

## Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission 2012 Action Plan Progress Report

Description	Progress through 4/30/12	
<b>Goal 1</b>	<b>Regulatory Planning</b>	
Task 1.1	Meeting Weeks	Conducted Winter Meeting and planned Spring Meeting
Task 1.1.1	American Eel	Completed benchmark stock assessment and peer review for presentation at Spring Meeting.
Task 1.1.2	American Lobster	Completed Addendum XVII to achieve a 10% reduction in exploitation for the SNE stock. Developed public comment draft of Addendum XVIII for Board review in May to reduce capacity in LCMAs 2 and 3; Developed terms of reference for Board approval in May for the 2014 benchmark stock assessment.
Task 1.1.3	Atlantic Menhaden	Completed Public Information Document for Amendment 2; Held public hearings; Will present public comment at Spring Meeting; Initiated stock assessment update.
Task 1.1.4	Atlantic Striped Bass	Drafted addendum to incorporate the law enforcement recommendations on tagging commercially harvest fish into the management program; Technical Committee developed comments to Board regarding potential impacts of additional restrictions.
Task 1.1.5	Black Drum	Developed Public Information Document to support development of black drum FMP. Worked with states to populate the Black Drum Technical Committee and Stock Assessment Subcommittee.
Task 1.1.6	Northern Shrimp	Monitored landings and closed the fishery in the middle of February. Ongoing discussions on next steps in shrimp management.
Task 1.1.7	Shad and River Herring	Completed river herring benchmark stock assessment and peer review for presentation at Spring Meeting
Task 1.1.8	Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Sharks	Monitored the development of federal Amendments to respond to recent shark stock assessment and consider catch shares. Facilitated two quota transfers from DE to MD. Drafted spiny dogfish addendum to consider adjusting biological reference points and allow for roll over of unused quota.
Task 1.1.9	Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass	Finalized Addendum XXII to establish 2012 black sea bass recreational measures; finalized the 2012 summer flounder and scup recreational measures; Worked with MAFMC staff on development of Black Sea Bass Amendment 17.
Task 1.1.10	Develop Commission Policy regarding Ecosystem-based Approach to fisheries management	Working with Menhaden Technical Committee and Multispecies Technical Committee to initiate development of ecological reference points for menhaden.
Task 1.2.1	Atlantic Croaker	No Activity
Task 1.2.2	Atlantic Herring	Initiated Addendum V to address inconsistencies and update the spawn herring requirements; Board will consider approval for public comment at the Spring Meeting.
Task 1.2.3	Atlantic Sturgeon	Coordinated initiation of the state response to the ESA listing of Atlantic Sturgeon.
Task 1.2.4	Bluefish	No Activity
Task 1.2.5	Horseshoe Crab	Finalized Addendum VII implementing ARM framework; Developed FMP review and facilitated quota transfer from GA to NC
Task 1.2.6	Red Drum	Reviewed and maintained assessment schedule for 2015 benchmark; discussed development of biological reference points
Task 1.2.7	Spanish Mackerel	Technical Committee reviewed state implementation plans for Omnibus Amendment for Board approval at Spring Meeting
Task 1.2.8	Tautog	Updated the stock assessment to correct for error in input data; Board revised the state reduction requirements to reflect updated assessment (39%)
Task 1.2.9	Weakfish	No Activity
Task 1.2.10	Winter Flounder	No Activity

