



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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*Dr. Louis B. Daniel, III, (NC), Chair*

*Douglas E. Grout (NH), Vice-Chair*

*Robert E. Beal, Executive Director*

*Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries*

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### **Fisheries Specialist – APAIS Assistant Biologist**

*Location:* Port Republic, New Jersey

*Salary:* \$40,000 – \$46,296 annually

*Closing Date:* August 17, 2015

*(plus benefits)*

**Duties:** As **Fisheries Specialist – APAIS Assistant Biologist**, the incumbent will directly assist the state Lead Principal Biologist (Lead) in coordinating the state field operations of the Access-Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS), including program planning, implementation, and operations; field sampling, data acquisition; data error checking and submission. This important research study, sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) conducts face-to-face interviews with marine recreational anglers. Field staff will travel to assigned sites to interview anglers about their fishing experiences, collect a variety of information, and (when applicable) weigh, measure, and identify fish by species name that the anglers have caught. Assigned sites can include beaches, banks, piers, docks, jetties, and access points for private, charter, and head boats, including marinas, boat ramps and other points of entry to marine waters. This position will assist in coordinating field survey activities, including field staff assignments, quality control/quality assurance checks on completed forms, maintenance of site and vessel registry information, and submission of weekly data to ACCSP. The responsibilities of the incumbent will include, but not be limited to, assisting the Lead with the following:

- Act as a contact person for constituent questions regarding survey protocol
- Maintains and coordinates APAIS field sampler assignments (dockside & at-sea)
- Performs daily/weekly field staff oversight and monitors weekly assignments
- Perform staff training on procedures and fish identification
- Performs phone validations for 10% of all intercepts completed (by sampler)
- Maintains state site registry information
- In consultation with MRIP, recommends base & add-on site allocation requests to ACCSP for site assignment draws
- Submits weekly data and assignment tracking to ACCSP for entry and processing
- Participates in data collection and data QA/QC
- Provides for-hire vessel directory updates as identified by field staff
- Conduct field interview assignments as needed, following APAIS survey procedures;
- Participates in ACCSP and MRIP APAIS meetings
- Other duties as assigned.

**Supervision Received:** The ACCSP is housed within the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) for administrative purposes, and therefore the Fisheries Specialist will be

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a Commission employee. As an ASMFC employee, the Fisheries Specialist reports to the state Lead on a daily basis. The state Lead and the ACCSP Recreational Program Manager make joint decisions concerning hiring of the Fisheries Specialist. The state Lead conducts performance evaluations, with review and final approval by the ACCSP Recreational Program Manager.

Locations and Hours: This position is located at the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife's Nacote Creek Research Station in Port Republic, NJ and requires individuals who have flexible availability, including some weekend work to coordinate field staff assignments. Work is performed primarily in an office setting with some travel to local fishing access sites in NJ and field work is performed in an outdoor setting. The incumbent will report directly to the state Lead. This is a Fisheries Specialist position, not qualified for overtime under the Commission's policies. Compensatory time and flexible working hours are available under the Commission's policy; however, the Fisheries Specialist is a salaried employee, and is expected to put in the effort necessary to make this program successful.

Qualifications: Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in fisheries science, marine biology, or a related field. Master's degree, personnel management experience, and knowledge of local fisheries and waterways preferred. Applicants should have experience working with survey data. Qualified candidates will have the ability to work independently as well as in a group/team atmosphere, be able to instruct workers and technicians in assigned field work, and have excellent interpersonal skills. United States citizenship and a valid driver's license are required.

Training: The APAIS Biologist will be required to attend an in-person annual training, and administer the training to state field staff as necessary. Trainees must successfully complete training to continue employment on the project including passing a fish species identification test and a survey procedures test.

Application Process: Please send resume and cover letter to Laura Leach, Director of Finance and Administration, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, 1050 N. Highland Street; Suite 200A-N, Arlington, VA 22201. Resumes will be accepted via U.S. Mail (postmarked by closing date), email ([cbutler@asmfc.org](mailto:cbutler@asmfc.org)), or fax (703) 842-0741 until the closing date of August 17, 2015.

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The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) is comprised of the 15 Atlantic coast states under the terms of an interstate compact approved in 1942. The purpose of the Commission, as set forth by Article I of its Compact, is: To promote the better utilization of the fisheries, marine, shell and anadromous, of the Atlantic seaboard by the promotion and protection of such fisheries. As an instrumentality of the 15 Atlantic coastal states, the Commission is employed to coordinate conservation and management for nearshore migratory fishery resources.

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