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New York Anglers to use Electronic Logbooks

Arlington, VA, March 13, 2013 – Recreational anglers in New York are now able to enter their logbook information electronically using a web-based reporting application of the Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS). The application, known as eLogbook, was developed and integrated into SAFIS by the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics (ACCSP), a state and federal partnership for Atlantic coastal fisheries data collection and data management, at the request of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC).

The eLogbook application collects data from private recreational anglers on a voluntary basis. A logbook is an invaluable tool to anglers since it can provide a way to narrow their strategies for any given set of conditions. The electronic logbook will be a more efficient way for anglers to take a look at the past and save the daily entries of logbook information. This application provides the ability to retrieve reports about what species of fish you caught for the year, how many you kept and released, where you fished, what gears you used and more. Staff of NYS DEC will also now have the ability to analyze catch data more quickly and accurately. Anglers can use the electronic logbook for free and enjoy its features, while at the same time they will be helping the NYS DEC to get a better picture of the reality of what's going on with recreational species.

New York is the sixth state on the Atlantic coast to start using the logbook. It is also the first state to utilize dynamic instructions and fields based on what region the angler was fishing. For example, if an angler was fishing on the Hudson River no questions about sharks would be asked, whereas, a trip on a reef would. New Jersey began using the electronic logbook to report striped bass in January of 2008. Massachusetts has expanded the application to report over 30 species in May of 2009. Rhode Island and Maryland released their versions in 2010. Delaware began using eLogbooks in March of 2011.

For more information on the New York implementation of the eLogbook application please contact Julia Socrates at jbsocrat@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

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About the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program

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, National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. For further information please visit www.accsp.org.