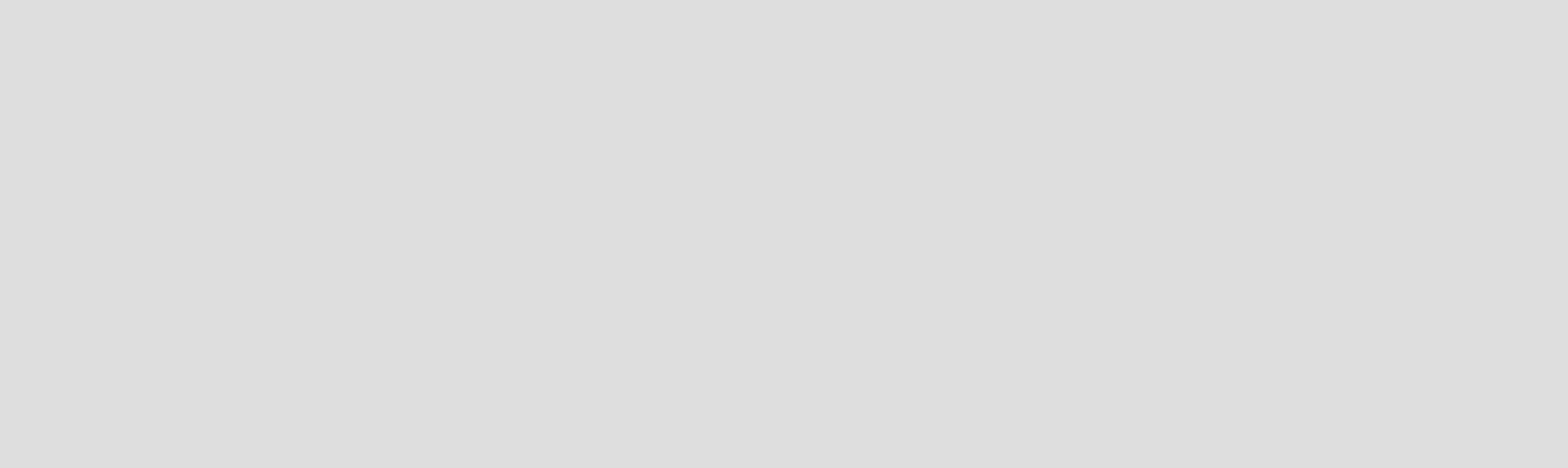




Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership



A Quick History...



2006: Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission charge



2007: Candidate Fish Habitat Partnership



2009: Became a Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Partnership

www.fishhabitat.org

What is ACFHP: Mission

To accelerate the conservation, protection, restoration, and enhancement of habitat for native Atlantic coastal, estuarine-dependent, and diadromous fishes through partnerships between federal, tribal, state, local, and other entities.



What is ACFHP: 30 Partners

- American Littoral Society
- American Rivers
- ASMFC
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Connecticut DEP
- Delaware DNREC
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Florida FWCC
- Georgia DNR
- Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
- Maine DMR
- Maryland DNR
- Massachusetts DMF
- NOAA
- New Hampshire FGD
- New Jersey DFW
- New York DEC
- North Carolina DENR
- Oyster Recovery Partnership
- Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
- Pennsylvania FBC
- Rhode Island DFW
- South Carolina DNR
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Vermont FWD
- Virginia Marine Resources Commission
- Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve





Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Partnership Boundary



What is ACFHP: Partnership Geographic Extent





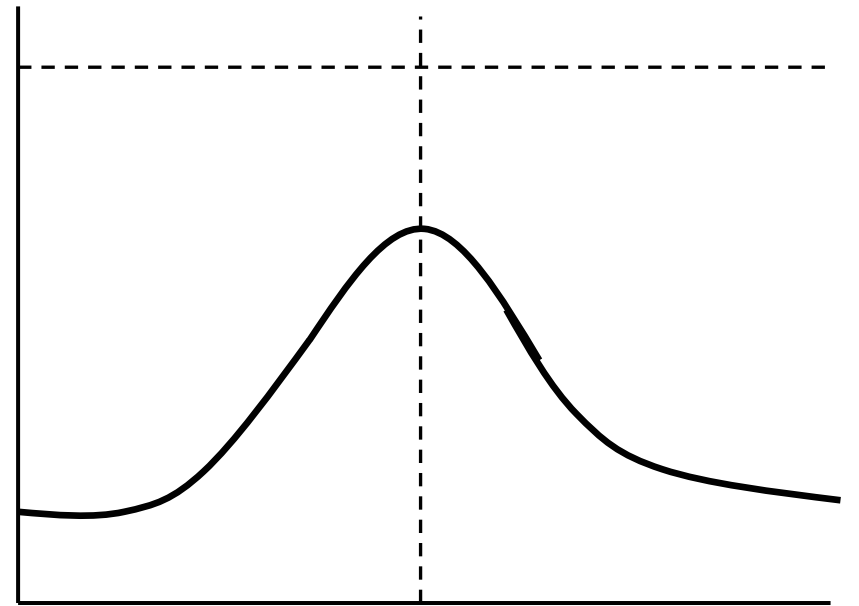
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Partnership Boundary



