

RESOLUTION 93-2

Need to Remediate the Dumping of Contaminated Dredge Spoils in all Atlantic Marine Waters

WHEREAS the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, made up of three representatives from each of the 15 states bordering the Atlantic Ocean and its tributaries, is concerned with overall management of the fisheries under its jurisdiction and prepares plans and makes recommendations with respect to those fisheries; and,

WHEREAS the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission has met and considered the effect that contaminated sediments, dredged from ports and harbors on the East Coast has upon marine fisheries; and,

WHEREAS dredged sediments may contain contaminants, particularly dioxins, polychlorinated biphenols, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, and heavy metals which adversely affect marine species, marine habitats, and consequently the success of the

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Interstate Fisheries Management Plans; and,

WHEREAS the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is of the opinion that all such contaminated sediments be remediated or decontaminated to the greatest extent possible before allowing reintroduction into the marine environment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission call upon the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Congress, to fund, study, and explore options for treatment and decontamination of dredge spoils in order to remove contaminants to the greatest extent technically feasible, and investigate alternatives to ocean disposal of contaminated materials, with the ultimate goal of ending the disposal of all contaminated dredged material in the Atlantic Ocean; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of each state, the presiding office of each branch of the legislatures of each state, to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and to the members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. *Adopted at the ASMFC Annual Meeting, November 14-18, 1993, Newport, RI.*