

**Implementation Table for Amendment I of the 1990 Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP)  
Bluefish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) *October 3, 2003***

<b>Problem Area</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Stock Status</b> <b>Management Strategy</b> CBP jurisdictions will continue to utilize management strategies that decrease fishing mortality and help increase bluefish abundance.	<b>Action 1.0</b> CBP jurisdictions will continue to participate in scientific and technical meetings for managing bluefish along the coast and estuarine waters.	1999 Continue	MAFMC/ASMFC Amendment #1 was adopted in 1999. Amendment #1 to the CBP FMP was drafted in 2003. Stock biomass is increasing, fishing mortality (F) has decreased to (F <sub>2003</sub> =0.18) and has remained below the threshold of (F <sub>MSY</sub> =0.26) since 1999.
	<b>Action 1.1</b> CBP jurisdictions will adopt the MAFMC/ASMFC overfishing definition, and adhere to the 9-year rebuilding schedule for the coast wide management of bluefish	1999 Continue	The 9-year rebuilding schedule reduces F: F=0.51(1999-2000) F=0.41(2001-2003) F=0.31(2004-2007)
<b>Fishery</b> <b>Management Strategy</b> CBP jurisdictions will adhere to the coastal commercial and recreational TAL designated by MAFMC /ASMFC.	<b>Action 2.0</b> CBP jurisdictions will adhere to the commercial TAL established by MAFMC/ASMFC. Individual state-by-state quotas are based on historic landings from 1981-1989.	Continue	TAL may vary annually.
	<b>Action 2.1</b> CBP jurisdictions will continue to require licenses for harvest and sale; Virginia requires a license for its commercial hook and line fishery and established a 10 fish creel limit.	1991	In VA, any species not managed under a coastal quota system is subject to the corresponding recreational creel limit for that species in the commercial hook and line fishery.
	<b>Action 2.2</b> CBP jurisdictions will adhere to the coastal recreational harvest level established by the MAFMC/ASMFC. Virginia and the PRFC instituted a 10 fish creel limit in the summer of 1990. Maryland established a 10 fish recreational creel limit in 1991. Creel limits and minimum legal sizes may be modified as a.	1990 1991 Continue	A 10 fish creel limit is enforced by CBP jurisdictions. MD also implemented an 8 inch minimum size limit. MD COMAR 08.02.05.10 April 29 <sup>th</sup> , 1991

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<p><b>Research and Monitoring Strategy</b> Data collected from multiple independent fishery surveys contribute to coastal research and monitoring efforts of bluefish.</p>	<p><b>Action 3.0</b> CBP jurisdictions will continue to collect catch and effort data from the commercial fishery and expand the economic data to include dollar value of the commercial fishery and the annual dockside value received for bluefish in CBP jurisdictions.</p>	Continue	Mandatory reporting is in effect in all CBP jurisdictions.
	<p><b>Action 3.1</b> CBP jurisdictions will assess methods for improving recreational and charter catch/effort data needed to evaluate biological and economic impacts.</p>	Continue	MD requires logbooks for charter boats. <b>On May 1, 2004 coastal species managed by quota , will be electronically reported in real time.</b>
	<p><b>Action 3.2</b> CBP jurisdictions will continue to collect fishery independent data on bluefish.</p>	On-going	The CHESFIMS and ChesMMAPP surveys will provide important information, which will be used to help manage bluefish in Chesapeake Bay.
<p><b>Habitat Management Strategy</b> CBP jurisdictions are currently evaluating studies that will identify and delineate bluefish habitat and water quality parameters critical to bluefish in the Chesapeake Bay. The identification and development of trophic level relationships will</p>	<p><b>Action 4.0</b> CBP jurisdictions continue to set goals for water quality, habitat restoration and protection to address commitments established under Chesapeake Bay 2000 agreements.</p>	Continue	<b>Bluefish habitat has been identified in CBP jurisdictions in Amendment I.</b>
	<p><b>Action 4.1</b> CBP jurisdictions will regulate land and water activities that may negatively impact essential water quality parameters for bluefish such as temperature, dissolved oxygen and turbidity.</p>	Continue	
	<p><b>Action 4.2</b> CBP jurisdictions will monitor activities that may negatively impact SAV types where bluefish have demonstrated a significant degree of association.</p>	Continue	CBP monitors SAVs in the Chesapeake Bay by annual aerial survey.

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<b>Habitat (Cont.)</b> also become possible with the establishment of CHESFIMS in 2001 and ChesMAPP in 2002 and the utilization of coastal multispecies models of Atlantic menhaden, striped bass, weakfish and bluefish.	<b>Action 4.3</b> CBP jurisdictions will monitor important forage species, when identified by fishery independent surveys, to insure that activities such as directed fisheries or incidental by-catch in non-directed fisheries, do not adversely affect forage species abundance. If fishing activities are contributing to higher fishing mortality (F) of important managed forage species, such as Atlantic menhaden, Atlantic croaker, spot and/or blue crab, additional management measures may be necessary.	Will begin as soon as data becomes available	Data from CHESFIMS, ChesMAPP will examine stomach contents data of juvenile and adult bluefish in the Chesapeake Bay. Variability of the abundance of forage fish in the Chesapeake Bay is also being examined by independent research project out of CBL.
	<b>Action 4.4</b> CBP jurisdictions will monitor the abundance of important bluefish forage species that are not managed under CBP FMPs, such as bay anchovies and Atlantic silversides	On-going	MD and VA juvenile seine surveys monitor the abundance of anchovies and silver sides. Non-managed forage fish abundance is being examined by an independent, CBL research project.
	<b>Action 4.5</b> CBP jurisdictions will continue to identify predator/prey interactions, both inter- and intra- species competition and other interactions that might effect the management of bluefish.	On-going	Data from the CHESFIMS and the ChesMAPP surveys will be utilized to identify and delineate ecological relationships. Development of multispecies fishery management plans may result from this data.

**ASMFC**=Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

**CHESFIMS**=Chesapeake Bay Fishery Independent Multispecies Fishery Survey

**ChesMAPP**=Chesapeake Bay Multispecies Monitoring and Assessment Program

**(F)**=Fishing Mortality

**(F<sub>MSY</sub>)**= Fishing mortality at the “threshold” biological reference point. If (F) is at a rate beyond this point (F<sub>MSY</sub>), overfishing is occurring because the fishing of the stock has gone beyond the stock’s Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY).

**MAFMC**=Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council

**PRFC**=Potomac River Fisheries Commission

**SAV**=Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

**TAL**=Total Allowable Landings