



Atlantic Recreational Data Implementation Plan (2023-2027)

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Durham, NC

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*Our vision is to be the principal source of fisheries-dependent information
on the Atlantic coast through the cooperation of all program partners.*

Regional Plan Development

MRIP Executive Steering Committee adopted a hybrid approach to implementation in 2013.

- **NOAA Fisheries** maintains a central role in developing data collection and estimation methods, administering recreational fishing surveys, implementing survey and data standards, and producing recreational fisheries statistics.
- **Regional and state partners** identify data collection priorities, coordinate survey operations and on-site data collection, and participate in quality assurance and quality control procedures.
- Eight **Regional Implementation Teams** are responsible for publishing Regional Implementation Plans that identify regional information needs and recommendations for programmatic improvements.



Regional Plan Development

- Updated every 5 years, or more frequently as recreational catch and effort data needs change
- Plans also identify, prioritize, and estimate the cost of additions and improvements to data collection programs
- Atlantic Plan guided by the ACCSP Coordinating Council and the ACCSP Recreational Technical Comm.
- Includes **Council**, Commission, and state data needs
- Also used in ACCSP annual request for proposals



Atlantic Recreational Implementation Plan: 2023-2027 Ranked Priorities

1. Improved precision (PSE) and presentation of MRIP estimates
2. Comprehensive for-hire data collection and monitoring
3. Improved recreational fishery discard and release data
4. Improved timeliness of recreational catch and harvest estimates
5. Expanded Biological sampling for recreational fisheries
6. Improved in-season monitoring

NOTE: Citizen Science identified as a useful tool for supplemental information



1. Improving Precision - Status

- MRIP funds increased APAIS sampling to improve PSE
 - \$900k/year to Atlantic from Modern Fish Act
 - Over 2,200 more assignments per year (2020 forward)
 - Allocation of assignments by state developed cooperatively among MRIP, ACCSP, and States
 - Assignment distribution broadly based on species diversity, number of waves sampled, and total effort by state
 - States continually adjust by mode and substate regions
- MRIP Survey & Statistical Standards
 - Focus presentation of estimates at PSE <50
 - Provide annual and part-year cumulative estimates



1. Improving Precision - Status

APAIS Site Assignments by State in 2022

State	Pre-MFA Assignments	MFA Add-on Assignments	Percent Increase	Total Assignments
Maine	243	56	23%	299
New Hampshire	192	56	29%	248
Massachusetts	764	143	19%	907
Rhode Island	365	110	30%	475
Connecticut	445	106	24%	551
New York	894	173	19%	1067
New Jersey	1037	457	44%	1494
Delaware	361	106	29%	467
Maryland	678	291	43%	969
Virginia	679	257	38%	936
North Carolina	857	239	28%	1096
South Carolina	378	184	49%	562
Georgia	281	135	48%	416
Total	7174	2313	32%	9487

