

ACCSP Coordinating Council

ASMFC Annual Meeting
Dewey Beach, DE
9 – 11 am | October 27, 2025

Chair: Kathy Knowlton Vice-Chair: Renee Zobel 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 May 2025

Public Comment





Consider FY2026 ACCSP Project and Administrative Proposals

Comparison Rankings of Maintenance Projects

Operations Advisors

Pilot test of recreational released catch cards into the sampling design of the MRIP APAIS	FY26: Managing 100% Lobster Harvester Reporting in Maine
FY26: Managing 100% Lobster Harvester Reporting in Maine	FY26: Enhancing Recruitment & Retention for the SAFMC Release Citizen Science Project
FY26: Enhancing Recruitment & Retention for the SAFMC Release Citizen Science Project	Pilot test of recreational released catch cards into the sampling design of the MRIP APAIS
Electronic Trip-Level Reporting for the Potomac River Fisheries Commission Commercial Fisheries Sector	Electronic Trip-Level Reporting for the Potomac River Fisheries Commission Commercial Fisheries Sector
FY26: North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data"	FY26: North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data"



Comparison Rankings of New Projects

Operations Advisors

<u> </u>	
Black Sea Bass (<i>Centropristis striata</i>) Age and Growth Data Collection to Address Stock Assessment Needs	Black Sea Bass (<i>Centropristis striata</i>) Age and Growth Data Collection to Address Stock Assessment Needs
	FY26: Catch, Effort, and Biological Data Collection for North Carolina and Florida Fisheries Dependent Data
	Electronic Reporting Transition for Massachusetts Harvesters
	Comprehensive Outreach and Pilot Observer Program for New York, New Jersey and Delaware State Waters Gillnet Fisheries
Comprehensive Outreach and Pilot Observer Program for New York, New Jersey and Delaware State Waters Gillnet Fisheries	Fishery Dependent Sampling of Federal and State Permitted Vessels and Electronic Reporting Initiatives in New York



ACCSP FY2026 Funding Summary

	3.35M	3.50M
Admin Grant	\$2,430,054	\$2,430,054
GARFO Fee	\$44,423	\$44,423
Maint @ 75%	\$656,642	\$769,142
Maint Actual	\$753,481	\$753,481
Maint Diff	(\$96,839)	\$15,661
New @ 25%	\$218,881	\$256,381
New Actual	\$1,103,288	\$1,103,288
New Diff	(\$884,407)	(\$846,907)



\$3.5M Level Funding Recommendation

- Fully fund all Maintenance proposals and the Administrative budget.
- The recommendation for new proposals is to follow the average rankings with the caveats below dependent upon partial funding viability:
 - New Proposals Recommendation
 - Fully fund "Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Age and Growth Data Collection"
 - Partially fund "FY26: Catch, Effort, and Biological Data Collection for North Carolina and Florida Fisheries Dependent Data"
 - Alternative if SEFSC partial funding is not viable
 - Fully fund "Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Age and Growth Data Collection"
 - Fully fund "Electronic Reporting Transition for Massachusetts Harvesters"
 - Partially fund "Fishery Dependent Sampling of Federal and State Permitted Vessels and Electronic Reporting Initiatives in New York"

Average Ranking of Maintenance Proposals \$3.5M

	FY2026 P			A	dmin Grant	\$	2,430,054	\$	44,423	\$	2,474,477
	R	ankings	3.35M	M	aint @ 75%	\$	656,642		New @ 25%	\$	218,881
,	(Cor	mbined)	3.50M	М	aint @ 75%	\$	769,142		New @ 25%	\$	256,381
Project Name		Partner	Score		Cost	Cu	mulative Cost	A	3.5M amt Remaining	Ar	3.35M nt Remaining
Pilot test of recreational release the sampling design of the MR		ACCSP RTC	54.70	\$	180,510	\$	180,510	\$	588,632	\$	476,132
FY26: Managing 100% Lobster Reporting in Maine	Harvester	ME DMR	54.34	\$	223,785	\$	404,295	\$	364,847	\$	252,347
FY26: Enhancing Recruitment & SAFMC Release Citizen Science		SAFMC	54.04	\$	132,994	\$	537,289	\$	231,853	\$	119,353
Electronic Trip-Level Reporting River Fisheries Commission Co Sector	mmercial Fisheries	PRFC	52.30	\$	71,172	\$	608,461	\$	160,681	\$	48,181
FY26: North Carolina socioecon construction for the management future data"	ent of existing and	NC DMF	45.66	\$	145,020	\$	753,481	\$	15,661	\$	(96,839)

Fully fund all Maintenance proposals and the Administrative budget.



