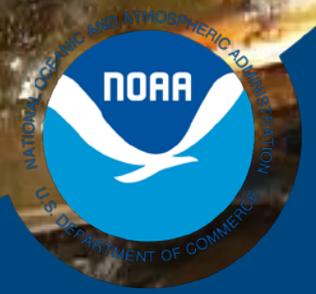




INTERJURISDICTIONAL FISHERIES AND ANADROMOUS FISH CONSERVATION ACTS

FY13 through FY16 Report to Congress



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

INTERJURISDICTIONAL FISHERIES AND ANADROMOUS FISH CONSERVATION ACTS

Introduction

Fish living along the coastal areas and in rivers of the United States easily move across state, national, and fresh/saltwater boundaries. As a result, coordinated management across these boundaries is important to achieve sustainable fisheries. NMFS reports on its efforts to fund initiatives under the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 (IFA) to better manage these species across local, state, and federal boundaries. Any state or territory, either directly or through an interstate commission, may submit a grant proposal that supports management of fishery resources that: (1) occur in waters under the jurisdiction of one or more states and/or in the Exclusive Economic Zone; (2) are managed under an interstate fishery management plan; or (3) migrate between the waters under the jurisdiction of two or more states. As required in the IFA, funds are based on an apportionment formula using the volume and value of fish landed in each state by domestic commercial fishermen, and are provided to the states by grant.

The IFA is a financial assistance program administered by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with three overall purposes:

- (1) To promote and encourage state and territorial activities in support of the management of interjurisdictional resources.
- (2) To promote the management of interjurisdictional fisheries resources throughout their range.
- (3) To promote and encourage research in preparation for the implementation of the use of ecosystems and interspecies approaches to the conservation and management of interjurisdictional fishery resources throughout their range.



Photo credit: NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Fisheries Administration.

Funding provided to the interstate commissions and states through the IFA continues to be integral to realizing state and federal alignment of fishery management and data collection programs. All beneficiaries of the funding depend on it for essential services and for short-term projects supporting immediate fishery management objectives. The projects are monitored closely by the NMFS Regional Program Offices via dedicated state and online reporting and monitoring programs such as Grants Online.

The Anadromous Fish Conservation Act (AFCA) authorizes the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with states and other non-federal interests for the conservation, development, and enhancement of anadromous fishery resources of the United States. The AFCA has not been funded since 2008.

About the Report

Since 1998, NMFS has provided a report to Congress about its ongoing or completed work as authorized through federal assistance programs of the IFA and the AFCA.

Each year, funds are spent through the IFA to obtain catch and effort statistics and other fisheries information. In turn, this information supports interjurisdictional fishery management decisions at the state, interstate, and federal levels.

The report includes information collected during fiscal years 2013 through 2016, and contains information about the IFA funding process and regional disbursement of available funds, as well as a brief list of the projects funded.

Funding Interjurisdictional Projects

Cost Sharing

Any state, either directly or through an interstate commission, can submit a grant proposal that supports the management of interjurisdictional fishery resources. Funding can be applied to fisheries management, enforcement, and/or in response to declared fishery disasters. The federal share for applicable projects is typically 75 percent, but may increase to 90 percent of total costs when states have adopted fishery regulations consistent with an interstate or federal fishery management plan for the species to which the study applies. Enforcement agreements with state management agencies of up to \$25,000 can be completely financed with federal funds. There is a required 75-25 percent federal-state split for projects to restore resources damaged by disasters.

Funding by Section of the IFA

As required in the IFA, funds are provided to the states by grant based on an apportionment formula using the volume and value of fish landed in each state by domestic commercial fishermen. The IFA lists four ways in which funding can be used: interjurisdictional management activities, the development of fishery management plans, research, and disaster assistance. The grant process to disburse the funds ensures that projects further the purposes of the Act. The majority of the funds appropriated in 2013-2016 supported interjurisdictional management activities (see Table 1).



Lifting trap nets off Cheboygan, Michigan. Photo credit: Mark Ebener.