Task 1.3.1	Review of stock rebuilding performance	No Activity; to be completed in August
Task 1.4.1	Present records of following scientific advice	No Activity
Task 1.5.1	Establish requirements to provide risk and uncertainty estimates for scientific advice.	Management and Science Committee and Assessment Science Committee held initial discussions on how to address tasks and will seek Policy Board direction at Spring Meeting on next steps for developing requirements and guidance to TCs.
Task 1.5.2	Develop policy regarding risk and uncertainty in Councils approaches	No Activity
Task 1.6.1	Standard Bycatch Reporting Methodology	Served on SBRM FMAT to address requirements of federal lawsuit decision.
Task 1.6.2	Bio-sampling goals	
Task 1.6.3	ASMFC Observer Program	Through existing ACCSP project, over 163 observed sea days completed in the small mesh otter trawl fisheries in RI, NJ, MD, and VA, including collection of ageing structures. New observer program ACCSP proposal options developed for Management & Science Committee consideration at April meeting.
Task 1.7.1	Fishing Gear Technology Work Group	No activity
Task 1.7.2	At-sea observer coverage	ASMFC provided input to the review and finalization of the bycatch sampling priority matrix during January 2012 meeting of the ACCSP Bycatch Prioritization Committee.
Task 1.8.1	Work with ACCSP on catch reporting	No activity
Task 1.9.1	Liaison for marine mammal take reduction teams and the NMFS National Sea Turtle Strategy.	Participated in February and April conference calls of the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team to discuss vertical line proposed rules.
Task 1.9.2	Monitor ESA listings	Working with states to respond to the threatened/endangered listing for Atlantic Sturgeon; Continue to monitor review process for river herring and eel.
Task 1.9.3	Law Enforcement Committee best practices	No Activity
Task 1.10.1	Socioeconomic research needs	Ongoing
Task 1.10.2	Socioeconomic data	No activity
Task 1.10.3	Socioeconomic other Commissions/Councils	No activity
Task 1.10.4	Commissioner Socioeconomic Input	Committee on Economics and Social Sciences (CESS) continued development of a Commissioner survey to determine the types of socioeconomic information that are important to the states.
Task 1.10.5	Fishery performance measures for use in stock assessments	No new activity. CESS received the latest report from NEFSC at the most recent CESS meeting in August 2011.
Task 1.11.1	Fish Passage Working Group	No activity.
Task 1.11.2	Prioritize fish passage projects	No activity.
Task 1.11.2.1	Develop database of dams, fishways, and passage studies	No activity.
Task 1.11.3	Guide Fish Passage Technology	No activity.
Task 1.11.4	Coast wide fish passage targets	No activity.
Task 1.11.5	East Coast Fish Passage Plan	No activity.
Task 1.11.6	FERC dam relicensing process	No activity.

Task 1.11.7	Consequences of providing fish passage	No activity.
Task 1.11.8	Fiscal resources for fish passage	Staff maintained contact with National Fish and Wildlife Foundation regarding grants for fish passage. A 2012 'Coastal and Marine Fish Habitat' RFP was forwarded to the states via the Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership.
Task 1.12.1	Regional Fishery Management Council	Participated in Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meetings; Ongoing
Task 1.12.2	Participate on the NRCC and SEDAR	Ongoing
Task 1.12.3	Improve alignment between state and federal management programs	Ongoing
Task 1.12.4	Shad and river herring bycatch evaluation	Reviewed MAFMC Amendment 14 and NEFMC Amendment 5 and developed draft comment for Commissioner consideration at the Spring Meeting.
Task 1.13.1	Continue to track status of stocks	Ongoing, included in FMP reviews and Commission outreach materials
Task 1.13.2	Continue to improve the "Meeting Overview" document	Ongoing
Task 1.13.3	Board discussion on complex management decisions	Decision documents used for Horseshoe Crab Addendum VI; will also be used to focus menhaden discussion
Task 1.13.4	Clear problem statements	Ongoing
Task 1.14.1	Annual Commissioner self-assessment	Reported findings of the 2011 survey to Commissioners at the Winter Meeting
Task 1.15.1	Actively engage American Eel, American Lobster, Atlantic Menhaden, Atlantic Striped Bass, Northern Shrimp, Scup, and Coastal Shark Advisory Panels in the development of FMPs and Amendments	Held meetings of the Atlantic Menhaden, Striped Bass, Northern Shrimp, Shad and River Herring, Atlantic Herring, Horseshoe Crab and Shorebird Advisory Panels have met to provide comment to the management boards.
Task 1.15.2	Communication with non-active advisory panels	Ongoing
Task 1.15.3	Non-traditional constituents	No Activity
Task 1.15.4	South Atlantic Species Advisory Panel represent black drum interests	South Atlantic Board will discuss AP representation at the Spring Meeting.
Task 1.16.1	Support socioeconomic assessments	No activity