What is ACFHP: Partnership Geographic Extent



Effort Level



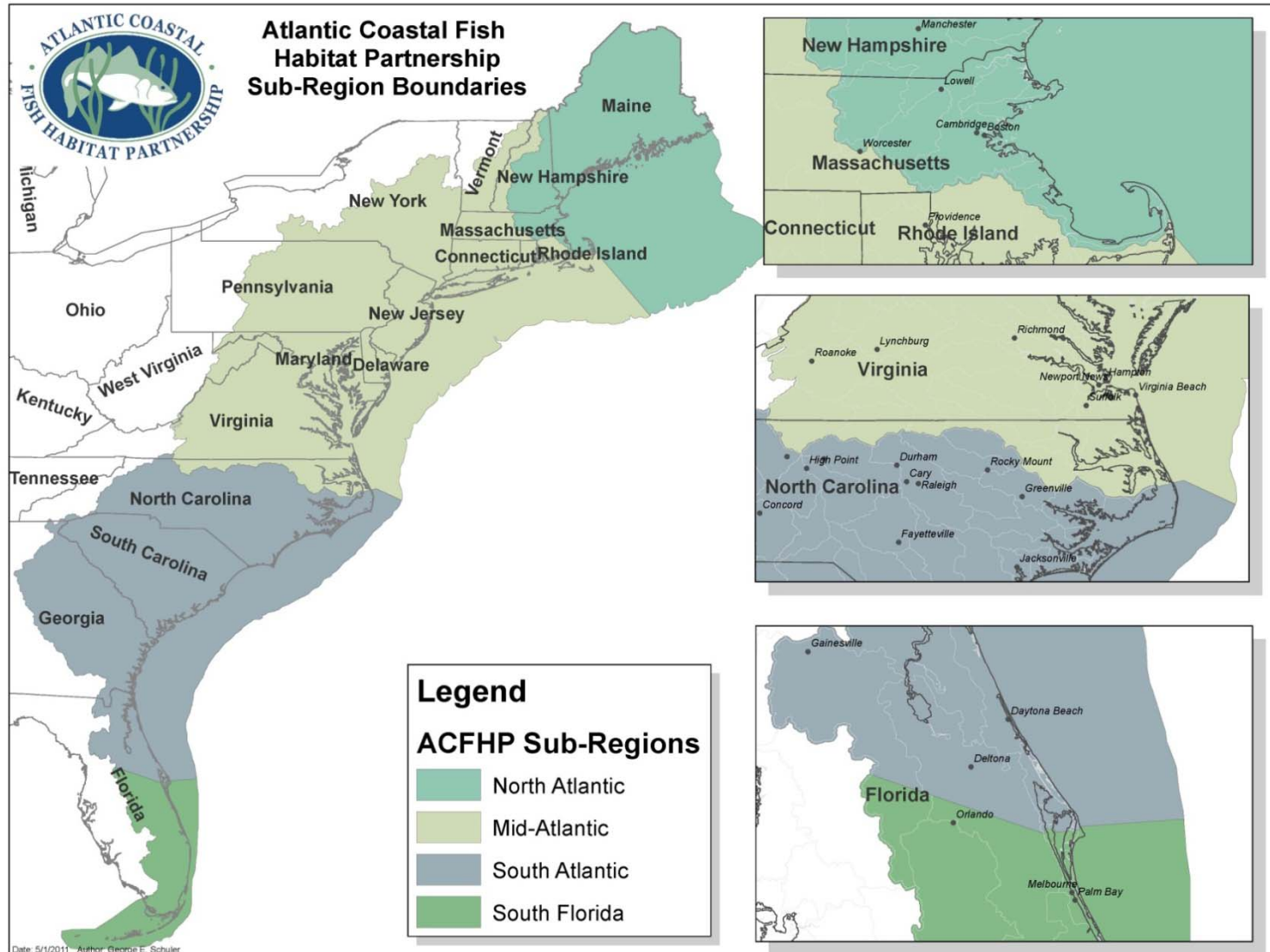
Headwaters ←

Estuaries

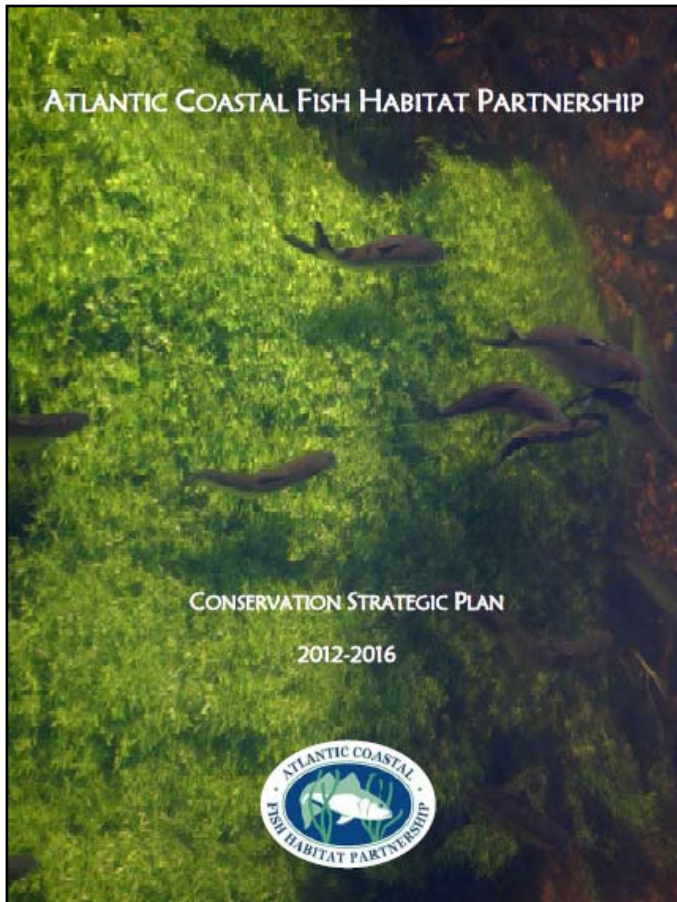
→ Shelf Edge

Ecological Area

What is ACFHP: Partnership Sub-Regions



Where we are and where we're going



ACFHP Goals → Objectives
& Strategic Actions

Priority Threats and Habitats →
Protection and Restoration

Programmatic Needs → Science
and Data, Communications and
Outreach, and Finance



ACFHP Priority Threats

- Obstructions to Fish Movement/ Habitat Connectivity
- Dredging and Coastal Maintenance
- Water Quality Degradation and Eutrophication
- Consumptive Water Withdrawal
- Sedimentation
- Vessel Operation Impacts
- Contamination of Water (ground & surface) and Sediments
- Invasive Species
- Climate Change



ACFHP Priority Habitats



North Atlantic Riverine Bottom
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
Marine and Estuarine Shellfish Beds

Mid-Atlantic Riverine Bottom
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
Tidal Vegetation

South Atlantic Riverine Bottom
Marine and Estuarine Shellfish Beds
Tidal Vegetation

South Florida Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
Coral and live / hard bottom
Mangrove



On-the-Ground Project Funding

USFWS-NFHP Project Funding (FY10, FY11, and FY12):

- \$90,000/year available to fund projects:
 - Total of \$207,602 Direct
 - Total of \$62,397 Indirect
- \$586,490 total proposed partner funds
- Total of 7 projects in 6 states:
 - 4 in Region 5 (NY, ME, MA, and VA)
 - 3 in Region 4 (SC and FL)




 Restoring Diadromous Fish Passage and Habitats to Shoreys Brook, ME (FY2011)

 Buzzards Bay Eelgrass Restoration, MA (FY2012)