Average Ranking of New Proposals \$3.5M New Proposals Recommendation

(Co)	Proposal Rankings mbined)	3.35M 3.50M	Ma	dmin Grant aint @ 75% aint @ 75%		2,430,054 656,642 769,142		44,423 New @ 25% New @ 25%	\$	2,474,477 218,881 256,381
Project Name	Partner	Score		Cost	Cu	ımulative Cost	Δι	3.5M nt Remaining	An	3.35M nt Remaining
Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Age and Growth Data Collection to Address Stock Assessment Needs	RI DEM, CFRF, NOAA	55.77	\$	64,994	\$	64,994	\$	207,048	\$	153,887
FY26: Catch, Effort, and Biological Data Collection for North Carolina and Florida Fisheries Dependent Data	SEFSC, NC DMF, FL FWC	54.98	\$	345,223	\$	410,217	\$	(138,175)	\$	(191,336)
Electronic Reporting Transition for Massachusetts Harvesters	MA DMF	53.87	\$	101,433	\$	511,650	\$	(239,608)	\$	(292,769)
Fishery Dependent Sampling of Federal and State Permitted Vessels and Electronic Reporting Initiatives in New York	NY DEC	53.44	\$	302,609	\$	814,259	\$	(542,217)	\$	(595,378)
Comprehensive Outreach and Pilot Observer Program for New York, New Jersey and Delaware State Waters Gillnet Fisheries	NY DEC	50.50	\$	289,029	\$	1,103,288	\$	(831,246)	\$	(884,407)

- Fully fund "Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Age and Growth Data Collection"
- Partially fund "FY26: Catch, Effort, and Biological Data Collection for North Carolina and Florida Fisheries Dependent Data"

Average Ranking of New Proposals \$3.5M <u>Alternative New Proposal Recommendation</u>

	Proposal Rankings mbined)	3.35M 3.50M	Ma	lmin Grant aint @ 75% aint @ 75%		2,430,054 656,642 769,142		44,423 New @ 25% New @ 25%		2,474,477 218,881 256,381
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- Fully fund "Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Age and Growth Data Coll."
- Fully fund "Electronic Reporting Transition for Massachusetts Harvesters"
- Partially fund "Fishery Dependent Sampling of Federal and State Permitted Vessels and Electronic Reporting Initiatives in New York"

\$3.35M Level Funding Recommendation

- Fully fund first four Maintenance proposals and the Administrative budget.
- Partially fund "FY26: North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data" to the 75% level split (~\$50K)
- The recommendation for new proposals is to follow the average rankings with the caveats below dependent upon partial funding viability:
 - New Proposal Recommendation
 - Fully fund "Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Age and Growth Data Collection"
 - Partially fund "FY26: Catch, Effort, and Biological Data Collection for North Carolina and Florida Fisheries Dependent Data"
 - Alternative if SEFSC partial funding is not viable
 - Fully fund "Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Age and Growth Data Collection"
 - Fully fund "Electronic Reporting Transition for Massachusetts Harvesters"
 - Use remaining funding to fully fund the Maintenance proposal "FY26:
 North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data"

Average Ranking of Maintenance Proposals \$3.35M

FY2026 P	roposal		A	dmin Grant	\$	2,430,054	\$	44,423	\$	2,474,477
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- Fully fund first four maintenance proposals and the Administrative budget
- Partially fund "FY26: North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data" to the 75% level split



Average Ranking of New Proposals \$3.35M New Proposal Recommendation

	Proposal ankings mbined)	3.35M 3.50M	Ma	dmin Grant aint @ 75% aint @ 75%		2,430,054 656,642 769,142		44,423 New @ 25% New @ 25%		2,474,477 218,881 256,381
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Average Ranking of New Proposals \$3.35M <u>Alternative New Proposal Recommendation</u>

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Maintenance Proposal

FY26: North Carolina socioeconomic database						
construction for the management of existing and			\$ 145,020	\$ 753,481	\$ 15,661	\$ (96,839)
future data"	NC DMF	45.66				

- Fully fund "Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Age and Growth Data Coll"
- Fully fund "Electronic Reporting Transition for Massachusetts Harvesters"
- Use remaining funding to fully fund the Maintenance proposal "FY26: North Carolina socioeconomic database construction for the management of existing and future data"



FY2026 Proposal Funding Discussion & Action



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.

