



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

*Working towards healthy, self-sustaining populations of all Atlantic coast fish species, or successful restoration
well in progress by the year 2015*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 8, 2012

PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger
703.842.0740

Dr. John Sweka Receives ASMFC Technical Achievement Award

Alexandria, VA – Dr. John Sweka with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was presented the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s Technical Achievement Award in recognition for his work in advancing the assessment and management of several Commission-managed species.

“On behalf of our Commissioners, I would like to commend Dr. Sweka for his keen technical and analytical support to our American Eel, Atlantic Striped Bass, and River Herring Stock Assessment Subcommittees as well as the Horseshoe Crab Adaptive Resource Management Subcommittee. His efforts and leadership have contributed to improved stock assessments and the use of innovative management tools,” stated ASMFC Executive Director John V. O’Shea.

As Chair of the River Herring Stock Assessment Subcommittee, Dr. Sweka provided strong leadership in the development of the 2012 benchmark stock assessment for river herring. The assessment, endorsed for management use by an independent panel of scientists this May, analyzed and determined stock status for 52 river-specific populations of river herring.

In addition, Dr. Sweka played a key role in furthering horseshoe crab management by aiding in the development of the Adaptive Resource Management framework, incorporating both shorebird and horseshoe crab abundance levels to set horseshoe crab management measures for the Delaware Bay area. As a result of his efforts, horseshoe crab will be the first interstate fisheries management program to explicitly address multispecies objectives.



From left: ASMFC Executive Director John V. O’Shea and Dr. John Sweka, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and diadromous species.

1050 N. Highland St. – Suite 200A-N – Arlington, V.A. 22201
703.842.0740 (phone) 703.842.0741 (fax) www.asmfc.org