



# ACCSP Coordinating Council

ASMFC Annual Meeting  
Annapolis, MD  
1:15 – 2:45 pm | October 21, 2024

Chair: Jason McNamee  
Vice-Chair: Kathy Knowlton  
Staff: Geoff White

*Our vision is to be the principal source of fisheries-dependent information  
on the Atlantic coast through the cooperation of all program partners.*



# Council Consent

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Proceedings from April 2024

# Public Comment





# Consider FY2025 ACCSP Project and Administrative Proposals

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# Comparison Rankings of Maintenance Projects

Operations Committee Ranking	Advisors Ranking
<p><b>FY24: Managing 100% Lobster Harvester Reporting in Maine (YR4)</b></p>	<p><b>Electronic Trip-Level Reporting for the Potomac River Fisheries Commission Commercial Fisheries Sector (YR5)</b></p>
<p><b>Electronic Trip-Level Reporting for the Potomac River Fisheries Commission Commercial Fisheries Sector (YR5)</b></p>	<p><b>FY25: North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data” (YR2)</b></p>
<p><b>FY25: North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data” (YR2)</b></p>	<p><b>FY24: Managing 100% Lobster Harvester Reporting in Maine (YR4)</b></p>



# Comparison Rankings of New Projects

Operations Committee Ranking		Advisors Ranking	
Pilot test of recreational released catch cards into the sampling design of the MRIP APAIS	ACCSP RTC	Vessel Tracking Data and Program Management Improvements	RI DEM, MA DMF, NH FGD, ME DMR
Vessel Tracking Data and Program Management Improvements	RI DEM, MA DMF, NH FGD, ME DMR	Expanding the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation's Black Sea Bass Research Fleet into the Gulf of Maine	ME DMR
FY25: Enhancing Recruitment & Retention for the SAFMC Release Citizen Science Project	SAFMC	Pilot test of recreational released catch cards into the sampling design of the MRIP APAIS	ACCSP RTC
Port Sampling for the Maine Halibut Fishery	ME DMR	Port Sampling for the Maine Halibut Fishery	ME DMR
Expanding the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation's Black Sea Bass Research Fleet into the Gulf of Maine	ME DMR	Building A Modernized Framework For Anadromous Creel Surveys	NCDMF
Building A Modernized Framework For Anadromous Creel Surveys	NCDMF	FY25: Enhancing Recruitment & Retention for the SAFMC Release Citizen Science Project	SAFMC
Recreational fisheries data collection through crowd-sourced citizen science, remote sensing and emerging AI technology via the GotOne fishing app	NEFSC	Pilot Observer Program for Rhode Island State Waters Trawl and Fish Pot Fisheries	RI DEM
Pilot Observer Program for Rhode Island State Waters Trawl and Fish Pot Fisheries	RI DEM	Enhancing and modernizing recreational fisheries data collection through crowd-sourced citizen science, remote sensing and emerging AI technology via the GotOne fishing app	NEFSC

# ACCSP FY2025 Funding Summary

**Total expected (level)                      \$3,500,000**

ACCSP Admin proposal                      @ \$2,353,179

3 Maintenance proposals                      @ \$ 602,716

8 New project proposals                      @ \$1,063,203

**Total proposed                                      @ \$4,019,098**



# Average Ranking of Maintenance Projects



## FY2025 Proposal Rankings (Combined)

	Admin Grant	2,353,179	+	NOAA charge \$44,423	=	Total Admin 2,397,602
3.35M	Maint @ 75%	714,299		New @ 25%		238,100
3.50M	Maint @ 75%	826,799		New @ 25%		275,600

Project Name	Partner	Score	Cost	Cumulative Cost	3.5M Amt Remaining
FY24: Managing 100% Lobster Harvester Reporting in Maine (YR4)	ME DMR	8.54	\$ 315,352	\$ 315,352	\$ 511,447
Electronic Trip-Level Reporting for the Potomac River Fisheries Commission Commercial Fisheries Sector (YR5)	PRFC	8.22	\$ 142,344	\$ 457,696	\$ 369,103
FY25: North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data" (YR2)	NC DMF	7.66	\$ 145,020	\$ 602,716	\$ 224,083

- All proposals supported
- Note Maine reduced indirect costs
- Maintenance Proposals are 58% of \$1.03M project funds (below 75% split)



