



Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program

NEWS RELEASE

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ACCSP Announces 2012 Funding Awards

Arlington, VA - The Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP), a state and federal partnership for marine fisheries data collection and data management, has allocated nearly \$2 million to its state and federal partners for new and ongoing projects to improve data collection for coastal fisheries in 2012. The following projects will be awarded funding:

- The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission will be awarded \$245,084 for an observer program for the Mid-Atlantic (New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia) and Rhode Island small mesh otter trawls;
- The ASMFC will also receive \$133,466 in conjunction with the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council to work on an extension for the observer program for the Mid-Atlantic small mesh otter trawls;
- The Southeast Fisheries Science Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will receive \$236,440 to process and age biological samples collected from the U.S. South Atlantic commercial and recreational fisheries in response to ACCSP bio-target samples;
- Maine Department of Marine Resources will receive \$233,622 for to continue to manage dealer and harvester reporting in Maine;
- Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries will receive \$76,050 to continue collecting trip-level reports for all Massachusetts commercial permit holders;
- Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management will receive \$99,379 to maintain and coordinate fisheries dependent data feeds to ACCSP from the state of Rhode Island;
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center will jointly receive \$178,584 to further develop biological characterization and implementation of the Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS) for the commercial fisheries in New Jersey;
- North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries will receive \$41,500 to update angler contact information for grandfathered license holders in North Carolina;
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources will receive \$186,558 to continue instituting a collection method for ACCSP commercial module in South Carolina;
- The Recreational Technical Committee of the ACCSP will receive 1) \$128,468 to increase intercept sampling levels for the Marine Recreational Information Program, for-hire methodology of the charter boat fishery on the Atlantic coast (New Hampshire through Florida) and 2) \$159,573 to increase at sea sampling levels for the for-hire survey headboat fishery on the Atlantic coast (New Hampshire through Florida).

For more information contact Ann McElhatton, Outreach Coordinator with ACCSP, at info@accsp.org or 703.842.0780.

About ACCSP

ACCSP is a cooperative state-federal program to design, implement, and conduct marine fisheries statistics data collection programs and to integrate those data into a single data management system that will meet the needs of fishery managers, scientists, and fishermen. It is composed of representatives from natural resource management agencies coastwide, including the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the three Atlantic fishery management councils, the 15 Atlantic states, the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, the D.C. Fisheries and Wildlife Division, NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. For further information please visit www.accsp.org.