Table 1. Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act Federal Funds in Support of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Activities, FY 2013-2016.

State	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
AL	\$16,654	\$22,411	\$22,417	\$27,062
AK	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
AS	\$86,471	\$131,491	\$134,503	\$162,375
CA	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
CNMI	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
CT	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
DE	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
FL	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
GA	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
GU	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
HI	\$47,458	\$66,594	\$77,782	\$85,461
ID	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
IL	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
IN	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
LA	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
ME	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
MA	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
MD	\$63,431	\$79,190	\$75,581	\$78,800
MI	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
MN	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
MS	\$68,555	\$91,797	\$111,486	\$113,012
NC	\$55,470	\$65,807	\$22,417	\$77,418
NH	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
NJ	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,145
NY	\$16,654	\$22,411	\$22,417	\$27,062
OH	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
OR	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
PA	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
PR	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
RI	\$53,340	\$69,373	\$82,617	\$92,068
SC	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
TX	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
VT	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
VA	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
VI	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
WA	\$99,927	\$134,467	\$134,503	\$162,375
WV	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
WI	\$8,327	\$11,206	\$11,209	\$13,531
TOTAL	\$1,665,445	\$2,241,125	\$2,241,724	\$2,706,242

Funded Projects in 2013-2016

The following provides descriptive titles of the state and territorial projects funded, listed by region, and by fishery commission. All of the projects are funded through multi-year grants.

States and Territories by Region

Northeast

- Connecticut: Connecticut Lobster Population Studies and Interjurisdictional Fisheries Enforcement
- Illinois: Research for Management of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Resources
- Maine: Interjurisdictional Fisheries Resource Monitoring Assessment
- Maryland: Maryland Interjurisdictional Fisheries Statistics and commercial catch and effort data collection programs
- Massachusetts: Management Information Systems & Fisheries Statistics and Conservation Engineering.
- Michigan: Quantitative Support for Inter-Jurisdictional Fisheries Management of the Great Lakes; and Partnership Approach for Controlling Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Species in the Great Lakes
- Minnesota: Quantitative Fisheries Center Support for Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management on the Great Lakes
- New Hampshire: Monitoring of the American Lobster Resource and Fishery in New Hampshire; and Commercial Fisheries Data Collection
- New Jersey: Surf Clam Inventory
- New York: Fishery Dependent Monitoring of the American Lobster, Horseshoe Crab, Blue Crab Crustacean, and Whelk in the Marine District of Long Island, NY
- Ohio: Quantitative Fisheries Center Support for Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management on the Great Lakes
- Pennsylvania: Documentation and Quantification of an Impediment to Upstream Migration for Diadromous Species Like Salmon, American Eels, and River Herring; Alosines Utilizing Fish Passage Facilities and Collection of Biological Data on Adult American Shad; and Quantitative Fisheries Center at Michigan State University and Collection of Creel Data
- Rhode Island: Rhode Island Lobster Research and Management Project
- Vermont: Modeling the Effects of Climate Change of Anadromous Fish Populations in the Connecticut River
- Virginia: Commercial Fisheries Statistics Information Systems and Planning
- Wisconsin: Quantitative Support for Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management on the Great Lakes; and Great Lakes Commercial Fisheries Licensing Harvest Statistics Information System

New Jersey: Surf Clam Inventory

The objectives of this multi-year project (2015-2020) are to determine the standing stock of surf clams in New Jersey coastal waters from Cape May to Shark River, the size distribution of surf clams within the standing stock, and the general patterns of surf clams from the plankton within the three-mile limit. The project will also update and enhance a database used to track abundance of surf clam stocks in New Jersey Territorial waters.



Photo credit: NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Fisheries Administration.

Michigan: Partnership Approach for Controlling Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Species in the Great Lakes

This project is a multi-year project (2016-2021) that uses federal funds as part of a multi-jurisdictional effort among Great Lakes agencies to fund services provided by staff at the Great Lakes Center for Quantitative Fisheries Science and Management at Michigan State. The project objectives are to provide a research, outreach and teaching program to: 1) build greater capacity within fishery management agencies in quantitative methods; 2) improve quantitative methods for assessing fish stocks; 3) assist agencies in the use of model-based approaches in decision making; and 4) develop a better understanding of fish community and population dynamics.



