



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

## NEWS RELEASE

*Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries*

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### ASMFC Awards Grants to 5 Aquaculture Pilot Projects

Arlington, VA – The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) has selected five aquaculture pilot projects to receive funding. Through these pilot projects, emphasis is being placed on promising but less commercially developed technologies for finfish and shellfish, and other industry needs like increased permitting efficiency. As part of its efforts to foster responsible aquaculture and seafood security in the US, NOAA Fisheries provided \$575,000 in funding to the Commission to support these projects. Following a rigorous review, which included an evaluation of the technical aspects of the proposals as well as their compliance with environmental laws, the following five projects were selected. The projects, ranging from black sea bass production to aquaculture workforce development, will begin in August and are scheduled for completion in 2020.

FY2019 Atlantic States Marine Aquaculture Pilot Projects Grants	
Applicant	Title
Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries	The Massachusetts Aquaculture Permitting Plan Web Interface to Streamline Aquaculture Permitting
University of Maine	Aquaculture Workforce Development: Certificate in Applied Sustainable Aquaculture
University of North Carolina at Wilmington	Removing Technical Barriers to Sustainable Production of Black Sea Bass ( <i>Centropristis striata</i> ) in Recirculating Aquaculture Systems
North Carolina State University	Continued Evaluation of Bay Scallop ( <i>Argopecten irradians</i> ) Aquaculture in North Carolina as a Means for Industry Crop Diversification and Restoration of Wild Stocks: Building upon 2018 Results
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	Regional Pilot Project to Evaluate and Develop Sustainable Aquaculture of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster ( <i>Panulirus argus</i> )

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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.