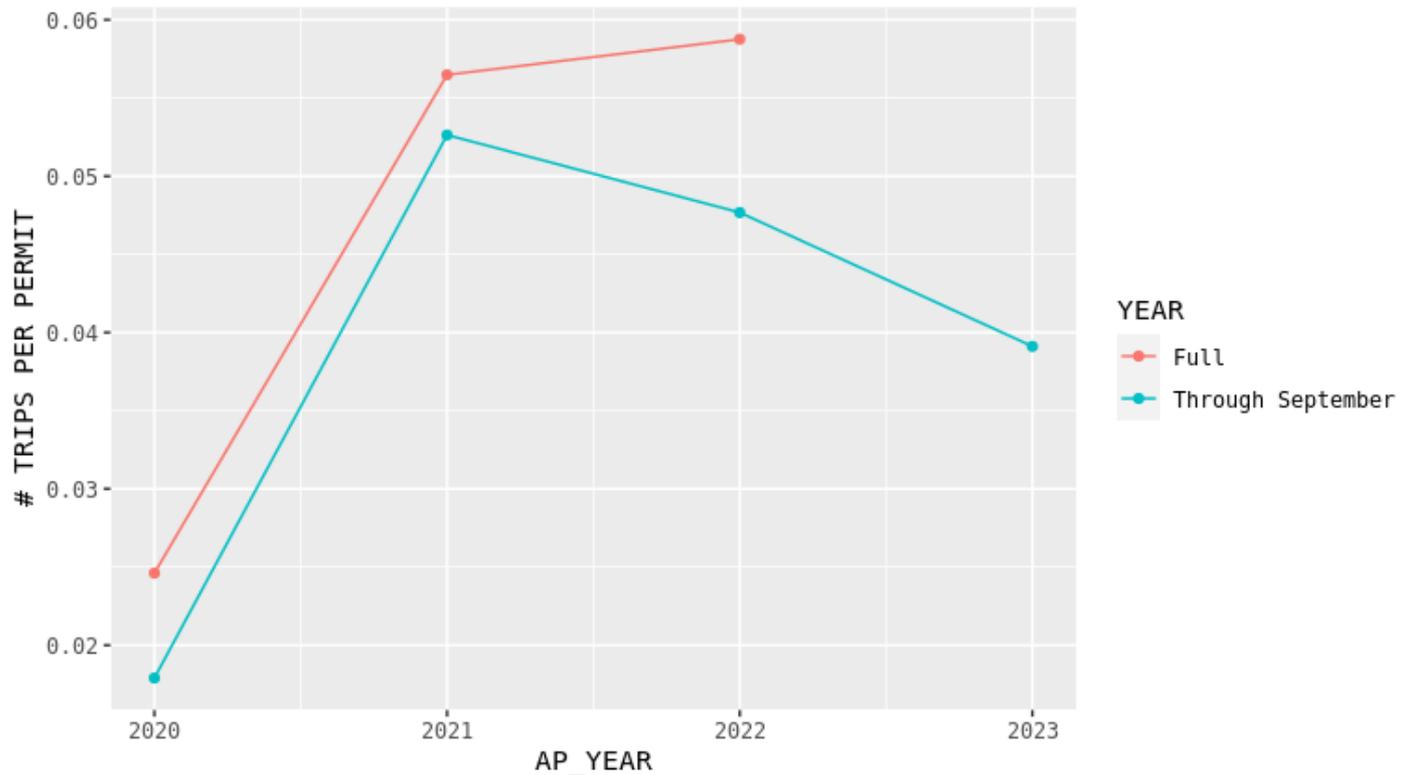
## Number of Private Recreational Tilefish Trip by Private Recreational Tilefish Permit



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023. Only includes data through mid September of each permit year.



## Number of Private Recreational Tilefish Trip by Private Recreational Tilefish Permit



\*Data pulled from CAMS and Permit database on 9/25/2023.