Tagging insertion and blood sample collection of grass carp. Photo credit: Charles Krueger, Michigan State University.

Southeast

- Alabama: Enforcement and Coordination of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Protection Measures
- Florida: Florida's Interjurisdictional Marine Fisheries Research Program; and Population Surveys of Spawning Blue Crabs Resulting in the Development of Larval Dispersal Models for Florida Coastal Waters
- Georgia: Georgia's Stock Assessment of Shrimp and Blue Crab Stocks
- Louisiana: Interjurisdictional Assessment and Management of Louisiana's Coastal Fisheries
- Mississippi: Monitoring and Assessment of Mississippi's Interjurisdictional Marine Resources
- North Carolina: Commercial Finfish Assessment
- Puerto Rico: Puerto Rico/NMFA Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program
- South Carolina: Fishery Independent Assessment of Adult Red Drum and Coastal Sharks in South Carolina
- Texas: Monitoring of Shellfish Resources for Shellfish Management in Texas Coastal Waters
- Virgin Islands: Data Collection and Dissemination Program for Commercial Fisheries; and Fish Age and Growth Studies

Florida: Population Surveys of Spawning Blue Crabs Resulting in the Development of Larval Dispersal Models for Florida Coastal Waters

The proposed research, during the five-year funding period (fiscal years 2013-2018), focuses on blue crab spawning stock population dynamics and modeling the potential larval dispersal on the east and west coasts of Florida. These products will increase the resolution of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's 2018 stock assessment for Florida coastal waters and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's Data Assessment and Review for blue crabs in the Gulf of Mexico. The findings of this study may also result in management changes for a component of the Florida fishery that focuses harvest on female spawning aggregations.



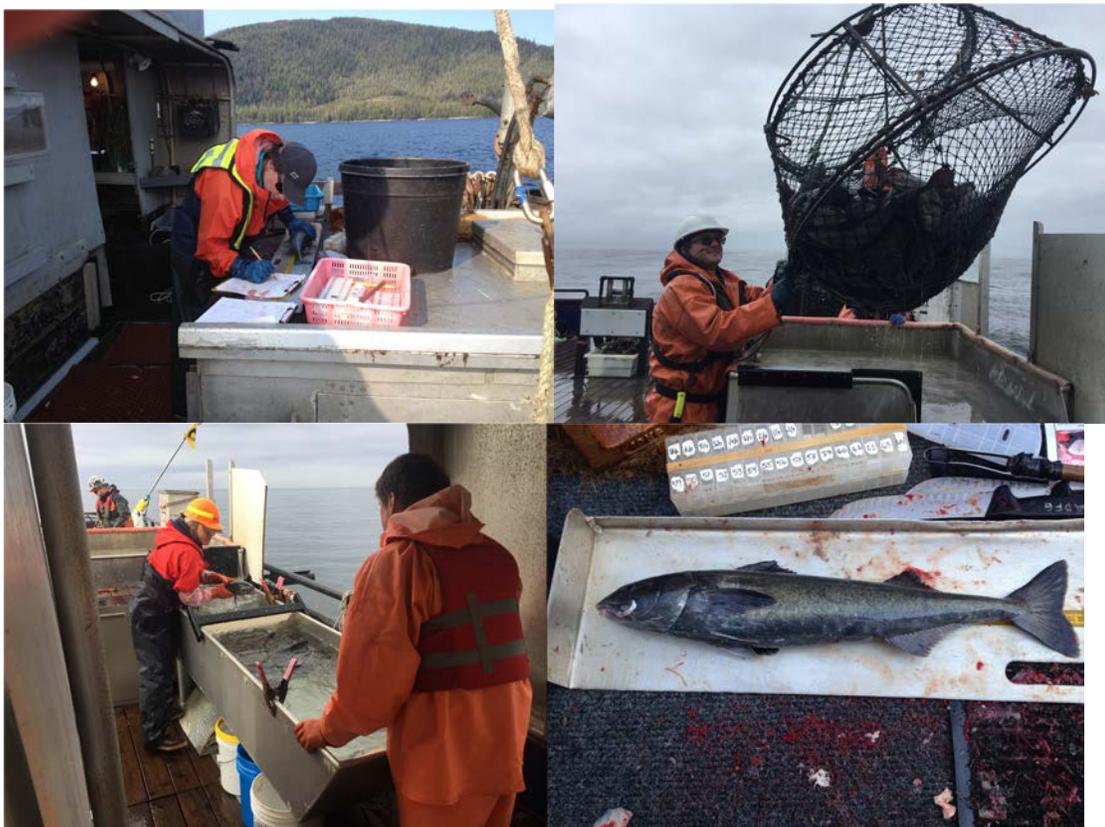
Photo credit: Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