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**Goal 2: Cooperative Research**

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Task 2.1	Sound science	
Task 2.1.1	Data needs for stocks of unknown status	Supported SEAMAP and NEAMAP trawl survey data collection for spot, Southern kingfish, and other species with unknown stock status.
Task 2.1.2	Data needs for species with limited data	Coordinated tautog ageing exchange to compare methods and results among states toward improving age data in assessments.
Task 2.1.3	Measurable goals and timelines	Assessment Science Committee evaluated data needs for spot. Bycatch data needed. Management and Science Committee considering grant proposal to characterize spot bycatch.
Task 2.2.1	NEAMAP	

Task 2.2.1 .1	NEAMAP Funding	Ongoing
Task 2.2.1.2	President's request NOAA line item for NEAMAP	Ongoing
Task 2.2.1.3	Nearshore Trawl Surveys	NEAMAP SNE/M-A started Spring 2012 survey. Developed list of potential survey participants from states as a pool to draw personnel from when the survey is in need.
Task 2.2.1.4	Data management plan	Ongoing
Task 2.2.1.5	2012 Operations Plan	Completed by NEAMAP Board February 17
Task 2.2.1.6	Coordinate NEAMAP committee meetings and serve on Federal Trawl Survey Advisory Board	NEAMAP Board held conference call on February 17
Task 2.2.1.7	NEAMAP Website	Continued to revise format of website and updated with new reports
Task 2.2.1.8	Include age information in coast wide workshops/exchanges (see Task 2.4.4)	NEAMAP ageing leads consulted for tautog ageing exchange
Task 2.2.1.9	Track use of NEAMAP data	Continued to track use of data in table developed for NEAMAP SNE/M-A, ME/NH, MA DMF surveys
Task 2.2.1.10	Serving the needs of ASMFC technical committees	NEAMAP Board agreed to form a NEAMAP Analytical Committee which would be comprised of ASMFC TC chairs for species caught in NEAMAP surveys to improve collection of data to address TC needs
Task 2.2.2	SEAMAP-SA	
Task 2.2.2.1	Coordinate all research components	SEAMAP-SA Data Management Workgroup has held four calls to continue development of an Oracle database for SA projects
Task 2.2.2.2	2012 SEAMAP Operations Plan	Completed
Task 2.2.2.3	Expand to include fisheries-independent data coordination	Data Management Workgroup has developed a data scheme to accommodate all data collected through SEAMAP-SA activities and is working to present these data online
Task 2.2.2.4	Coordinate SA activities with Gulf and Caribbean components	Began planning for SEAMAP-SA to host the SEAMAP Annual Meeting with other components in attendance
Task 2.2.2.5	SEAMAP Website	Revised template of website and updated with new reports and data access links
Task 2.2.3	Facilitate invasive species information exchange	No activity
Task 2.2.4	Interstate Tagging Program	No activity
Task 2.2.5	MRIP implementation, progress reports	Reviewed and approved FY12 MRIP proposals. Facilitated MRIP presentations to the Policy Board, Management & Science Committee, and Assessment Science Committee.
Task 2.2.6	MRIP national workshop	State scientists and staff participated in MRIP Calibration Workshop; work to continue throughout 2012
Task 2.2.7	MRIP Angler Registry grants	Continuing to administer MRIP state registry grants and progress reporting.
Task 2.2.8	Winter Tagging Cruise	25th Cooperative Winter Tagging effort completed, ASMFC offered in-kind support
Task 2.2.9	Survey gaps	
Task 2.2.10	FishSmart program	Provided administrative and travel support to Gulf/S Atlantic FishSmart regional workshop.
Task 2.3.1	Coordinate various reviews	Organized and held the peer reviews of American eel and river herring
Task 2.3.2	Benchmark assessments - 2012 and long-term schedule	ASC evaluated the stock assessment schedule and made recommendations on focal species to assess next
Task 2.3.3	Serve as members of various committees	Stock Assessment Scientists serving on several SASCs, including lobster and bluefish.