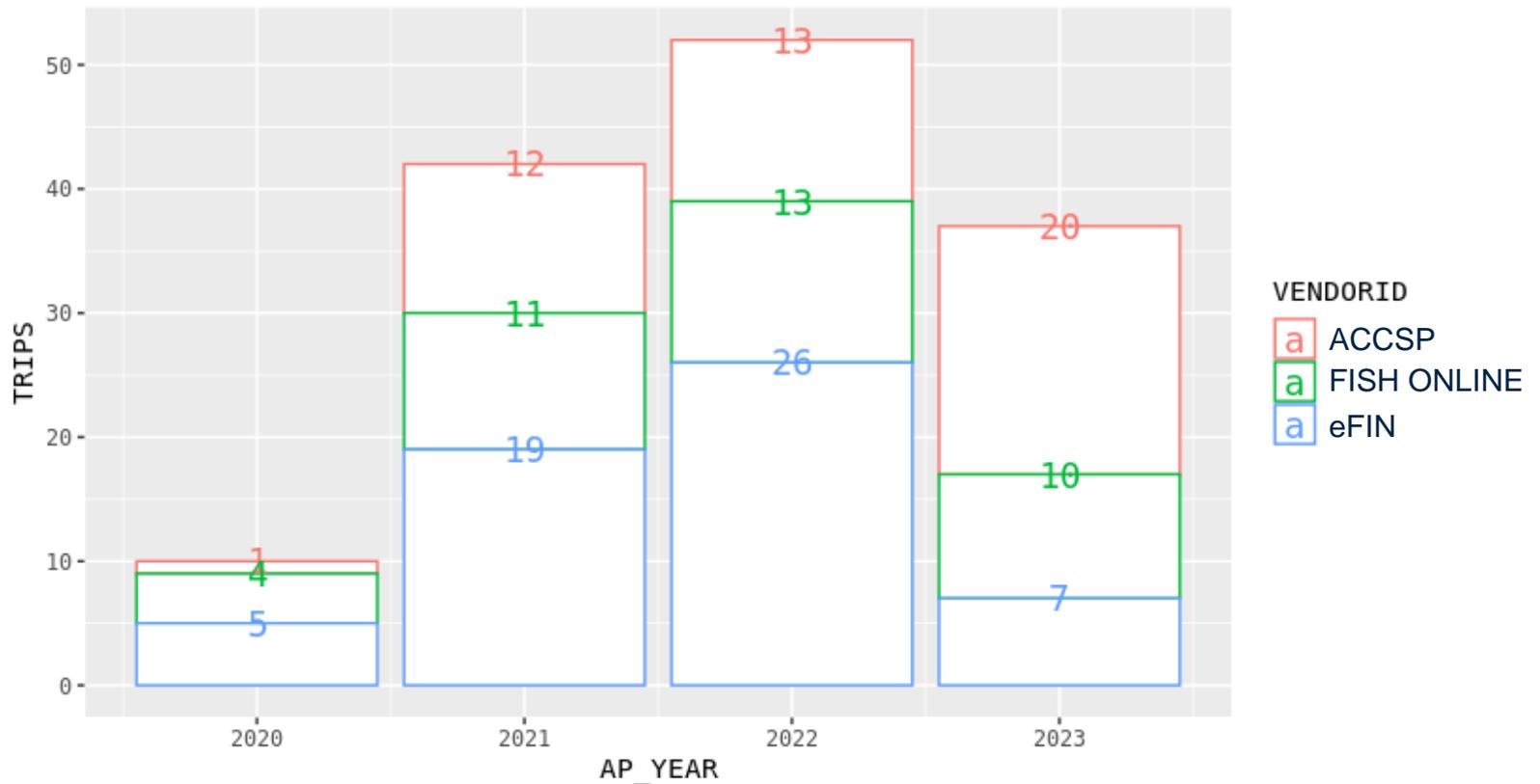


## **Private Recreational Permit Denials**

- Four vessels (2 in 2022 and 2 in 2023) had their renewal application held up temporarily because they were in non-compliance with their commercial VTRs.
- GARFO requires that an applicant (both initial and renewal) provide certain information and to have a valid State Reg or USCG Documentation.
- GARFO does not track the number of applications that are not accepted because someone did not have a State Reg or Coast Guard Documentation.



