

# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Atlantic Coast Diadromous Fish Habitat: A Review of Utilization, Threats, Recommendations for Conservation, and Research Needs



## Habitat Management Series #9 January 2009

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

## **ASMFC Habitat Management Series #9**

## Atlantic Coast Diadromous Fish Habitat: A Review of Utilization, Threats, Recommendations for Conservation, and Research Needs

**Prepared by:** 

Karen E. Greene

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service Sustainable Fisheries Division Silver Spring, Maryland karen.e.greene@noaa.gov

Jennifer L. Zimmerman

West Virginia University Morgantown, West Virginia jenzimm@gmail.com

**R.** Wilson Laney

United States Fish and Wildlife Service South Atlantic Fisheries Office Raleigh, North Carolina wilson\_laney@fws.gov

and

Jessie C. Thomas-Blate Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Washington, District of Columbia JThomas@asmfc.org Atlantic Coast Diadromous Fish Habitat

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank the many people that provided feedback and information for this document. Many ASMFC Habitat Committee members and Habitat Coordinators, both past and present, provided valuable input throughout the various iterations of this document over the past nine years, and for that we are very grateful. Without assistance from state and federal habitat coordinators, and academia, much of the information contained in this document would not have been published. They generously offered numerous articles and unpublished resources in addition to personal insight, which were invaluable contributions to this document. We are indebted to their expertise, suggested resources, and review of these chapters.

Karen Greene would like to acknowledge Russ Allen, Philips Brady, Michael Brown, Dennis Erkan, Steve Gephard, Don Harrison, Kathryn A. Hattala, Mike Hendricks, Richard McBride, Billy McCord, James Mowrer, Bob Sadzinski, Jesse Sayles, Craig Shirey, Alan Weaver, and Sara Winslow. She would also like to thank Richard St. Pierre and John Olney for taking the time to personally talk to her about anadromous fish habitat. Without the help of all of these dedicated individuals, this document would not include the extensive information on shad and river herring that these people provided.

Jen Zimmerman would like to thank the following people for their help with the Atlantic sturgeon chapter: Prescott Brownell, Mark Collins, Joel Fleming, Dewayne Fox, Joe Hightower, Andy Kahnle, James Kirk, Steve Leach, Alan Libby, John McCord, Ron Michaels, Jerre Mohler, Greg Murphy, Doug Peterson, Fritz Rhode, Dave Secor, and Craig Shirey. For the American eel chapter, she would like to extend her gratitude to: Paul Angermeier, Dieter Bush, John Casselman, Patrick Geer, James McCleave, Kevin McGrath, and Michael Potthoff. Also, thank you to the members of ASMFC Atlantic sturgeon and American eel technical committees for all of their assistance. In addition, she would like to offer a special thank you to Thomas Bigford, Karen Greene, Wilson Laney, and Carrie Selberg for all of their guidance and contributions to the American eel and Atlantic sturgeon chapters. Finally, she would like to thank Jessie Thomas-Blate for seeing this document to the finish line.

Wilson Laney would like to thank Ken Able, Prescott Brownell, Jeff Buckel, Lew Flagg, Joe Hightower, Fritz Rohde, Roger Rulifson, Mark Westendorf, and Sara Winslow for their help with the striped bass chapter.

For their assistance with providing, reviewing, and/or updating information in this document (in some cases multiple times), Jessie Thomas-Blate would like to thank Paul Angermeier, Colin Apse, Prescott Brownell, Dieter Busch, Mark Collins, Kim Damon-Randall, Pat Geer, Alex Haro, Julie Harris, Mike Hendricks, Joe Hightower, Andy Kahnle, James Kirk, Sandra Lary, Steve Leach, Alan Libby, James McCleave, Stephen McCormick, Sean McDermott, Kevin McGrath, Ron Michaels, Jerre Mohler, Greg Murphy, Julie Nygard, Wes Patrick, Doug Peterson, Michael Potthoff, Bob Sadzinski, Dave Secor, Carrie Selberg, Craig Shirey, members of the ASMFC Habitat Committee, and others that we might have forgotten to mention.

Additionally, we would like to extend our gratitude to Alexa McKerrow, and her crew at North Carolina State University GAP Analysis Project, for compiling the GIS maps for our supplemental DVD.

### Citation:

Greene, K. E., J. L. Zimmerman, R. W. Laney, and J. C. Thomas-Blate. 2009. Atlantic coast diadromous fish habitat: A review of utilization, threats, recommendations for conservation, and research needs. Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Habitat Management Series No. 9, Washington, D.C.

This report is a publication of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission pursuant to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Grant Numbers A-10-C-1 and A-11-C-1.

