

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

2012 Action Plan Progress

Note: Instead of providing a spreadsheet that details accomplishments to date; detailed below is information on tasks that were not (or not going to be) accomplished (or fully completed) this year and why; as well as accomplishments achieved that were not planned for in the 2012 Action Plan.

Task #	Description	Reason
1.1.2	Lobster XIX now address the transfer tax in LCMA 3, rather than rebuild	No proposals were submitted by LCMA 4, 5, and 6
1.1.4	Addendum III was approved to address commercial law enforcement, rather than address stock abundance concerns. The Board agreed to wait until the next assessment to address stock status concerns.	Change in priorities by the Board
1.1.7	Consider Addendum II to minimize monitoring and management differences between Amendments 2 and 3.	Majority of the states addressed the differences individually within state.
1.1.10	Continue development of Commission policy regarding ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management using development of Atlantic menhaden alternative reference points as a case study (See Task 2.6.1).	Focused work on implementation of menhaden reference points, MSTC continued work on development of ecosystem based reference points
1.2.5	Engage federal management agencies, the biomedical community, and shorebird advocacy groups to secure \$202,000 to support continuation of the Horseshoe Crab Benthic Trawl Survey in 2012.	Lack of funding received by industry or stakeholders
1.10.3	Report to ISFMP Policy Board on current socioeconomic data collection and analyses used by other Commissions and Councils, including associated costs.	On-going effort by CESS

3.2.4	Review draft addendum to ensure cancer crab fishery does not impact enforceability of lobster regulations.	Lobster Board did not initiate draft addendum
4.2.3	Work with state and federal agencies, the Councils, and NGOs to build on existing efforts to develop a coast wide GIS of fish habitat resources, to identify important fish habitats for Commission managed species.	ACFHP program has been developing interactive GIS habitat maps.
4.3.5	Poll ASMFC constituent groups to determine public interest and identify publicly-supported fish habitat conservation needs and actions in order to leverage support from the states; use results to prioritize Habitat Program guidance and education activities.	Change in committee prioritization and limited resources.
Task 5.1.1	Move to color format and explore posting to website in html format.	Will be part of newly designed website to be launched in December 2012
Task 5.1.6	Develop performance measures to track success of outreach activities.	Attended webinar on performance measures; plan to draft measures in early 2013
Task 5.1.7	Explore ways to leverage East Coast aquaria in promoting ASMFC science and management objectives.	Meet with contact at Association of Zoos and Aquaria and have identified 3 aquaria for pilot programs in 2013
Task 5.3.4	Implement posting press releases and associated photos/graphs on website in html format to increase usefulness to media.	Will be part of newly designed website to be launched in December 2012
Task 5.3.5	Conduct meeting of Atlantic Coast Fisheries Communication Group, comprised of PAOs from the Councils, states and federal agencies, to share successful tools, identify key media contacts and work cooperatively on joint projects.	Workshop planned for January 2013; difficulty in finding time for all interested members to participate in 2012
7.3.1	New Commissioner Orientation	Change in Leadership

8.5.2	FOIA Policy	Change in Leadership
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Accomplishments Achieved -- Not Planned for in 2012 Action Plan

ISFMP

- Draft Addendum I to Amendment 2 for the Northern Shrimp FMP also addresses total allowable catch specifications, allocation, fishery closures, gear restrictions, and research set-a-sides.
- Working with states and stakeholders on pending shark finning legislation.
- Initiated a petition to downlist/delist Atlantic Sturgeon and supported states in the development of section 7 and 10 applications.
- Initiated winter flounder addenda to change fishery measures in the Gulf of Maine, change the specification process, and propose accountability measures.
- Acting Executive Director testified, at request of House Natural Resources Committee, on H.R. 6096, the Atlantic Fisheries Statues Reauthorization Act, and H.R. 3096, a bill to amend the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act to allow recreational fishing for Atlantic Striped Bass in the Block Island transit zone.
- Coordinated an additional follow-up Government Relations Workshop for Governor and Legislative Appointees in October to build on initial workshop in February.
- Coordinated with GSMFC and PSMFC on national legislation. Coordinated unprecedented Three-Commission Position letter on FY13 Appropriations and secured, through assistance from State Commissioners, seven signatures on House letter supporting increased funding for IJF and sustained funding for Councils and Commissions.
- Helped coordinate meetings between Commissioners and Congressional delegation during Spring meeting week.

F&A

- Provided support for Administrative Oversight Committee/Search Committee in conducting extensive search for new Executive Director.
- Switched to new email software; including database management and travel authorization system.