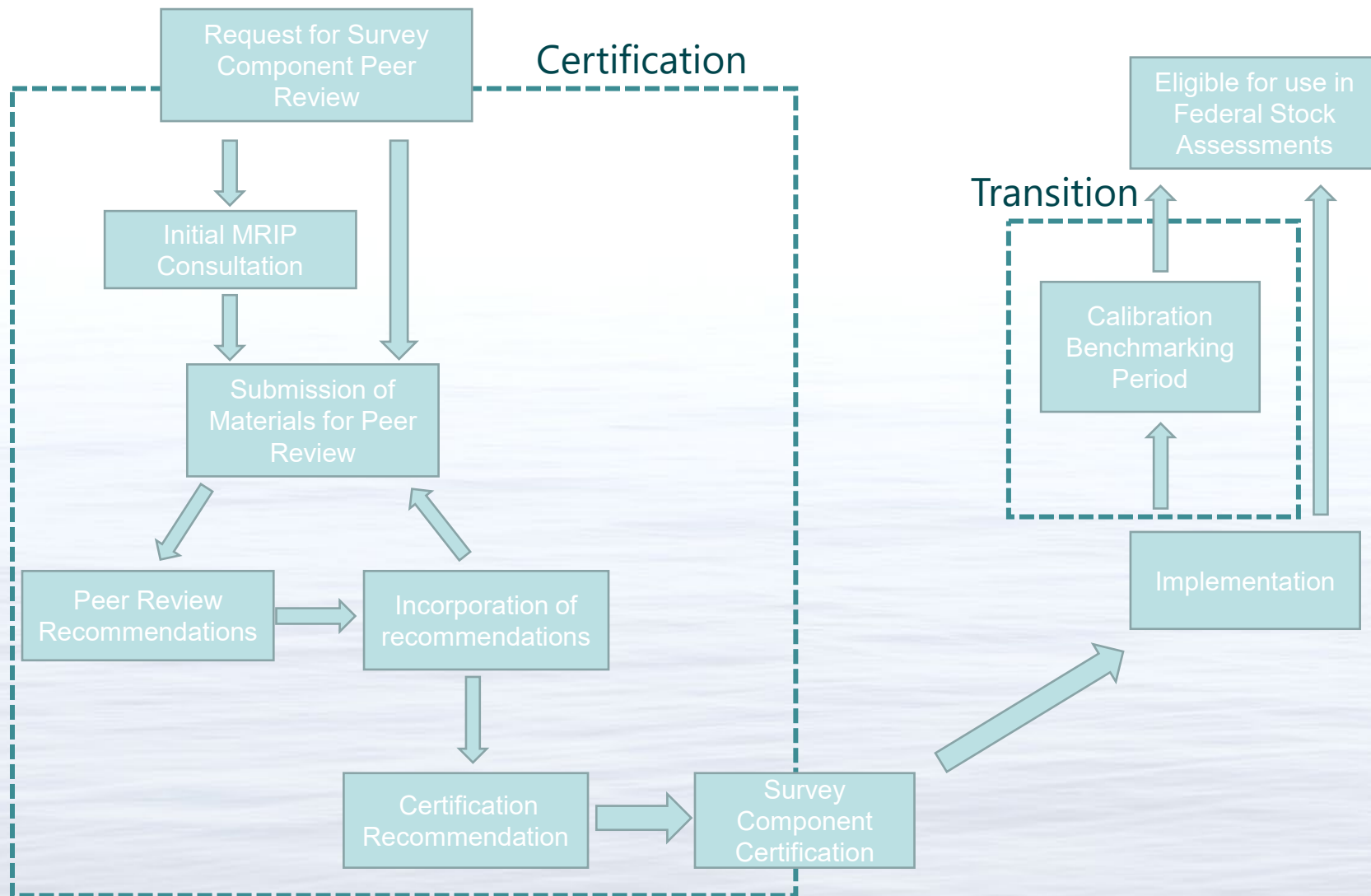
2 - Comprehensive For-hire Data Collection Program - Status

- **Focus: proposed methodology for logbook estimates**
 - Electronic logbook reporting with did not fish reports
 - Dockside catch validation survey (APAIS)
 - Estimation math based on SC pilot (2016)
 - Hail-outs listed as optional component

 - For non-logbook boats: continue FHTS effort survey w/dockside catch survey
 - Combination allows for flexible implementation dates by jurisdictions
- Iterative reviews with MRIP Research and Evaluation Team – some adjustments expected



MRIP Certification Process



3 - Improved recreational fishery discard and release data - Status

- ACCSP RecTech developing a proposal to pilot alternate method to include pre-notification for discarded catch recording and submission
- Builds on GSMFC Released Catch Workshop (2017)
- Intended submission to ACCSP RFP June, 2023



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4. **Improved timeliness of recreational catch and harvest estimates**
5. **Expanded Biological sampling for recreational fisheries**
6. **Improved in-season monitoring**

Items 4-6 open to partner proposal development





Questions?