West Coast and Alaska

- Idaho: Abundance and Migratory Patterns of Steelhead Returning to the Snake River Basin
- Oregon: Shrimp and Groundfish Resource Management and Assessment; and Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Plan Coordination and Development
- Washington: Coastal Marine Resources Management and Stock Assessment Southwest
- California: Monitoring and Management of California Commercial Coastal Pelagic Species
- Alaska: Southeast Alaska Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act Program

Alaska: Southeast Alaska Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act Program

This multi-year project partially funded management and research positions for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game during fiscal years 2014-2018. The purpose of this project is to provide management and research supervision of State of Alaska managed fisheries, primarily for sablefish, lingcod, black and blue rockfish and Pacific cod, as well as for demersal shelf rockfish, which is jointly managed with NMFS. Activities include collection of fishery catch statistics, collection of biological and stock status information, stock assessment surveys, and management actions to open and close fisheries.



Longline and pot surveys. Photo credit: Naomi Bargmann, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game.

Pacific Islands

- American Samoa: American Samoa Resources Assessment and Monitoring Program for Interjurisdictional Fisheries
- Guam: Data collection and Entry in the Management of Guam's Interjurisdictional Fisheries Resources.
- Hawaii: Development and Implementation of a Web-based Internet Commercial Fisheries Reporting System for the State of Hawaii
- Northern Mariana Islands: Data collection and data entry in the Management of CNMI's Interjurisdictional Fishery Resources

Hawaii: Development and Implementation of a Web-based Internet Commercial Fisheries Reporting System for the State of Hawaii

The State of Hawaii requires fishermen to obtain a commercial marine license to land marine life for commercial purposes. Since 1948, licensed commercial fishers have been required to submit monthly fishing reports. These fishing reports are the most important collection of fishery dependent data in Hawaii. Both federal and state fisheries agencies use this data to assess the status of marine resources and to establish fishery regulations in State and U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone waters. This multi-year project (2013-2017) project provides fishermen with online reporting capability for all report forms and enhance their ability to comply with the reporting requirement. It also provides more timely and accurate fisheries data to meet the fisheries data management needs of state and federal agencies.

<https://dlnr.ehawaii.gov/cmls-fr/app/licensee-login.html>



Commercial bottomfish vessel. Photo credit: Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council.

Funds are also used to support the development of fishery management plans by the three Interstate Marine Fishery Commissions. Table 2 shows the distribution by commission from FY 2013 to 2016.

Table 2. Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act Funds in Support of Interstate Fisheries Commission Activities, FY 2013-2016.

	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$209,178	\$223,138	\$222,837	\$225,032
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$209,178	\$223,138	\$222,837	\$225,032
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$209,178	\$223,138	\$222,837	\$225,032
TOTAL:	\$627,534	\$669,414	\$668,511	\$675,096





U.S. Secretary of Commerce
Wilbur Ross

Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration and Undersecretary of Commerce
RDML Tim Gallaudet, Ph.D., USN Ret.

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
Chris Oliver

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www.fisheries.noaa.gov

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National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East West Highway
SSMC 3, F/SF, Room 13362
Silver Spring, MD 20910