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Established in 1939 and originally housed in the American Museum of Natural History, the IGFA is a nonprofit and non-governmental organization committed to the conservation of game fish and the promotion of responsible, ethical angling practices through science, education, rulemaking, record keeping and recognition of outstanding accomplishments in the field of angling. Currently the IGFA has members in over 100 countries with official IGFA Representatives in 65 countries.

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research and advocacy policy work, especially regarding billfish species which include marlin, sailfish and spearfish. Billfish research and conservation is of primary importance to the IGFA evidenced by our flagship research program, the IGFA Great Marlin Race, has deployed over 560 satellite tags in 24 countries on 7 species of billfish to track their

The economic impact of the recreational billfish fishery is significant in Costa Rica. A study performed in 2008 by the University of Costa Rica found sportfishing contributed approximately \$599.1 million to the national economy. The study also found that the recreational billfish fishery is a significant source of income for the local economy.

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