



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

*Working towards healthy, self-sustaining populations of all Atlantic coast fish species, or successful restoration
well in progress by the year 2015*

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ASMFC Releases Report on Research Priorities & Recommendations to Support Atlantic Coast Fisheries Management

Arlington, VA – The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission announces the release of its report, *Research Priorities & Recommendations to Support Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management*. The report highlights research priorities and data critical to the continued success and improvement of the Commission's 25 species management programs. The report can be used by state and federal marine fishery agencies, and university research programs to develop projects to answer outstanding research questions.

The report identifies research priorities and recommendations by individual species and species groups, as in the case of diadromous species (American eel, shad, river herring, Atlantic sturgeon, striped bass), as well as socioeconomic data needs for all species. Research needs were identified from a variety of sources, including Commission fishery management plans and amendments, annual plan reviews, and peer-reviewed stock assessments. Research focal areas were prioritized by the Commission's species stock assessment subcommittees and technical committees, with additional input from management boards and advisory panels, the Habitat Committee, the Committee on Economics and Social Sciences, and the Management and Science Committee.

State, federal, and non-profit organizations are encouraged to use the report to identify research projects and design studies for future funding programs. To ensure its usefulness and relevancy, the report will be updated periodically as research priorities are met and new research needs are identified. The full report can be obtained on the Commission's website, www.asmfc.org, under *Breaking News*, with species-specific sections available on the individual species pages. For more information, please contact Jeff Kipp, Stock Assessment Scientist, at jkipp@asmfc.org, or Patrick Campfield, Director of Fisheries Science, at pcampfield@asmfc.org.

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The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and anadromous species.

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