Task 2.3.4	Develop alternative stock assessment models, prepare for bluefish benchmark stock assessment	No activity
Task 2.3.5	Conduct stock assessment training workshops	Planning underway for intermediate mock assessment workshop covering age-structured model; ASC decided on advanced course for this year to be Introduction to R
Task 2.3.6	New policies/approaches using ASC guidance	Ongoing
Task 2.3.7	Framework for Benchmark Assessments	Revisions underway to update the Benchmark Assessment Framework and Guidance to TCs
Task 2.3.8	Stakeholder participation in data workshops	Staff began revising and updating these guidance documents. Identified volunteers from ASC and MSC to assist.
Task 2.3.9	Spot, Kingfish and Black Drum monitoring Blue Catfish	Worked with Chesapeake Fisheries Goal Implementation Team to establish Invasive Catfish Taskforce.
Task 2.4.1	Research needs by species	No Activity
Task 2.4.2	Participate in MARFIN, MARMAP, etc. to review funding proposals	Reviewed a number of MARFIN and CRP proposals; developed funding recommendations.
Task 2.4.3	Chesapeake Bay Goal Implementation Team and Fisheries Ecosystem Workgroup	Staff participated in monthly calls of the Chesapeake Bay Goal Implementation Team.
Task 2.4.4	Otolith Collection Program and Ageing Workshops	Facilitated tautog age sample exchange among several states.
Task 2.4.5	Develop and publish ageing manual	Ongoing
Task 2.4.6	NFWF and ASMFC regular meetings	No Activity
Task 2.5.1	Multispecies Technical Committee	Multispecies Joint Subcommittee with the Menhaden TC met to update the MSVPA model for use in Menhaden 2012 update
Task 2.5.2	Improve multispecies modeling efforts	Subcommittee developed proposal to incorporate multiple objective decision analysis for development of ecological reference points to be used for menhaden management. Supported work by Jason McNamee to develop a multispecies statistical catch at age model.
Task 2.5.3	Cooperate with state, federal, and university researchers	Worked with VA Tech fisheries science lab and VMRC to outline weakfish stock assessment modeling next steps and costs.
Task 2.6.1	Commission policy regarding ecosystem based approach to fisheries management	No activity
Task 2.6.2	Promote interstate programs	No activity
Task 2.6.3	Develop Commission approach to ecosystem science	Ongoing through support of NEAMAP, SEAMAP, and Chesapeake Bay surveys. Gathering survey data as inputs to the MSVPA and other multispecies/ecosystem models.
Task 2.7.1	Encourage stakeholder attendance at regional assessment processes	Stakeholders invited and encouraged to attend American eel and river herring assessment review workshops.
Task 2.7.2	Track attendance of stakeholders	Ongoing tracking of stakeholders to report to Policy Board.
Task 2.8.1	Increase use of ACCSP data	ACCSP data used in American eel stock assessment.
Task 2.8.2	Create databases for efficient assessment updates	Ongoing. Databases now in place for 6 species - lobster, striped bass, shad, menhaden, red drum, croaker
Task 2.8.3	Present technical committee workload matrix to ISFMP Policy Board	No activity.

Task 2.9.1	Angler-based aged sample collection	Ongoing in multiple states for striped bass and red drum. Evaluating options for bluefish.
Task 2.9.2	Promote angler-based tagging	Redesign of website to promote tagging education and outreach completed
Task 2.10.1	Develop priority list of RSA projects for review	ED serves on MAFMC RSA committee. Provided feedback to ensure ASMFC priorities are considered in 2012
Task 2.10.2	Work with federal partners to ensure completed RSA projects are reviewed and transmitted	Engaged in redesign of Mid-Atlantic RSA Program. ACCSP funded ASMFC observer program designates a number of sea days to be observed via the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program to address bycatch and discard concerns for ASMFC managed species.
Task 2.11.1	ACCSP Coordinating Council and Committees	Participated in various ACCSP Committee meetings - Biological Review and Bycatch Prioritization panels, Commercial Technical Committee, Recreational Technical Committee, Operations Committee. Provided input to revision of the ACCSP Program Design.
Task 2.11.2	ACCSP Independent Program Review	Guided Program Review through development of ToRs and selection of contractor to survey customers.

