

Recent Federally Funded Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Research
As of September 2015

Cooperative Research

Information regarding the completed and ongoing projects can be found at:

http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/operations_management_information_services/state_federal_liaison_branch/documents/2003-2014_crp_annual_report.pdf

Final reports can be found by contacting Dax Ruiz at (727) 824-5324 or Dax.Ruiz@noaa.gov.

- 1. Continued development and assessment of bycatch reduction devices within the southeastern shrimp trawl fishery**
 - a. \$237.5K
 - b. Institution: Gulf & South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation, Inc
 - c. Started: 2010
 - d. Status: completed

- 2. Characterizing the reproductive biology of species in the small coastal shark fishery complex in U.S. Atlantic waters**
 - a. \$154.8K
 - b. Institution: University of North Florida
 - c. Started: 2012
 - d. Status: completed

- 3. Stock structure of finetooth shark (*Carcharhinus isodon*) in U.S. waters**
 - a. \$93.8K
 - b. Institution: Texas A&M Research Foundation
 - c. Started: 2011
 - d. Status: ongoing

- 4. Stock structure of smooth dogfish (*Mustelus canis*) in U.S. waters**
 - a. \$95.7K
 - b. Institution: Texas A&M Research Foundation
 - c. Started: 2012
 - d. Status: ongoing

- 5. Genetic monitoring and stock structure of two large coastal sharks, using high throughput next-generation sampling**
 - a. \$157.7K
 - b. Institution: Texas A&M University
 - c. Started: 2014
 - d. Status: ongoing

- 6. Discard mortality of Carcharhinid sharks in the Florida commercial shark fishery (2 funded projects)**
 - a. \$235.8K; \$192.3K
 - b. Institution: Mote Marine Laboratory
 - c. Started: 2013 & 2015
 - d. Status: ongoing

7. Determination of alternate fishing practices to reduce mortality of prohibited dusky shark, *Carcharhinus obscurus*, in pelagic longline fisheries

- a. \$121K
- b. Institution: Southeast Fisheries Science Center
- c. Started: 2015
- d. Status: ongoing

Bycatch and Reduction Engineering Program

Information regarding the completed and ongoing projects can be found at:

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/by_catch/bycatch_BREP.htm

Information about final reports may be obtained by contacting Derek Orner at (301) 427-8504 or derek.ornier@noaa.gov.

1. Reducing post-release mortality from commercial fisheries bycatch in large coastal sharks

- a. \$180,000
- b. Institution: Mote Marine Lab
- c. Started: 2014
- d. Status: on going

2. Performance of a long lasting shark repellent bait for bycatch reduction during commercial pelagic longline fishing

- a. \$48,579
- b. Institution: Florida Keys Community College
- c. Started: 2014
- d. Status: on going

3. Pilot project to test prototype devices to reduce leader line length on pelagic longline bycatch

- a. \$51,935
- b. Institution: Vast Array Corporation
- c. Started: 2014
- d. Status: on going

4. Novel technology to assess mortality from bycatch in large coastal sharks

- a. \$235,847
- b. Institution: Mote Marine Lab
- c. Started: 2013
- d. Status: on going

5. **Training of U.S. longline fishermen and fishery observers to increase post-release survival of accidentally captured sea turtles and other protected species**
 - a. \$28,540
 - b. Institution: SUBMON
 - c. Started: 2013
 - d. Status: completed

6. **Geospatial preference modeling and real-time catch reporting in support of an Atlantic bluefin tuna avoidance system**
 - a. \$227,636
 - b. Institution: GeoEye Imagery Collection Systems Inc.
 - c. Started: 2012
 - d. Status: completed

7. **Performance of a long lasting shark repellent bait for bycatch reduction during commercial pelagic longline fishing**
 - a. \$234,311
 - b. Institution: Florida Keys Community College
 - c. Started: 2012
 - d. Status: on going

Bluefin Tuna Research Program

Information regarding the completed and ongoing projects can be found at:

http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/operations_management_information_services/state_federal_liaison_branch/index.html

Information about final reports may be obtained by contacting Dax Ruiz at Dax.Ruiz@noaa.gov.