Adjustments to Active Project Funding

- FIS-IRA ACCSP infrastructure modernization
 - \$367,822 rescinded
- ACCSP FY2024 Delayed allocation
 - Maine 100% Lobster reporting \$234,708 of \$335,000
- ACCSP FY2025 Delayed allocation
 - Admin Grant ~\$600,000 remaining
 - Maine CFRF Black Sea Bass \$61,276
- ACCSP FY25 allocated
 - ME Lobster Harvester Reporting \$335,537
 - NC DMF Socioeconomic Database \$145,020
 - PRFC Commercial Electronic Trip Reports \$142,344
 - SAFMC Citizen Science \$137,356



Adjustments to Active Project Funding

Funding	Description
\$65K	2024 RI Socio-Economic Value of Fisheries
\$65K	2024 ME partner projects – Lobster harvesting shortfall and Halibut aging equipment (otolith saw, etc.)
\$50K	Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) – Begin move to cloud hosting of Oracle Databases.
\$120K	Implement and extend data submission validations API for SAFIS eTRIPS and eDR.
\$80K	CH Observer Data centralization for GA, SC, NC – Install and modify system built by GSMFC. SEFSC unable to allocate these funds.
\$120K	MRIP For-Hire methodology - NORC Contract for statistical support of For-Hire Logbook methodology. NOAA MRIP unable to allocate these funds.





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Recreational Data Collection

Recreational Technical Committee

Recreational Release Catch Card Project

- Designed to address priority #3 of the Atlantic Coast Regional Priorities (2023-2027): Improved recreational fishery discard and release data
- Core Team (meets monthly)
 - ▲ CT, GA, MA, MD, NY, NJ, NC, RI, SC, ACCSP



Approach

- Use catch cards to collect supplemental information on recreational discards along the Atlantic coast starting in 2025
- Private/rental mode focus but can also sample shore mode as encountered
- Modified sampling design of APAIS to collect samples from randomly selected anglers as they leave for their trips
- Hand out release catch cards BEFORE the fishing trip
 - Cards handed out before & during morning assignments while still conducting APAIS interviews



2025 & Next Steps

• 2025 Summary:

- Data collection: Waves 3-5
- 400 catch card assignments completed in 8 states
- 1,600 cards distributed
- 20% coastwide return rate
- 800 fish lengths provided

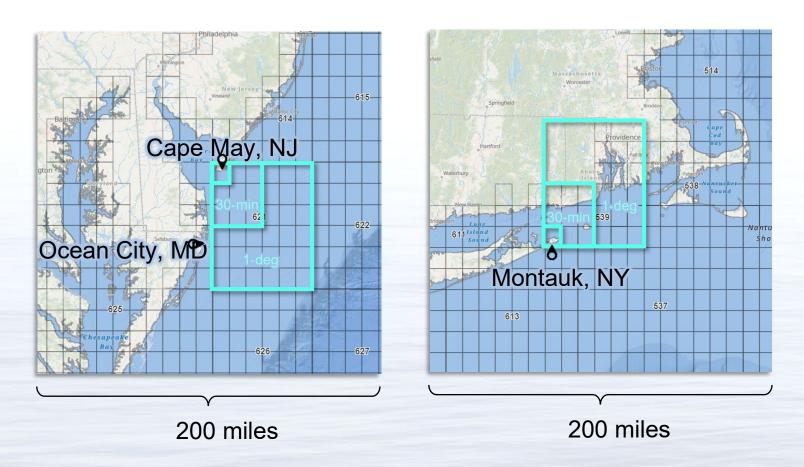
ACCSP FY26 Proposal

- Second year for comparisons to APAIS & other data sources
- Focus on changes to increase return rates
- Addition of Delaware and reduced sampling in the south

Area Fished Amendment to MRIP APAIS

- Request higher resolution spatial data on rec. fishing (stock assessments, fishery management, etc.)
- APAIS provides comprehensive, un-biased coverage
- Proposal
 - Before 'area fished' and 'distance' questions, present map to angler to select 'grid area'
 - If not answered, standard APAIS questions presented
 - If answered, skip standard APAIS questions
 - 'Grid area' not used for estimation but to be included in MRIP data download

