



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Interjurisdictional Fisheries and Anadromous Fish Conservation Acts

FY2017 to FY2018 Report to Congress

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Introduction

Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act

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. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) 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 or territories through a grant.



New Jersey Surf Clam Inventory. Photo credit: New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Fisheries Administration.

The IFA is a financial assistance program administered by NOAA Fisheries 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.



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

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 NOAA Fisheries Regional Program Offices via dedicated state and online reporting and monitoring programs such as Grants Online.

Anadromous Fish Conservation Act

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. Therefore, the AFCA will not be discussed further in this report.

About the Report

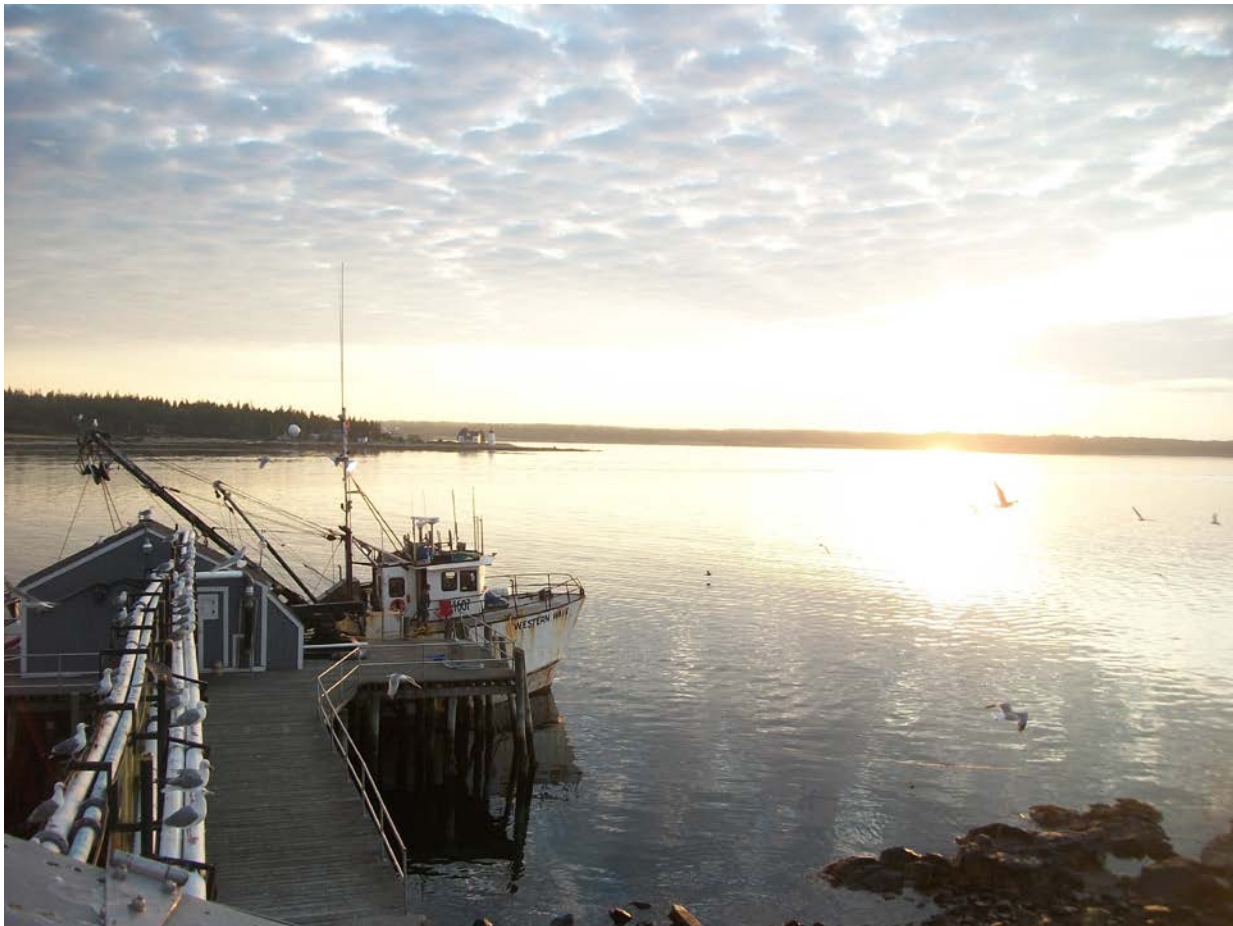
Since 1998, NOAA Fisheries has provided a report to Congress about its ongoing or completed work as authorized through federal assistance programs of the IFA and the AFCA. Each year, funds are spent through the IFA to obtain catch-and-effort statistics and other fisheries information. In turn, this information supports interjurisdictional fishery management decisions at the state, interstate, and federal levels. The report includes information collected during FY 2017 and 2018, and contains information about the IFA funding process and regional disbursement of available funds, as well as a brief list of the projects funded.