# Average Ranking of New Projects @ \$3.5M



## FY2025 Proposal Rankings (Combined)

	Admin Grant	2,353,179	+	NOAA charge \$44,423	=	Total Admin 2,397,602
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Project Name	Partner	Score	Cost	Cumulative Cost	3.5M Amt Remaining
Pilot test of recreational released catch cards into the sampling design of the MRIP APAIS	ACCSP RTC	53.50	\$ 202,487	\$ 202,487	\$ 297,195
Vessel Tracking Data and Program Management Improvements: Expansion of Vessel Tracking Data Access Controls and Upgrading the SAFIS Vessel Tracking Application	RI DEM, MA DMF, NH FGD, ME DMR	53.20	\$ 108,000	\$ 310,487	\$ 189,195
FY25: Enhancing Recruitment & Retention for the SAFMC Release Citizen Science Project	SAFMC	48.89	\$ 137,356	\$ 447,843	\$ 51,839
Expanding the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation's Black Sea Bass Research Fleet into the Gulf of Maine	ME DMR	48.34	\$ 57,580	\$ 505,423	\$ (5,741)
Port Sampling for the Maine Halibut Fishery	ME DMR	48.26	\$ 30,336	\$ 535,759	\$ (36,077)
Building A Modernized Framework For Anadromous Creel Surveys and Scoping Improvements to Legacy Data Collection Systems	NCDMF	46.84	\$ 162,000	\$ 697,759	\$ (198,077)
Enhancing and modernizing recreational fisheries data collection through crowd-sourced citizen science, remote sensing and emerging AI technology via the GotOne fishing app	NEFSC	41.00	\$ 200,000	\$ 897,759	\$ (398,077)
Pilot Observer Program for Rhode Island State Waters Trawl and Fish Pot Fisheries	RI DEM	40.46	\$ 165,444	\$ 1,063,203	\$ (563,521)





# Operations and Advisory Committee consensus on average rankings:

- Recommend all Maintenance proposals and the Administrative budget should be funded in full.
- Recommend support new proposals by the average rankings with the suggestions below.
  - Fund the top three (3) projects. It should be noted that the “FY25: Enhancing Recruitment & Retention for the SAFMC Release Citizen Science Project” project was not ranked as highly by the Advisors.
  - The Operations and Advisors Committees both agree that the following projects, *listed in priority order*, should be funded.
    1. “Expanding the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation’s Black Sea Bass Research Fleet into the Gulf of Maine”
    2. “Port Sampling for the Maine Halibut Fishery”



# Average Ranking of New Projects @ \$3.5M



## FY2025 Proposal Rankings (Combined)

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## Points for consideration:

- Entering 5<sup>th</sup> year of cooperative agreement
- Support 4 projects up to expected \$3.5M?
- Support all 5 projects finding \$36K?
- Consider 'reserve' for uncertain future



# FY2025 Proposal Funding Action:

Address proposals for action as three motions

1. Consider Administrative proposal
2. Consider Maintenance proposals
3. Consider New proposals



# ACCSP Funding Subcommittee:

## Update Membership

- ASMFC & NOAA
- Council Chair & 2 coastal reps
- Operations Chair & 2 coastal reps
- Advisor
- ACCSP Staff

## Winter Meeting Draft Agenda

1. Discuss revised scoring beyond Catch-Effort/Bio
2. Discuss future balance of projects and Admin tasks





# Program Updates

*Our vision is to be the principal source of fisheries-dependent information on the Atlantic coast through the cooperation of all program partners.*

# 2024 Action Plan – Completed items

## SAFIS

- Implemented expanded at-entry quality control checks on SAFIS eTRIPS submissions
- Extended One Stop Trip Reporting across Federal permits
- Supported collection and management of spatial data (e.g., American lobster trip locations)
- Launched the SciFish mobile application and project builder for standardized citizen science data collection

## Data Distribution and Use

- Established new biological data feeds for NC
- Provided validated commercial landings data for Commission stock assessments (American lobster, Atlantic croaker, Atlantic herring, Atlantic striped bass, ERP species, and red drum) and SEDAR process (red snapper, cobia, gag grouper, blueline tilefish, golden tilefish)



# 2025 Action Plan – Ongoing Tasks

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

- Commissions, Councils, FIS, MRIP, NOAA Science Centers

## **SAFIS**

- Develop and implement modernized dealer reporting application and data processing by January 2026
- Extend One Stop Reporting initiative (e.g., convene workshop on state requirements)

## **Recreational Surveys**

- Continue to develop and seek certification of for-hire methodology for logbook estimates of catch and effort with dockside validation



# 2025 Action Plan – New Tasks

## SAFIS

- Extend One Stop Reporting initiative (e.g., convene workshop on state requirements)

## Recreational Surveys

- Support recreational data collection pilot projects (e.g., discard catch cards, Large Pelagic Pilot Survey)

## Standards

- Define data consolidation standards and presentation for released catch, discards, and at-sea observer data across dealer, trip, and citizen science records