 Scoy Pond and Staudinger's Pond Alewife Access and Habitat Enhancement, NY (FY2010)

 James River Atlantic Sturgeon Habitat Restoration, VA (FY2012)

 Goose Creek Dam Eel Passage Restoration, SC (FY2010)

 Shoreline and *Spartina* Marsh Stabilization along the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, SC (FY2011)

 Restoring the Mangroves of the Indian River Lagoon, FL (FY2012)



On-the-Ground Project Funding

Total Accomplishments:

- Provided access to 44 stream miles and opened 18 acres of estuarine habitat by providing fish passage at 4 blockages
- Protected 150 meters of shoreline
- Enhanced nearly 1,000 acres of estuarine habitat
- Restored 0.08 acres of oyster reef, 0.2 acres of eelgrass, 10 acres of coastal wetlands, .15 mi. of in-stream habitat, and 0.3 acres of salt marsh



Endorsed Projects (all are proposed, excepting the first)



- Eelgrass Conservation Moorings Demonstration Project, MA
- Grassy Flats Estuarine Habitat Restoration Project, FL
- Alewife Outreach and Education, CT
- South Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Assessment and Tool
- Dam Removal and Habitat Restoration on the Exeter/Squamscott River, NH
- Culvert Replacement on Longbranch Creek, SC
- Restore It and They Will Come: River Herring in the West River, CT
- North River Farms Tidal Marsh Restoration, NC

Science Projects



- Assessment of Existing Habitat Information

www8.nos.noaa.gov/bhv/spatbibindex.html

- Species – Habitat Matrix

www.atlanticfishhabitat.org/planningresources/database/

- North Atlantic LCC/Downstream Strategies Habitat Assessment

www.northatlanticlcc.org/projects/downstream-strategies-project