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**Goal 3: Stakeholder Compliance**

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Task 3.1.1	Fiscal limitations to compliance requirements	Ongoing as part of FMP Reviews
Task 3.1.2	Review effectiveness of the Guidelines for Resource Managers	No Activity
Task 3.1.3	Evaluate enforceability of management options proposed in FMPs	The LEC provided input needed to develop the draft Striped Bass Addendum to improve tracking of commercial harvest. The LEC also commented on American lobster and horseshoe crab pending management decisions.
Task 3.2.1	Report on enforceability of existing FMPs	Ongoing as part of FMP Reviews
Task 3.2.2	Support NMFS Office of Law Enforcement Chief	Provided input to NMFS on proposed OLE enforcement priorities.
Task 3.2.3	Report on enforcement issues with differing regulations	No Activity
Task 3.2.4	Review draft addendum on cancer crab	No Activity
Task 3.2.5	Evaluate states ability to effectively close recreational fisheries	No Activity
Task 3.3.1	Promote interjurisdictional enforcement	Ongoing; LEC will meet at ASMFC Spring Meeting
Task 3.3.2	Work with Council law enforcement advisory committees	State LEC representatives participate in Council law enforcement discussions.
Task 3.3.3	Use of VMS data	No Activity
Task 3.3.4	ASMFC representation Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Law Enforcement Committee	Ongoing
Task 3.3.5	Exchange information to enhance conservation enforcement efforts	Will occur during LEC meeting at ASMFC Spring Meeting
Task 3.3.6	Exchange information and best practices	Ongoing; on agenda for Spring Meeting
Task 3.3.7	Compliance with federal recreational registry requirements	No Activity
Task 3.3.8	Improve state/federal communications	New LEC Coordinator is facilitating increased communication between state and federal enforcement representatives
Task 3.3.9	Review 2012 law enforcement efforts	No Activity
Task 3.3.10	Review of NMFS enforcement priorities	Provided input to NMFS on proposed OLE enforcement priorities.

Task 3.4.1	Forum to display enforcement technologies	Discussion will occur at Spring Meeting
Task 3.4.2	Semi-annual presentation on enforcement actions	Agenda item for Spring Meeting
Task 3.4.3	Share enforcement techniques	Ongoing
Task 3.4.4	Evaluate merits of timely communication for frequent information exchange	Ongoing
Task 3.5.1	Management measures that maximize stakeholder buy-in	No Activity

