



**NOAA** NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
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### **Scientist Honored for Contributions to Fisheries Management, Conservation**

Mark Terceiro, a fisheries biologist at the Woods Hole Laboratory of NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), has been honored by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) with its Award of Excellence for his contributions to the success of fisheries management and conservation along the Atlantic coast, particularly for scup and summer flounder.

Terceiro received the Award of Excellence in the scientific, technical and advisory category in May during the group's spring meeting in Alexandria, Va. ASMFC was formed in 1942 by the 15 Atlantic coast states to coordinate the conservation and management of the states' shared fishery resources.

"Every year a great many people contribute to the success of fisheries management along the Atlantic coast. The Commission's Annual Awards of Excellence recognize outstanding efforts by professionals who have made a difference in the way we manage and conserve our fisheries," said ASMFC Chair Robert H. Boyles, Jr., of South Carolina. "Through his scientific analyses and technical committee involvement, Mark Terceiro has ensured that the best available scientific information has been provided to support management decisions for scup and summer flounder."

For nearly two decades, Terceiro has served on the Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Technical Committees. He has also served on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Monitoring Committees. The Mid-Atlantic Council manages fisheries in federal waters from New York to North Carolina.

Terceiro joined the Woods Hole Laboratory of NOAA Fisheries Service in 1986 after receiving his B.S. degree in zoology and Ph.D. in biological oceanography from the University of Rhode Island. He is a member of the southern demersal task group, which studies bottom-dwelling fish species common off the Mid-Atlantic states, like scup and summer flounder. The group is part of the laboratory's Population Dynamics Branch, which conducts research on finfish and invertebrate stocks along the Atlantic coast. His current responsibilities include stock assessments for Atlantic bluefish and summer flounder.

"Mark Terceiro's dedication, efficiency, and attention to detail are remarkable," said Paul Rago, Population Dynamics Branch Chief. "He has made significant contributions to the assessments of many species in the Northeast, but his leadership on summer flounder has been especially notable. His work has laid the scientific basis for the restoration of this valuable resource."

“For many years, Mark Terceiro has successfully performed and defended the benchmark assessments and annual stock assessment updates for summer flounder,” ASMFC added. “His rigorous and thorough analyses have consistently produced strong, defensible assessments and lent considerable credibility to the scientific foundation of our management decisions for this very important and controversial Mid-Atlantic species. Mark Terceiro’s impressive contributions, coupled with his dedication and devotion to his work, make him an extremely valuable asset to the fisheries management process.”

Two other Awards of Excellence were also presented at the ASMFC’s recent meeting. Vito Calomo of Gloucester, Mass., who has worked in many capacities in the fishing industry, was honored for his service as an industry advisor and as a member of many Commission committees. He currently serves as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Fisheries Recovery Commission. Kim McKown, a senior fisheries biologist with the New York State Department of Conservation, was honored for her early work in overseeing sampling programs for striped bass and Atlantic sturgeon and for her current role leading research and monitoring activities for American lobster, horseshoe crab, and other crustacea in New York’s coastal waters.

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Related links:

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC): <http://www.asmfc.org/>