Some examples: 10, 30, 60 minute grids



Note: After testing technology, adding a question requires NOAA PRA consideration



Depredation Amendment to MRIP APAIS

- Monitor the frequency and extent (spatial and temporal) of depredation events
 - Response to surveys focused on depredation likely to be biased towards respondents that have experienced it
 - Surveys like the APAIS would allow unbiased monitoring of frequency and patterns of wide spatial and temporal area
- Provide data to estimate excess mortality for stock assessments, similar to post-release mortality



Depredation Disposition Codes

- The addition of disposition codes for depredation of available and unavailable catch could be sufficient to monitor partially depredated catch as well as released catch that is observed being scavenged
 - E.g., Thrown back dead/depredation damage
 - E.g., Thrown back alive/observed scavenged

 Note: Implementation in 2026 planned since using existing question does not impact PRA burden.



Paperwork Reduction Act

- The PRA is a law that regulates how federal agencies request information from the public.
- It aims to manage, improve, and protect the information collected, and requires review and approval.
- All federal fisheries data collections falls under PRA.

OMB Control Number 0648-0616	Approval Expires 8-31-2025 (under monthly extension)
OMB Control Number 0648-0212	Approval Expires 8-31-2025 (under monthly extension)
OMB Control Number 0648-0328	Approval Expires 5-31-2026
OMB Control Number 0648-0371	Approval Expires 10-31-2026
Federal Privacy Act and Public Bu	<u>urden Statements</u>



MRIP Estimation Review

- State reviews requested each wave
- Developed R script to standardize approach
- What's needed from reviewers:
 - Area of Concern: YEAR, WAVE, STATE, SUB REGION, MODE,
 AREA, SPECIES
 - Outliers, priority species
 - Regulatory closure, exceed ACL
 - Unusual length and/or weight data or estimates



MRIP Estimation Review: 2024 Overview

Total of 32 catch estimates flagged for investigation by 8 states

State	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	Total
Maine				2			2
Rhode Island					1		1
New York		2		1		1	4
New Jersey		1					1
Maryland		1	2	1	1	1	6
Virginia						1	1
North Carolina						1	1
Georgia			2	1	8	5	16
		5	4	5	10	9	32







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Major Software Project Timelines

SE Coastal Logbook & HMS Logbook (June 2025)

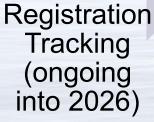
eDR redesign (January 2026)













Major Project Status

- One Stop Reporting (OSR) Scoping state needs
 - Excellent discussions with partners during spring technical committee meetings
 - Staff is compiling requirements for partner review
- Registration Tracking
- SE Coastal Logbook/HMS Logbook
- eDR redesign



Major Project Status

- One Stop Reporting (OSR) Scoping state needs
- Registration Tracking
 - Working very closely with the federal vessel permit registry project
 - New federal system is based on ACCSP design
 - Ongoing coordination puts us in a good place for further implementation
 - Interested in working with 1-2 partners in 2026 in TEST
- SE Coastal Logbook/HMS Logbook
- eDR redesign



Major Project Status

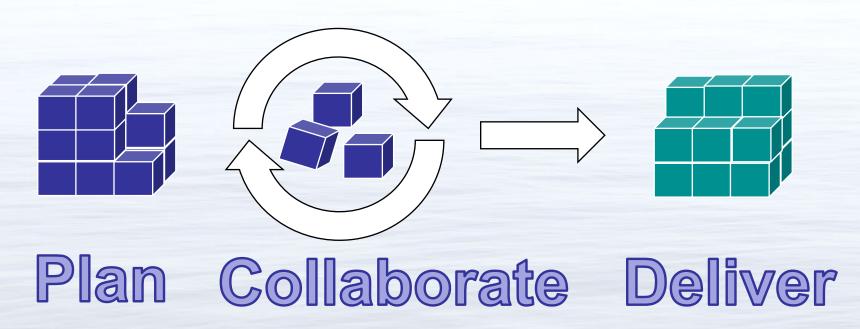
- One Stop Reporting (OSR) Scoping state needs
- Registration Tracking
- SE Coastal Logbook/HMS Logbook
 - East Coast Logbook: Centralized federal logbook data for the Atlantic and Gulf
 - ACCSP has both logbooks ready to go
 - Federal project was delayed, current timeline uncertain
- eDR redesign