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#### **Goal 4: Habitat**

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Task 4.1.1	Support of ACFHP	
Task 4.1.1.1	Obtain additional funding	Secured an FY12 Multi-state Conservation Grant to support ACFHP operations
Task 4.1.1.2	Logistical support meetings	Held Spring ACFHP Steering Committee meeting; finalized the FY13 RFP for state restoration project funding.
Task 4.1.2	Support ACFHP under NFHAP Board	Distributed ACFHP news alerts; updated the ACFHP website with habitat project funding opportunities and success stories, and new developments from the National Fish Habitat Action Plan Board.
Task 4.1.2.1	Communication with ACFHP partners	Produced ACFHP conference displays; coordinated new joint grant with the Southeast and Appalachian FHPs.
Task 4.1.2.2	ACFHP Conservation Strategic Plan	No activity. Abandoned regional planning approach in favor of coast wide planning.
Task 4.1.2.3	Support ACFHP Science and Data Projects	Developed manuscript for publishing the ACFHP Species-Habitat Matrix project results; Spring Science & Data WG meeting planned for May to work on coast wide habitat assessment.
Task 4.1.3	Artificial reef programs	Held joint ASMFC-GSMFC Artificial Reefs Meeting in March.
Task 4.2.1	Update FMP habitat sections for various species	Coordinating review of red drum FMP habitat section led by FWCC. Finalized new Sturgeon FMP habitat section for Board approval.
Task 4.2.2	Publicize important habitat areas	To be addressed as FMP habitat sections are updated.
Task 4.2.3	Coast wide GIS of fish habitat resources	No activity
Task 4.2.4	Improving implementation of habitat	No activity
Task 4.3.1	Comment on coast projects and permits	No activity
Task 4.3.2	Habitat funding and partnership in states	Achieving through ACFHP
Task 4.3.3	Relationships with non-government organizations to promote fish habitat	Achieving through ACFHP
Task 4.3.4	Creation of fish and habitat data standards	No activity
Task 4.3.5	Prioritize Habitat Program and education based on public interest polls	No activity
Task 4.4.1	Ecosystem-based management/MPA activities	No activity
Task 4.4.2	Participate in habitat meetings	Held Spring 2012 Habitat Committee meeting.
Task 4.4.3	Habitat Hotline Atlantic	Winter 2011 issue published.
Task 4.4.4	Offshore wind guidance document	Habitat Committee drafted 4-page Offshore Wind overview document for Policy Board consideration.
Task 4.4.6	Point of contact on energy-related issues	No activity

Task 4.5.1 Habitat Program goals and accomplishments Reviewed 2012 Action Plan tasks and HC member assignments at Spring 2012 meeting.

Task 4.6.1 Local habitat activities No activity

Task 4.6.2 Partnerships with like-minded organizations Achieving through ACFHP

Task 4.6.3 Support stakeholders at local level No activity

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**Goal 5: Support for Commission**

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Task 5.1.1 "Fisheries Focus" Distributed two issues Fisheries Focus.

Task 5.1.2 Promote at trade shows and conferences Attended the MD Watermen's Tradeshow and Exposition and the New England Saltwater Fishing Show.

Task 5.1.3 Website maintenance Ongoing.

Task 5.1.4 Promotion of specific programs/species Highlighted American lobster and winter flounder in last two issues of Fisheries Focus; promoted ACFHP and NEAMAP Survey at MD Watermen's Show and NE Sport Fishing Show; developing river herring and American eel stock assessment overview for distribution following May Board meetings

Task 5.1.5 Youth education Continue to widely distribute Youth Activity Booklet, Sturgeon Coloring Book and SOS posters to schools and other youth outlets.

Task 5.1.6 Track success of outreach activities No activity

Task 5.1.7 Promote ASMFC science and management objectives via aquaria No activity

Task 5.1.8 Outreach meetings with various programs Presented an overview of ASMFC programs and activities as part of the University of MD Eastern Shore Marine Science Student Seminar; provided seminar of fisheries policy at USGC Academy.

Task 5.2.1 Communication to Congress Conducted Government Relations Workshop in February for Legislative and Governors appointees as part of Winter Meeting formulated talking points and next steps for outreach.

Task 5.2.2 Meet with state legislatures No requests have been made.

Task 5.3.1 Bi-weekly news clippings Ongoing.

Task 5.3.2 Media training for staff Ongoing.

Task 5.3.3 Stock Assessment Briefs Prepared stock assessment overviews for American eel and river herring benchmark assessments and peer reviews.

Task 5.3.4 Press releases to website no activity

Task 5.3.5 Increase networking opportunities Conducted the first meeting of the Atlantic Coast Fisheries Communication Group in March; 16 individuals representing the East Coast Councils, state marine fishery agencies and USFWS/NOAA Fisheries participated in the call. Significant interest among participants to have face-to-face meeting in the late summer/early fall. Focus of the meeting will be social media tools.

Task 5.3.6 Coordinate outreach with NOAA Director of Communications Met with NOAA Chief of External Affairs and Acting Director of Communications at State Directors Meeting to discuss areas of collaboration.

Task 5.4.1 Informational materials regarding stock assessment and management process Ongoing.