1. **Improving the Atlantic bluefin tuna assessments by providing better information on age composition**
 - a. \$88,413
 - b. Institution: VA Institute of Marine Science
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going

2. **Measuring larval bluefin tuna growth to improve a fishery-independent index, and help resolve uncertainty with the stock-recruitment relationship**
 - a. \$118,760
 - b. Institution: University of Miami, RSMAS
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going

- 3. Biological sampling to determine age, growth and sex of Atlantic bluefin tuna in the NW Atlantic**
 - a. \$181,642
 - b. Institution: University of Maine System Acting Through the Univ of Maine
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going

- 4. Operational use of otolith chemistry to inform stock assessment and forward projection of Atlantic bluefin tuna populations**
 - a. \$154,268
 - b. Institution: Gulf of Maine Research Institute
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status:

- 5. Development and application of mixed-stock models for determining the origin of bluefin tuna using natural geochemical tags**
 - a. \$116,909
 - b. Institution: Texas A&M University Galveston
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going

- 6. Incorporation of stock mixing in the assessment and forward projection of Atlantic bluefin tuna populations**
 - a. \$151,334
 - b. Institution: Gulf of Maine Research Institute
 - c. Started: 2014
 - d. Status: on going

- 7. Fisheries independent surveys of juvenile Atlantic bluefin tuna**
 - a. \$197,503
 - b. Institution: University of Massachusetts Amherst
 - c. Started: 2014
 - d. Status: on going

- 8. Biological sampling to determine age, growth and sex of Atlantic bluefin tuna in the NW Atlantic**
 - a. \$233,824
 - b. Institution: University of Maine System acting through the Univ. of Maine
 - c. Started: 2014
 - d. Status: on going

- 9. Biological sampling to determine age, growth and sex of Atlantic bluefin tuna in the NW Atlantic**
 - a. \$225,485
 - b. Institution: University of Maine System acting through University of ME
 - c. Started: 2013
 - d. Status: on going

10. Age-structured simulation model of stock mixing for U.S. Atlantic bluefin tuna populations: Historical stock composition, changing demographic states, and influence on management advice

- a. \$132,802
- b. Institution: University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
- c. Started: 2013
- d. Status: on going

11. Integrating spatially explicit information from tagging to improve Atlantic bluefin tuna stock assessments

- a. \$98,912
- b. Institution: University of Massachusetts Amherst
- c. Started: 2013
- d. Status: on going

12. Implementation of spatio-temporal analysis tools to reduce catch of bluefin tuna in the US Atlantic longline fishery

- a. \$125,640
- b. Institution: Duke University
- c. Started: 2013
- d. Status: on going

13. Accounting for the influence of feeding success on the growth and survival of Bluefin tuna larvae in stock assessment efforts

- a. \$102,183
- b. Institution: University of Miami
- c. Started: 2013
- d. Status: on going

Saltonstall-Kennedy (S-K) Grant Program

Information regarding the completed and ongoing projects can be found at:

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mb/financial_services/skhome.htm

Information about final reports may be found by contacting Dan Namur at 301-427-8730 or

dan.namur@noaa.gov

1. Characterizing the behavior and preferences of anglers in the recreational fishery for Atlantic bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) along the U.S. east coast

- a. \$279,899
- b. Institution: VA Institute of Marine Science
- c. Started: 2015
- d. Status: on going

- 2. Post-release mortality in the Atlantic recreational billfish fishery: Quantifying the effects of air exposure**
 - a. \$156,710
 - b. Institution: VA Institute of Marine Science
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going

- 3. Post-release mortality of yellowfin tuna in the U.S. rod and reel recreational fishery**
 - a. \$281,460
 - b. Institution: University of Maine System Acting Through the Univ of Maine
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going

- 4. Field testing an electric decoy for reducing elasmobranch bycatch in longline fisheries**
 - a. \$113,419
 - b. Institution: New England Aquarium Corporation
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going

- 5. Capture mortality and post-release survival of blacktip sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) in the Gulf of Mexico recreational fishery**
 - a. \$355,572
 - b. Institution: Texas A&M University Galveston
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going

- 6. Development of a rapid colorimetric assay based on LAMP to genetically distinguish bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) from other tunas in the field**
 - a. \$174,624
 - b. Institution: Texas A&M University Galveston
 - c. Started: 2015
 - d. Status: on going