

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Region
State, Federal & Constituent Programs Office



FINAL REPORT

Grantee: ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Project No: 3-IJ-156

Grant No: NA97FI0040

Project Title: INTERJURISDICTIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Period Covered: 03/01/99 - 02/29/00

Prepared by: _____

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Date: JUNE 29, 2000

Statutory Funding Authority: ☐ Anadromous Fish Conservation Act (P.L. 89-304)
☐ Chesapeake Bay Studies
☐ Endangered Species Act
☒ Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act (Title III of P.L. 99-659)
☐ Magnuson Act
☐ Oyster Disease Research
☐ Saltonstall-Kennedy
☐ Unallied Industry Projects
☐ Unallied Science Projects
☐ ACFCMA

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Final Report
Grant Number NA97FIO040
Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Planning

Period of Performance: March 1, 1999 - February 29, 2000

Period Covered by this Report: March 1, 1999 – February 29, 2000

This grant was received by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission pursuant to the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986, Section 308(c) to assist the Commission in coordinating cooperative fisheries management among the Atlantic Coast states. The goal of the grant, *Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Planning*, is to manage, enhance, restore, and maintain the shared fisheries of the Atlantic Coast, with principal emphasis on the conservation and restoration of migratory marine and diadromous fishery resources and their habitat, as well as the maintenance, enhancement, and improvement of public uses and benefits from these resources, including seafood production, recreation and commerce.

The objectives established to meet this goal are:

- 1) To determine the priority issues in interstate fisheries management, including the need for habitat conservation;
- 2) Develop, review, and monitor the implementation and enforcement of interstate fisheries management plans;
- 3) Recommend to the states, and where appropriate, Regional Fisheries Management Councils and U.S. Government Agencies, strategies and activities to benefit interstate fisheries;
- 4) Conduct and coordinate research and monitoring essential to the preparation, implementation, and revision of interstate fisheries management plans;
- 5) Improve outreach to the various segments of the fisheries community in order to promote public participation in fisheries management;
- 6) Provide administrative support, including clerical, bookkeeping, and technical oversight to accomplish the above objectives.

The overall policy-setting and program monitoring responsibility is carried out by the Commission's Interstate Fisheries Management Program (ISFMP) Policy Board, with assistance from the Advisory Committee. This grant has provided funding for the salary of the ISFMP Program Director, administrative and clerical assistance and travel for the Policy Board and Advisory Committee.

The ISFMP Director provides guidance and support to the staff during development or revision of the Commission's 22 fishery management plans (FMPs) and works to improve the cooperative interstate fisheries management process with federal, regional fishery management councils, conservation organizations, and public stakeholders. The two major avenues for accomplishing this are making the ISFMP process more efficient and enhancing outreach with the public and other organizations involved in fisheries management.

Activities during this progress report period are as follows:

- ◆ Program Director participated in regular meetings of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council to maximize cooperation between the Council and Commission planning efforts. The Commission and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council have 2 joint management plans. The Council's meetings were held:

1999

- March - Charleston, SC
- June - Key West, FL
- September - Charleston, SC
- November - Wrightsville Beach, NC

- ◆ Program Director or Executive Director participated in regular meetings of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council to maximize cooperation between the Council and Commission planning efforts. The Commission and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council have 4 joint management plans. These meetings were held:

1999

- March - Claymont, DE
- April - Atlantic City, NJ
- June - Norfolk, VA
- August - Philadelphia, PA
- October - Kill Devils Hill, NC
- November - Secaucus, NJ (special meeting)
- December - Ocean City, MD

2000

- February - Alexandria, VA

- ◆ Program Director or Executive Director participated in regular meetings of the New England Fishery Management Council to maximize cooperation between the Council and Commission planning efforts. These meetings were held:

1999

- April - Providence, RI
- May - Plymouth, MA
- July - Portland, ME
- August - Hyannis, MA

- November - Gloucester, MA

- ◆ Program Director met with NMFS Habitat staff to continue discussing the implications of the Magnuson Act on ASMFC FMPs and how to include habitat concerns and information in FMPs.
- ◆ Grant funds were used to support Commissioner attendance at the Spring 1999 meeting and at the 58th Annual Meeting of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, at which the more formal business of the Commission occurs. Among the meetings that occurred was the ISFMP Policy Board which provides overall guidance to the Commission's planning process as defined in the ISFMP Charter. The briefing books for the Spring 1999 and for the Annual Meeting were previously submitted.
- ◆ At the request of the ISFMP Policy Board Chair, staff developed the *Fishery Management Plan Status Report* (previously submitted), a document that summarizes for each FMP (1) states with an interest in the fishery, (2) current status, (3) workplan, (4) current issues, (5) actions for the coming year, and (6) compliance criteria. The FMP Status Report is written to provide one document that Commissioners, others involved in the ASMFC planning process, and interested members of the public can reference for background information and planning. It is not intended to be the full text of compliance criteria; those seeking compliance language should refer to individual fishery management plans or the 1999 *Schedule for Compliance with ASFMC Fishery Management Plans*. This document will be updated semi-annually to maximize its use to people involved in the fishery management planning process.