Task 5.4.2 Promote Commission/state partnership Attended the MD Watermen's Tradeshow and Exposition and the New England Saltwater Fishing Show.

Task 5.4.3 Support state outreach Ongoing.



Task 5.5.1	Revise, publish, distribute factsheets and summaries	Ongoing.
Task 5.5.2	Outreach tools to promote rebuilding	Released 2011 Annual Report focusing on species rebuilding successes and challenges; promote rebuilding success at tradeshow through status of the stock document
Task 5.5.3	Develop protocols in response to potential and recovery of fishery disasters	No activity
<b>Goal 6: Representing Collective Interests</b>		
Task 6.1.1	Prioritize legislation with Legislative Committee	Ongoing. Legislative Tracking Sheet updated to include new and notable legislation in first section to highlight for Commissioners.
Task 6.1.2	Legislative tracking sheet	Distributed to Commissioners January 19, 2012, March 15, 2012, April 25, 2012 (anticipated).
Task 6.1.3	2011 Annual Report	Delivered to Congress on March 29 and sent out to State Legislators, Federal Partners, and Stakeholders April 2, 2012.
Task 6.1.4	National forums, etc.	Ongoing. Expanded Committee membership on AFWA Committees. ED attended Council Coordinating Committee Meeting in January. Staff attended Maine Fisheries Forum in March. ED participated in Non-profit Executives Forum in February. Staff participated in Marine Resource Education Program 200 Module in March.
Task 6.1.5	MAFAC advisor	Ongoing.
Task 6.1.6	Interagency coordination under ACFCMA	Ongoing. Participated 2012 State Directors Meeting.
Task 6.1.7	Visibility on Capitol Hill	Ongoing. A Sponsor at CSO Reception. Provided feedback to interested Members' inquiries on ASMFC issues and budget
Task 6.1.8	MARFIN panel	Ongoing. Reviewed thirty seven research proposals February. Provide input on FY13 MARFIN funding priorities.
Task 6.1.9	Coordinate mutual goals with NOAA Administrator and Assistant Administrator	Coordinated 2012 State Directors Meeting in Alexandria, Virginia. Coordinated State Directors Call regarding Atlantic Sturgeon ESA Listing and new MRIP recreational landings. Coordinated presentation by HMS to Commission at Winter Meeting regarding catch shares and updated stock assessment for sharks.
Task 6.1.10	Legislative workshop for Commissioners	Planned and executed at Winter Meeting
Task 6.2.1	Maintain contact with Director AFWA	Ongoing.
Task 6.2.2	Coordinate with GSMFC and PSMFC on national legislation	Conducted April 25 joint meeting with majority and minority staff from Senate CJS Appropriations Committee regarding FY13 Budget.
Task 6.2.3	Maintain contact with Director CSO	Ongoing.
Task 6.2.4	Respond to requests for info on ASMFC	Staff presented on ASMFC species and issues to Chesapeake Bay Commission and Virginia Charter Boat Association.
Task 6.3.1	"Fisheries Focus"/quarterly meeting summaries to state commissions/councils	Ongoing.
Task 6.3.2	PA Commissioners discuss common issues with instate governing body	Ongoing.
Task 6.4.1	Develop policy positions and recommendations	Ongoing. Legislative Tracking Sheet updated to include new and notable legislation in first section to highlight for Commissioners.
Task 6.4.2	Legislative Program Manual	Ongoing. Materials created and distributed as part of Government Relations Workshop included in Manual.
Task 6.4.3	Strategies for ensuring Commission funding	Ongoing. Working with Blank Rome Government Relations Team, Interstate Commissions, and State Commissioners to secure additional FY13 funding. Letters from ED sent to Chair and Ranking Member of House and Senate CJS Appropriations Sub-Committee March 1 requesting FY13 support.