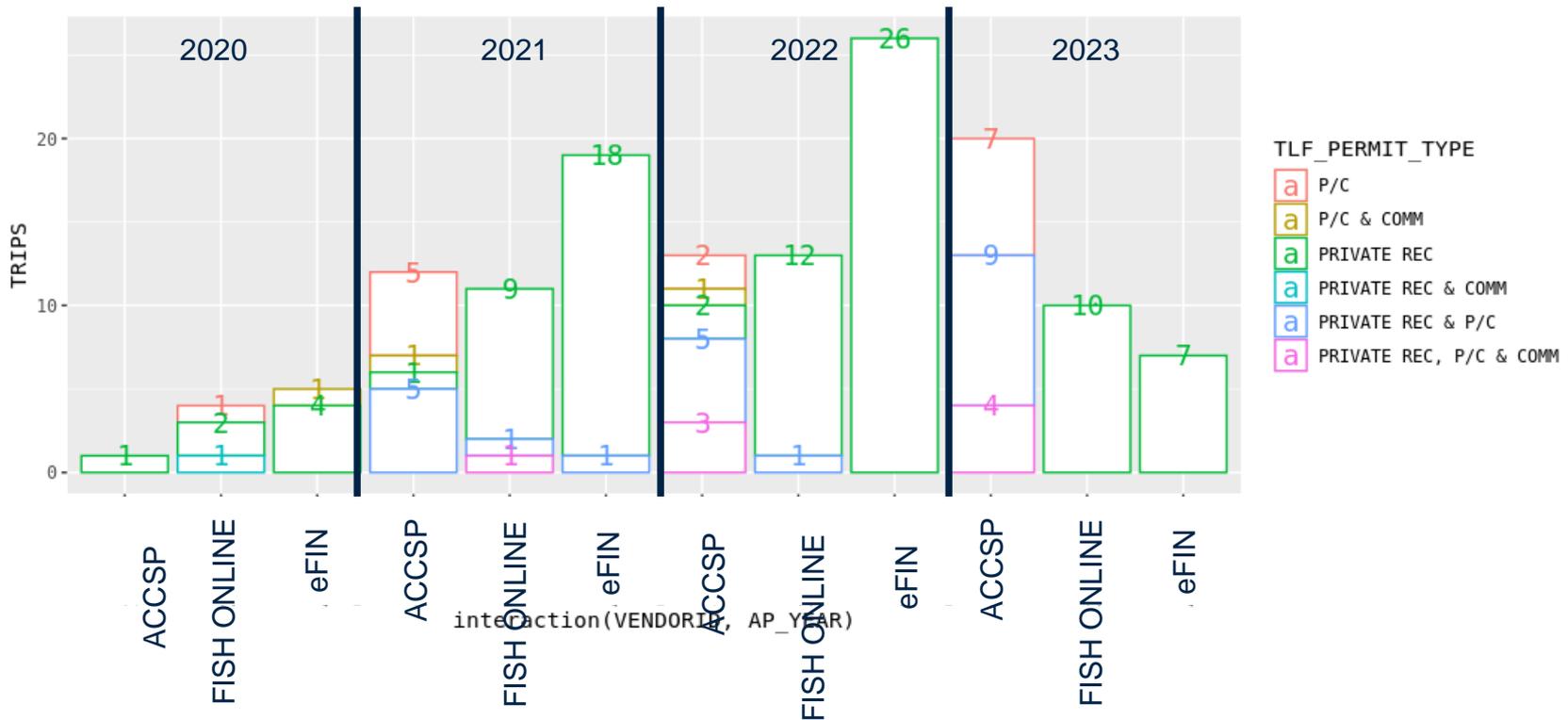
## Number of Private Recreational Tilefish Trips by a Vessel's Tilefish Permit Combination and Vendor ID (2020 – 2023)



\*Data pulled from CAMS, Permit database and FISHTANK on 9/25/2023.



## Number of Private Recreational Tilefish Trips by a Vessel's Tilefish Permit Combination and Vendor ID (2020 – 2023)



\*Data pulled from CAMS, Permit database and FISHTANK on 9/25/2023.



## Software Issues

- Emailed eFIN to inquire about software issues and status of 2023 private recreational tilefish trips.
- From eFIN, *“We have not had any issues with the eFin software. Any updates needed are handled on our side and new releases can be pushed into the store when needed. It has been a stable app without any known issues. “There is no lag from when the user puts in the trip to submit it to when it is seen by GARFO”.*



## Takeaways

- Number of annual private recreational tilefish permits beginning to plateau in 2023.
- Trips reported per permit and number of active permits may have decreased in 2023.
- Could signal a decrease with rec anglers submitting their VTRs, but many other factors.



## Takeaways

- Private recreational VTRs provide information at the same scale (trip) we have commercial VTRs summarized (CAMS\_VTR\_REC/CFG\_VTR\_UOM).
- VTR reporting rates are unknown, so it is difficult to know the true total number of trips and number of tilefish landed.
- Estimating i) VTR reporting rates or ii) the number of landed tilefish using alternative methods (e.g., based on survey data) might provide more accurate estimates of the number of tilefish trips/number of landed tilefish.
- Alternative methods, could come with the tradeoff of losing trip level data.

# Communication and Outreach

- What we've been working on since October 2022:
  - Overhauled recreational tilefish permitting and reporting web page
  - Obtained contact information for tilefish and HMS permit holders for future targeted outreach efforts
  - Submitted a proposal to ACCSP with Harbor Light to conduct additional outreach efforts and add eFIN meta data collection improvements
  - Looking into hiring a contractor to develop new outreach materials and targeted HMS/Tilefish angler outreach



# Questions?