Cost Sharing

Any state or territory, 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 or territorial management agencies of up to \$25,000 can be completely financed with federal funds. There is a required 75-25 percent federal-state/territory 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 and territories through a grant based on an apportionment formula using the volume and value of fish landed in each state or territory by domestic commercial fishermen. The IFA lists four ways in which funding can be used: interjurisdictional management activities, development of fishery management plans, research, and disaster assistance. The grant process to disburse the funds ensures that projects further the purposes of the IFA. The majority of the funds appropriated in FY 2017 and 2018 supported interjurisdictional management activities (see Table 1).



Prospect, Maine. Photo credit: James Becker, Maine Department of Marine Resources.



Landing herring in Maine. Photo credit: James Becker, Maine Department of Marine Resources.

Table 1. IFA Federal Funds in Support of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Activities, FY 2017 and 2018.

State	FY2017	FY2018
AL	\$27,006	\$30,104
AK	\$162,036	\$180,624
AS	\$83,603	\$165,921
CA	\$162,036	\$180,623
CNMI	\$13,503	\$15,052
CT	\$13,503	\$15,052
DE	\$13,503	\$15,052
FL	\$162,036	\$180,624
GA	\$13,503	\$15,052
GU	\$13,503	\$15,052
HI	\$86,603	\$92,065
ID	\$13,502	\$15,052
IL	\$13,503	\$15,052
IN	\$13,503	\$15,052
LA	\$162,036	\$180,624
ME	\$162,036	\$180,624
MA	\$162,036	\$180,624
MD	\$77,345	\$88,447
MI	\$13,503	\$15,052
MN	\$13,503	\$15,052
MS	\$117,301	\$141,607
NC	\$86,128	\$94,264
NH	\$13,503	\$15,052
NJ	\$152,336	\$177,753
NY	\$27,006	\$30,104
OH	\$13,503	\$15,052
OR	\$162,036	\$180,623
PA	\$13,503	\$15,052
PR	\$13,503	\$15,052
RI	\$90,919	\$97,904
SC	\$13,503	\$15,052
TX	\$162,036	\$180,622
VT	\$13,503	\$15,052
VA	\$162,036	\$180,624
VI	\$13,503	\$15,052
WA	\$162,036	\$180,623
WV	\$13,503	\$15,052
WI	\$13,503	\$15,052
TOTAL	\$2,700,594	\$3,010,392

Funded Projects in FY 2017 and 2018

The following sections provide descriptive titles of the state and territorial projects funded, listed by region, and by Interstate Commission. All of the projects are funded through multi-year grants.

States and Territories by Region

Northeast

- Connecticut: Connecticut Marine Fisheries Interjurisdictional Enforcement.
- Delaware: Management of the Knobbed Whelk (*Busycon carica*) Stock of Delaware Bay.
- Illinois: Research for Management of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Resources.
- Maine: Interjurisdictional Resources Monitoring and Assessment Project.
- Maryland: To Maintain Maryland's Commercial Catch and Effort Data Collection Programs for Interjurisdictional Species and Make Those Data Available to Coastal Managers and Management Agencies.
- Massachusetts: Interstate Fisheries Management Support.
- Michigan: Quantitative Support for Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management of the Great Lakes.
- Minnesota: Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act Funds for Quantitative Fisheries Center.
- New Hampshire: Commercial Fisheries Data Collection in New Hampshire.
- New Jersey: NJ Surf Clam Inventory.
- New York: Fishery Monitoring of the Crustacean, Horseshoe Crab, and Whelk Resources in the Marine District of Long Island, NY.
- Ohio: Quantitative Support for Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management on the Great Lakes.
- Pennsylvania: Support for Quantitative Fisheries Center at Michigan State University and Collection of Creel Data.
- Rhode Island: Lobster Research and Management in Rhode Island.
- Vermont: Modeling a mainstem spawner: American shad in the Connecticut River.
- Virginia: Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986.

Maine: Interjurisdictional Resources Monitoring and Assessment Project

The Maine Department of Marine Resources has worked with IFA funding from NOAA Fisheries since 1986. FY 2017 and 2018 funding was used to conduct a multi-species resource monitoring and assessment project for American lobster, Atlantic herring, northern shrimp, sea urchin, and ocean quahog fishery management and assessment resources in the Gulf of Maine.



Collecting bycatch scale samples of herring in New Bedford, Maine. Photo credit: James Becker, Maine Department of Marine Resources.

- Wisconsin: Great Lakes Commercial Fisheries Licensing and Harvest Statistics Information System.