Task 6.4.4	Promote Commissioner involvement with legislative partners	Conducted Government Relations Workshop for Governor and Legislative Appointees in February. Provide updates following ASMFC interactions with legislative partners.
Task 6.5.1	Implement ACLs and AMs	Ongoing.
Task 6.5.2	Monitor catch share programs	Ongoing.
Task 6.6.1	Track implementation of National Ocean Policy	Submitted comments regarding NOP Draft Implementation Plan February 24. Met with NROC and MARCO to discuss Commission involvement with ongoing activities.
Task 6.6.2	Serve on JOCI	ED attended JOCI Priority Setting Meeting in January.

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### **Goal 7: Growth within the Commission**

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Task 7.1.1	Conduct seminars to graduate students	Presented an overview of ASMFC programs and activities as part of the University of MD Eastern Shore Marine Science Student Seminar; provided seminar of fisheries policy at USCG Academy.
Task 7.1.2	Online HR website and staff training	
Task 7.1.3	Revise employee handbook as necessary	Staff review completed. Preparing to submit to Executive Director .
Task 7.1.4	Strengthen new employee orientation	Seeking input from employees hired in 2012.
Task 7.1.5	Revise position descriptions	Revised as needed.
Task 7.1.6	Revise vacancy announcement distribution list	Revised as requested by staff.
Task 7.2.1	Intermediate and advanced stock assessment training workshops	Assessment Science Committee decided assessment training topics for 2012-13 at Spring 2012 meeting. Advanced workshop to be held in October; intermediate workshop to be held in November.
Task 7.3.1	Commissioner orientation program	Staff recommendations to be presented to Executive Committee at Summer Meeting
Task 7.3.2	Commissioner Manual	Updates mailed semi-annually; Next update is scheduled for mailing after Spring meeting
Task 7.3.3	Supporting committee orientation	Ongoing
Task 7.4.1	Monitor Councils and other Commissions for best practices	No activity.
Task 7.5.1	Professional growth conferences	Staff preparing to attend AFS.
Task 7.5.2	Seek educational opportunities for staff	Ongoing

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### **Goal 8: Business Affairs**

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Task 8.1.1	Semi-annual Action Plan review and presentation	This is it.
Task 8.1.2	Develop 2013 Action Plan	Timeline developed; to be presented at Spring Meeting.
Task 8.2.1	Guidelines for cost effective meeting locations	Meeting costs are captured in matrix; data reviewed and used when planning meetings.
Task 8.2.2	Reserve fund	Ongoing
Task 8.2.3	Reserve policy	Ongoing
Task 8.2.4	Certification of Indirect Cost	To be completed in the fall
Task 8.2.5	Monthly financial report	On-going
Task 8.2.6	Annual meeting with financial advisor	Planned for second half of year.
Task 8.2.7	Annual audit	To be completed in the fall

Task 8.2.8	Physical inventory	To be updated in June
Task 8.2.9	Selection of meeting venues	Meeting costs are captured in matrix; data reviewed and used when planning meetings.
Task 8.3.1	Include increase in ACFCMA	Working with Blank Rome Government Relations to secure reauthorization for ACFCMA including an increase in authorized funding level.
Task 8.3.2	Work with other Commissions to increase funding	Three Commission Executive Directors met with Senate CJS Appropriations Staff to make case for increase in IJ and ACFCMA funding.
Task 8.4.1	Information technology seminars	No activity
Task 8.4.2	Electronic submission of work hours	No activity
Task 8.4.3	Single repository for Commission correspondence	Ongoing
Task 8.4.4	Office equipment staff training	Ongoing
Task 8.4.5	Implement direct deposit	Will launch for the summer meeting
Task 8.4.6	Navigability of and access to electronic shared files	No activity
Task 8.4.7	Populate searchable database of publications	Ongoing
Task 8.4.8	Audit database verify contacts and information	New database is being developed for launch in summer
Task 8.4.9	Internal electronic filing	No activity.
Task 8.5.1	Continue pending litigation	River Herring lawsuit in DC Court of Appeals.
Task 8.5.2	Develop FOIA request policy	No activity
Task 8.5.3	Modify Governor Appointee terms/procedures for full Commission consideration	No activity
Task 8.6.1	Administrative support to ACCSP	Ongoing