

# **Northeast Fisheries Science Center Research-Set-Aside Programmatic Review**

**June 30-July 1, 2009**

**Coastal Institute Building Auditorium  
URI Graduate School of Oceanography  
Narragansett, RI**

Research Set-Aside programs (RSA) are part of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) Cooperative Research Program (CRP). Four RSA programs have been established by the Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Councils, and are unique to the Northeast Region. Funding for research is provided by the sale of the Set-Aside allocations in quota-managed or Day-at-Sea (DAS) managed fisheries, which are awarded through a competitive grant process.

RSA programs support research opportunities among commercial and recreational fishery participants, universities, fishery managers, and other non-government marine research organizations, and have been operational in the Northeast for up to 8 years. A thorough programmatic evaluation is needed to improve upon the current programs, and inform the development of future RSA programs.

The NEFSC convened a fact finding workshop on December 8, 2008 at the NEFSC Laboratory in Narragansett, Rhode Island, to gather information on economic and financial aspects of the RSA programs in the Northeast Region. The workshop was attended by RSA participants, including principal investigators (PI) from academic and non-government research institutions, members of the fishing industry, Council members and staff, and NMFS staff from both the NEFSC and Regional Office (NERO). Also discussed were issues relative to the administration and implementation of the RSA Programs. This meeting was followed up by additional interviews and discussions with individuals from these stakeholder groups.

A formal Panel Review will now be held to evaluate the original intent of regional fishery councils and commissions in developing these programs, articulate specific strengths and drawbacks to RSA programs, and provide comments on possible solutions to challenges that have been identified.

The panel will evaluate the RSA programs according to Terms of Reference developed for the December 8 meeting which include: 1) the objectives or goals for each RSA program; 2) policy issues relative to implementing RSAs; and 3) financial aspects of RSA programs. Enforcement and monitoring of the landing of RSA quota was also identified as a particular area of concern for these programs and will be a topic of discussion.

**The public portion of the Panel Review will be held on June 30, 8:30-4:30 and July 1 from 8:30-10:30 in the Coastal Institute Building Auditorium at the URI Graduate School of Oceanography-Bay Campus, in Narragansett, RI. The first day will be a presentation format with Q & A session; the second morning will be an opportunity for the panel to ask for additional information and clarification before drafting their Panel recommendations.**

For questions regarding the RSA Review, please contact Earl Meredith at 978-281-9276 or [Earl.Meredith@noaa.gov](mailto:Earl.Meredith@noaa.gov), or Carolyn Woodhead at 978-281-9197 or [Carolyn.Woodhead@noaa.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Woodhead@noaa.gov)

## Directions to Coastal Institute Building Graduate School of Oceanography at URI - Narragansett Bay

### From the West

#### Via Rt. 1.

Interstate 95N to Exit 92 in Conn. Right turn after leaving expressway, then about 1.5 mi. on Conn. 2 to 78. Take Rt. 78E (a barrier divides the roadway) 4 mi. to Rt. 1N in Westerly, R.I. Go left on Rt. 1N for about 27 mi. to intersection of Rts. 1 and 138. Make a right onto Bridgetown Rd. Continue to next traffic signal (intersection of Bridgetown Road and Scenic 1A). Cross intersection onto South Ferry Rd. Continue past South Ferry Industrial Park on the right and South Ferry Church on the left. Turn left onto Tarzwell Drive. Parking is on right before Guard Shack. The Coastal Institute Building is # 6 on the map below.

#### Via Rt. 138.

Interstate 95N to exit 3A in R.I. (Kingston exit). Turn right off exit ramp onto Rt. 138E (Kingstown Rd.). Continue on 138 (passing the University's Kingston Campus on the left) to Rt. 1 and cross the junction onto Bridgetown Rd. Continue on Bridgetown Rd. to South Ferry Rd. Continue past South Ferry Industrial Park on the right and South Ferry Church on the left. Turn left onto Tarzwell Drive. Parking is on right before Guard Shack. The Coastal Institute Building is # 6 on the map below.

### From the North

Interstate 95S toward N.Y. and Narragansett. (From T.F. Green Airport, follow the Airport Connector signs to join 95S at exit 13.) Continue on 95S to Exit 9 and exit in left lane off highway onto Rt. 4S. Continue to Rt. 1 and the junction of Rt. 138W. Take a left at the tower onto Bridgetown Rd. Continue to South Ferry Rd. Continue past South Ferry Industrial Park on the right and South Ferry Church on the left. Turn left onto Tarzwell Drive. Parking is on right before Guard Shack. The Coastal Institute Building is # 6 on the map below.

### From the East

Rt. 195 to 24S to 138W. Cross Newport (toll \$2) and Jamestown Bridges. Take the first exit after the bridge onto Rt. 1A toward Narragansett. Continue south to the first traffic signal and make a left onto South Ferry Rd. Continue past South Ferry Industrial Park on the right and South Ferry Church on the left. Turn left onto Tarzwell Drive. Parking is on right before Guard Shack. The Coastal Institute Building is # 6 on the map below.