eDR Redesign

- Progressive Web App
- File upload (FVT)
- Transition from FTP to API

- Audit website
- SMS
- Validation Packages







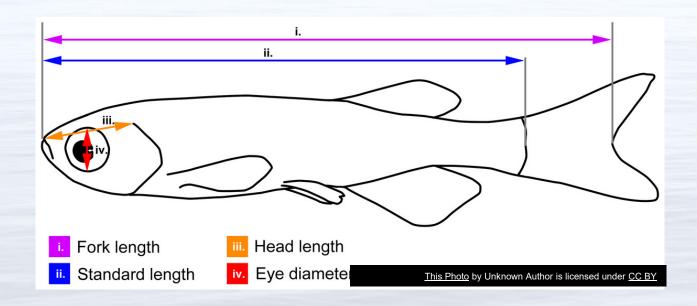




Biomodule Status

Biological Module Existing Data

- American lobster (1981-2024)
- Atlantic herring (2003-2018)
- Jonah crab (2003-2024)





Current Projects

- NC DMF Biological Database
 - ACCSP proposal to restructure biological databases and create a direct database link with the Data Warehouse
 - Loaded: data from 2011 to 2024
 - Coming soon: data from 2000 to 2010
- ACCSP Provided 2023-2024 NC data to SEFSC TIP
- SEFSC Trip Interview Program (TIP)
 - Staff from SEFSC and ACCSP worked to transfer TIP data from South Carolina through Florida
 - Loaded: data from 2023 to 2024
 - Coming soon: data from 2014 to 2022



Module Expansion

- Developing annual process like the commercial catch and effort feeds (spring/fall loads)
- Working with additional partners to set up regular biological data feeds
- Focusing on full partner/program feeds rather than specific species



GARFO Biological Sampling Workshop

- Information exchange, good opportunity to learn from others
- ACCSP presented on the biological module, focusing on the opportunity for centralized database potential
- Laid groundwork for future opportunities







Committee Participation Guidelines & Facilitation Training

- Added section on building consensus in committee guidelines
- Will host meeting facilitation training for ACCSP
 Chairs and Vice-Chairs this winter with help from FIS
 Quality Management Continuous Improvement
 Professional Specialty Group





Limited Confidential Access

Confidential Access Permissions

Limited Access

- Can request and receive/view confidential data
- Cannot query confidential data in the Data Warehouse
- Cannot select SAFIS or participant information on the request form

Full Access

- Can request, query, and view confidential data in the Data Warehouse
- Can select SAFIS or participant information on the request form



Confidential Access Users

- Limited Access (Custom Data Request)
 - Stock assessment technical committee and subcommittee members
 - SEDAR analysts and data compilers
 - Grant associated person or company for a single project

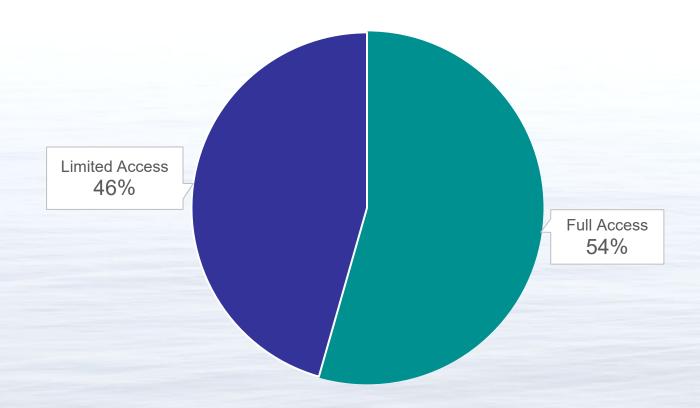
Full Access

- ASMFC/ACCSP staff
- ComTech and IS committee members
- Council staff
- Data security contacts
- ASMFC/ACCSP associated contract and application development staff
- Partner data validation staff



Limited Access in Action

Accounts Approved Since August 1, 2025









2026 Action Plan

- Questions
- Next steps: Present to ASMFC Business Session for action



ACCSP by the Numbers

Reporting Period: February 28 - August 30, 2025

