



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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*Joseph Cimino (NJ), Chair*

*Dan McKiernan (MA), Vice-Chair*

*Robert E. Beal, Executive Director*

*Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries*

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### **FISHERIES SPECIALIST – VENTLESS TRAP SURVEY SCIENTIST**

**VACANCY #: 24-001**

*Location:* Jamestown, RI

*Closing Date:* 01/15/2024

*Annual Salary:* \$58,532

(plus full benefits)

### **General Description**

Working directly with Rhode Island (RI) Department of Environmental management's (DEM) Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF), the Fisheries Specialist will be responsible for coordinating and executing an ongoing lobster ventless trap survey in Rhode Island state waters. The objective of the survey is to assess lobster and Jonah crab along a wind farm cable route before, during, and after cable installation. In collaboration with commercial fishermen, the Fisheries Specialist is expected to lead the survey which includes but not limited to preparing field equipment, leading field surveys, analyzing data and reporting out on findings.

### **Duties**

1. Prepare, coordinate, and conduct a lobster ventless trap survey aboard commercial fishing vessels that evaluates the relative abundance and population characteristics of lobster, Jonah crab, and bycatch.
2. Assess lobster and Jonah crab movement in and around the cable route and adjacent areas using conventional tagging methods.
3. Maintain an acoustic receiver array for monitoring acoustically-tagged animals moving through the survey area.
4. Work with external partners, such as commercial fishermen, in coordinating and scheduling the field survey.
5. Manage and analyze various data types as part of the project, including field, biological, acoustic, and oceanographic data streams.
6. Report on findings from the research via technical reports and peer-reviewed, and present study findings at scientific conferences and public meetings with stakeholders and partners.
7. Mentor and help coordinate seasonal staff, interns, and volunteers during field surveys, as needed.
8. Perform additional related duties as assigned.

### **Qualifications**

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree in a science field (e.g., Marine Biology, Biology, Natural Resources, or a related field) and experience conducting biological sampling in the field, recording data, and writing reports. Applicants should have experience working aboard research or fishing vessels and will be expected to spend many days in the field. Applicants must have proven project management skills, as well as experience in data analysis, technical writing, and public speaking. The applicant must have the ability to manage multiple tasks, a general knowledge of common software applications (e.g.,

Word, Excel), and a valid driver's license. They must be able to work collaboratively with various partners, such as the commercial fishing industry and wind development entities.

Preferred qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in a marine science-related discipline and 2 years of related experience in the marine science field, a graduate degree and 1 year of experience, or an equivalent combination. Prior experience conducting field-based crustacean, fish, and shellfish research, and/or monitoring work, and knowledge and experience with fisheries biology, research, and management techniques. Expertise in biological statistics and data analysis (e.g., ecological models including generalized linear mixed models). The ability to work independently with minimal supervision, manage and prioritize multiple project components, and complete tasks independently concerning timelines. Prior experience conducting cooperative research with the fishing industry is preferred. Strong communication via written, spoken, and graphical means. Knowledge and experience managing survey data, experience conducting statistical analyses with R, adept at managing and displaying spatial data using GIS software, and a record of producing scientific reports and peer-reviewed publications.

### **Locations, Supervision, and Hours**

The Fisheries Specialist will be stationed at the DMF headquarters, located in Jamestown, Rhode Island. Work will be performed in both office and field settings, which may include working in variable weather conditions, at remote locations in and on the water, outside of normal business hours, and under physically demanding circumstances. It is expected that the applicant will be based in RI or nearby due to the scope of work, with teleworking eligibility to be guided by the RI DMF's teleworking policy.

The Fisheries Specialist reports directly to the DMF's Supervising Biologist. The incumbent is expected to exercise initiative in addressing the needs of field data collection and other areas of responsibility.

This position is a 12-month full-time contract that may be extended up to five years, based on performance and funding. This position is not qualified for overtime. Compensatory time and flexible working hours (with supervisory approval) are available under the Commission's policies; however, the Fisheries Specialist is a salaried employee, and is expected to work seven (7) hours/day, five (5) days/week. U.S. citizenship is required.

### **Application Process**

Please email a resume and cover letter referencing the vacancy number **(24-001)** to Human Resources, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, 1050 N. Highland Street; Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, VA 22201 ([asmfc-jobs@asmfc.org](mailto:asmfc-jobs@asmfc.org)) by the closing date of January 15, 2024. The vacancy number **(24-001)** must be identified in the subject line.

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Organization Profile: The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) is comprised of the 15 Atlantic coast states under the terms of an interstate compact approved in 1942. The purpose of the Commission, as set forth by Article I of its Compact, is: To promote the better utilization of the fisheries, marine, shell, and diadromous, of the Atlantic seaboard by the promotion and protection of such fisheries. As an instrumentality of the 15 Atlantic coastal states, the Commission is employed to coordinate the conservation and management of nearshore migratory fishery resources.

The Commission is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer and welcomes all qualified applicants regardless of age, sex, color, race, creed, national origin, religious persuasion, marital status, political belief, sexual preference, disability, or any other legally protected status. ASMFC is unable to sponsor applicants for work visas.

If you have a disability and need assistance applying for this position, you may call the ASMFC Human Resources office at (703) 842-0740 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. ET, Monday – Friday. Reasonable accommodations for interviews will be provided upon request to individuals with disabilities.