



*Atlantic Coastal Cooperative
Statistics Program*
NEWS RELEASE

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ACCSP Announces 2015 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 2015. The following projects will be awarded funding.

- Maine Department of Marine Resources will receive 1) \$176,373 to continue the state's management of dealer and harvester reporting and 2) \$136,306 to continue portside commercial catch sampling and comparative bycatch sampling for Atlantic herring, Atlantic mackerel, and Atlantic menhaden.
- New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game will receive \$74,423 to improve the American lobster biological and catch/effort data for Georges Bank and characterize seasonal egg aggregation in Closed Area II.
- Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife will receive \$79,719 to maintain and coordinate its fishery-dependent data feeds to ACCSP.
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will receive \$62,928 to improve trip-level reporting and quota monitoring for state license participants in New York's marine fisheries.
- New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife will receive \$155,126 to continue electronic reporting and biological characterization of its commercial fisheries and process and age summer flounder and black sea bass otoliths.
- North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries will receive \$75,620 to update and enhance the data transmission methods to ACCSP.
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources will receive \$165,824 to continue instituting a collection method for ACCSP commercial module in South Carolina.
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will receive \$183,200 to continue carrying out an observer program for the Mid-Atlantic and Rhode Island small mesh otter trawl fishery.
- NOAA Fisheries' Southeast Fisheries Science Center will receive \$250,831 to continue processing and ageing biological samples collected from U.S. South Atlantic commercial and recreational fisheries.
- ACCSP Recreational Technical will receive \$168,738 to increase at sea sampling levels for the recreational headboat fishery on the Atlantic coast (New Hampshire through Florida).

For more information on any of these projects please contact Ann McElhatton, Program Manager 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.