Georgia: Assessment of Georgia's Marine Fishery Resources

The assessment of Georgia's trawl fishery resources and crustacean management determined the relative abundance, size composition, and reproductive status of Georgia's penaeid shrimp and blue crab *Callinectes sapidus* stocks. Monthly fisheries independent assessment sampling data collected under the Ecological Monitoring Trawl Survey, funded by this grant, were used to evaluate stock status and to develop recommendations for optimum management of these important marine resources.



Sorting shrimp. Photo credit: Jared Flowers, Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Southeast

- Alabama: Enforcement and Coordination of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Protection Measures.
- Florida: Population Surveys of Spawning Blue Crabs Resulting in the Development of Larval Dispersal Models for Florida Coastal, and Northeast Florida Blue Crab Fishery Profile and Horseshoe Crab Citizen Scientist Program.
- Georgia: Assessment of Georgia's Marine Fishery Resources.
- Louisiana: Interjurisdictional Assessment and Management of Louisiana's Coastal Fisheries.
- Mississippi: Monitoring and Assessment of MS Interjurisdictional Fishery Resources.
- North Carolina: North Carolina Commercial Finfish Assessment.
- Puerto Rico: Puerto Rico/NOAA Fisheries 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: USVI Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program in Support of Fish Age and Growth Studies.

West Coast and Alaska

- Idaho: Develop, Monitor, Revise and Support Interstate Fishery Management Plans; Steelhead Management Workshop; and Abundance and Migratory Patterns of Steelhead Returning to the Snake River Basin.
- Oregon: Develop, Monitor, Revise and Support Interstate Fishery Management Plans; Coastal Cutthroat Database; Technical Subcommittee of US-Canada Groundfish Committee; Steelhead Management Workshop; Pacific Marine Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership; Groundfish Assessment, Management, and FMP Support; and Shrimp Resource Assessment.
- Washington: Develop, Monitor, Revise and Support Interstate Fishery Management Plans; Coastal Cutthroat Database; Technical Subcommittee of US-Canada Groundfish Committee; Steelhead Management Workshop; Pacific Marine Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership; and Groundfish Fishery Management and Fish Stock Assessment.
- California: Monitoring and Management of Coastal and Pelagic Species; NOAA Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act: Monitoring and Management of California Commercial Fish; Coastal Cutthroat Database; Technical Subcommittee of US-Canada Groundfish Committee; Steelhead Management Workshop; and Pacific Marine Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership.
- Alaska: Southeast Alaska Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act.

Idaho: Abundance and Migratory Patterns of Steelhead Returning to the Snake River Basin

This project provides salary and travel cost support for Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) staff to participate in the *U.S. vs. Oregon* Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) activities to determine the abundance and migratory patterns of steelhead returning to the Snake River Basin. These data are required to implement the Columbia River Fisheries Management Plan under the *U.S. vs. Oregon* settlement agreement in accordance with the NOAA Fisheries Endangered Species Act take guidelines for the Snake River Steelhead Distinct Population Segment. The goal of this project is to provide accurate estimates of the survival and migration timing of Snake River steelhead.



Wild steelhead trapped at an IDFG monitoring site in Fish Creek (Lochsa River basin). Photo credit: Ron Roberts, IDFG.

Pacific Islands

- American Samoa: American Samoa Interjurisdictional Fisheries Stock Assessment and Monitoring Program.
- Guam: Data Collection and Entry in the Management of Guam's Interjurisdictional Fishery 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 Entry in the Management of CNMI's Interjurisdictional Fishery Resources.

Guam: Data Collection and Entry in the Management of Guam's Interjurisdictional Fishery Resources

IFA funding supports the coordination of data collection and entry activities under the Pacific Fisheries Data Program with reference to transshipped species offloaded by foreign longliners at Guam's commercial port. The project is designed to help address the information requirements of both state and federal governments to develop and implement policies conducive to the maintenance and expansion of Guam's fishing industry, and develop sound management and conservation plans for Guam's interjurisdictional fishery within its territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zone.



Fishing agents remove yellowfin tuna from containers to be weighed and graded in Guam. Photo credit: Monica Guerrero, Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans.

Interstate Marine Fishery Commissions

Funds are also used to support the development of fishery management plans, research and monitoring, and data analysis and assessment by the three Interstate Marine Fisheries Commissions. Table 2 shows the distribution of funds by Commission for FY 2017 and 2018.

Table 2. IFA Funds in Support of Interstate Fisheries Commission Activities, FY 2017 and 2018.

	FY2017	FY2018
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$229,738	\$626,366
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$229,738	\$626,366
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	\$229,738	\$626,366
TOTAL	\$689,214	\$1,879,098





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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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