# 2025 Action Plan – New Tasks

## Data Distribution and Use

- Provide validated commercial landings data for Commission stock assessments (croaker, horseshoe crab ARM, spot, and tautog) and SEDAR process (coastal sharks and dolphin)
- Create a biological data load schedule, establish additional partner feeds, and create Data Warehouse queries for biological data linked to collection program details and metadata
- Expand Data Warehouse content, with emphasis on presentation of **recreational directed trips and catch frequency**



# 2025 Action Plan – New Tasks

## Outreach and Infrastructure

- Improve IT hosting scalability to address increased data demands
- Promote and support communication of ACCSP activities by committee members within their agencies
- Create a richer, more engaging ACCSP website that is easy to navigate and provides valuable information to users



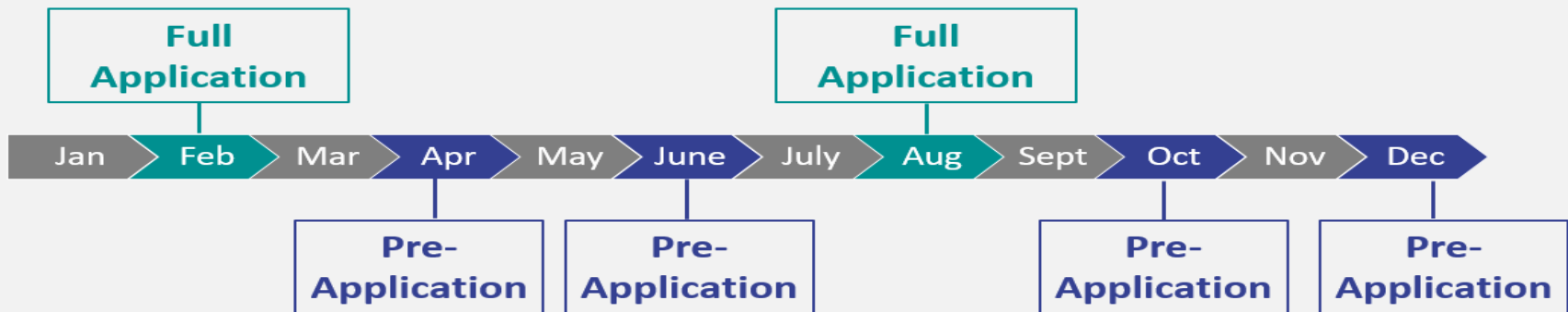
# Highlight: Solicitation of New Advisors

DEE LUPTON - Chair	NC
KEVIN BOSWELL	FL
GORDON FORD	MD-COM
ELLEN GOETHEL	NH-COM
FRANCINE KARP	RI-REC
JERRY MORGAN	CT-REC
PETER RANDALL	RI-COM
WALT VIESER	MD-REC



# Highlight: SciFish

- Project builder & application launched
- Two (2) new projects are in the approval process



- PSMFC & GSMFC interested in hosting SciFish architecture for their partner agencies



# Highlight: Atlantic Recreational Discards Pilot Project

ACCSP Recreational Technical Committee (RTC)  
developed with MRIP guidance (7 states in pilot)

- Goals:
  - Analyze for potential of digit and recall bias in current APAIS methodology for discards
  - Collect additional lengths of released fish, especially for managed species for use in stock assessment processes
- Presented and well received at GSMFC Workshop on Released Catch methods – Gulf developing a similar proposal via IRA RFP



# MRIP data collection in unsampled waves

## For-Hire Telephone Survey (FHTS)

- Possible with existing staff and budget
- **Maryland through Georgia planning 2025**

## Fishing Effort Survey (FES) – Private anglers

- Dependent upon funding and FES contract scope
- **Potential for 2026, state range unknown\***

## APAIS Dockside Intercepts

- Dependent upon increased staffing & funding
- Developing criteria based on level of effort
- Supports for-hire logbook methodology
- Unknown implementation

**\*Contact ACCSP with State interest**



# Data Collection Initiatives

eTRIPS  
Validations  
(December  
2024)

Biological  
Data  
Loads &  
Display

eDR  
redesign  
(January  
2026)

For-Hire  
Logbooks  
&  
Dockside  
sampling

One Stop  
Reporting -  
state needs  
(December  
2025)

Charter  
Observer  
Data  
(NC-GA)

Registration  
Tracking  
(ongoing  
into 2026)







# Coordinating Council Elections

Congratulations to:

Kathy Knowlton – Chair

Nominations for Vice-Chair

Thank you, Jason!



# ASMFC 2025 Action Plan for consideration at Business Session October 23

## Adjourn

