

(3) to land lawfully harvested Atlantic striped bass within the boundaries of a coastal State when a moratorium declared under subsection (a) applies to that State; or

(4) to fail to return to the water Atlantic striped bass to which the moratorium applies that are caught incidental to harvesting that occurs in the course of commercial or recreational fish catching activities, regardless of the physical condition of the striped bass when caught.

**(c) Civil penalties**

**(1) Civil penalty**

Any person who commits any act that is unlawful under subsection (b) shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty as provided by section 308 of the Magnuson Act (16 U.S.C. 1858).

**(2) Civil forfeitures**

**(A) In general**

Any vessel (including its gear, equipment, appurtenances, stores, and cargo) used, and any fish (or the fair market value thereof) taken or retained, in any manner, in connection with, or as the result of, the commission of any act that is unlawful under subsection (b) shall be subject to forfeiture to the United States as provided in section 310 of the Magnuson Act (16 U.S.C. 1860).

**(B) Disposal of fish**

Any fish seized pursuant to this chapter may be disposed of pursuant to the order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or, if perishable, in a manner prescribed in regulations.

**(d) Enforcement**

A person authorized by the Secretaries or the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may take any action to enforce a moratorium declared under subsection (a) that an officer authorized by the Secretary under section 311(b) of the Magnuson Act (16 U.S.C. 1861(b)) may take to enforce that Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.). The Secretaries may, by agreement, on a reimbursable basis or otherwise, utilize the personnel, services, equipment (including aircraft and vessels), and facilities of any other Federal department or agency and of any agency of a State in carrying out that enforcement.

**(e) Regulations**

The Secretaries may issue regulations to implement this section.

(Pub. L. 98-613, § 5, Oct. 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 3189; Pub. L. 99-432, § 3, Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 990; Pub. L. 100-589, § 6(g)(2), Nov. 3, 1988, 102 Stat. 2988; Pub. L. 102-130, § 2(a), Oct. 17, 1991, 105 Stat. 626; Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, § 101(a) [title II, § 211(b)], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009, 3009-41; Pub. L. 105-146, § 2, Dec. 16, 1997, 111 Stat. 2674.)

AMENDMENTS

1997—Pub. L. 105-146 amended section catchline and text generally. Prior to amendment, section defined terms “moratorium area” and “moratorium period”, prohibited acts during moratorium, and provided for penalties, forfeitures, and enforcement.

1996—Subsec. (e)(2). Pub. L. 104-208 substituted “Magnuson-Stevens Fishery” for “Magnuson Fishery”.

1991—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 102-130 designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added pars. (2) and (3).

1988—Subsecs. (c)(2), (d)(2). Pub. L. 100-589 substituted “Magnuson Act” for “Act of 1976”.

1986—Pub. L. 99-432, § 3(b), which directed the substitution of “Secretaries” for “Secretary”, was executed by making the substitution in subsec. (a)(2), in three places in subsec. (c), and in two places in subsec. (e) to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Pub. L. 99-432, § 3(a), which directed the substitution of “section 5153(b)” for “section 5153(d)”, was executed by making the substitution in subsecs. (a)(1), (2), (b)(3), and (e) to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, § 101(a) [title II, § 211(b)], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009, 3009-41, provided that the amendment made by that section is effective 15 days after Oct. 11, 1996.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

**§ 5155. Continuing studies of striped bass populations**

**(a) In general**

For the purposes of carrying out this chapter, the Secretaries shall conduct continuing, comprehensive studies of Atlantic striped bass stocks. These studies shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

(1) Annual stock assessments, using fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data, for the purposes of extending the long-term population record generated by the annual striped bass study conducted by the Secretaries before 1994 and understanding the population dynamics of Atlantic striped bass.

(2) Investigations of the causes of fluctuations in Atlantic striped bass populations.

(3) Investigations of the effects of water quality, land use, and other environmental factors on the recruitment, spawning potential, mortality, and abundance of Atlantic striped bass populations, including the Delaware River population.

(4) Investigations of—

(A) the interactions between Atlantic striped bass and other fish, including bluefish, menhaden, mackerel, and other forage fish or possible competitors, stock assessments of these species, to the extent appropriate; and

(B) the effects of interspecies predation and competition on the recruitment, spawning potential mortality, and abundance of Atlantic striped bass.

**(b) Socio-economic study**

The Secretaries, in consultation with with<sup>1</sup> the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, shall conduct a study of the socio-economic

<sup>1</sup> So in original.

conomic benefits of the Atlantic striped bass resource. The Secretaries shall issue a report to the Congress concerning the findings of this study no later than September 30, 1998.

**(c) Reports**

The Secretaries shall make biennial reports to the Congress and to the Commission concerning the progress and findings of studies conducted under subsection (a) and shall make those reports public. Such reports shall, to the extent appropriate, contain recommendations of actions which could be taken to encourage the sustainable management of Atlantic striped bass.

(Pub. L. 98-613, §6, Oct. 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 3190; Pub. L. 105-146, §2, Dec. 16, 1997, 111 Stat. 2675.)

AMENDMENTS

1997—Pub. L. 105-146 amended section catchline and text generally, substituting provisions relating to continuing studies of striped bass populations for provisions relating to comprehensive annual surveys.

**§ 5156. Authorization of appropriations; cooperative agreements**

**(a) Authorization**

For each of fiscal years 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010,<sup>1</sup> 2011, there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this chapter—

- (1) \$1,000,000 to the Secretary of Commerce; and
- (2) \$250,000 to the Secretary of the Interior.

**(b) Cooperative agreements**

The Secretaries may enter into cooperative agreements with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission or with States, for the purpose of using amounts appropriated pursuant to this section to provide financial assistance for carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 98-613, §7, Oct. 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 3190; Pub. L. 99-432, §4, Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 990; Pub. L. 100-589, §1, Nov. 3, 1988, 102 Stat. 2984; Pub. L. 102-130, §2(b), Oct. 17, 1991, 105 Stat. 626; Pub. L. 105-146, §2, Dec. 16, 1997, 111 Stat. 2676; Pub. L. 106-555, title I, §101, Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2765; Pub. L. 109-479, title III, §302(a), Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3623.)

AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-479 amended subsec. (a) generally, substituting “For each of fiscal years 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011,” for “For each of fiscal years 2001, 2002, and 2003,” in introductory provisions.

2000—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 106-555 reenacted heading without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “For each of fiscal years 1998, 1999, and 2000, there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this chapter—

- “(1) \$800,000 to the Secretary of Commerce; and
- “(2) \$250,000 to the Secretary of the Interior.”

1997—Pub. L. 105-146 amended section catchline and text generally. Prior to amendment, section authorized appropriations for fiscal years 1986 through 1994 and authorized the Secretaries to enter into cooperative agreements with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

1991—Pub. L. 102-130, §2(b)(4), in section catchline inserted at end “; cooperative agreements”.

Pub. L. 102-130, §2(b)(1)–(3), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted subsec. heading, sub-

stituted “1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994,” for “and 1991,” and added subsec. (b).

1988—Pub. L. 100-589 substituted “1988, 1989, 1990, and 1991,” for “and 1988.”

1986—Pub. L. 99-432 amended section catchline and text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Funds for activities in fiscal year 1985 under this chapter shall be made available only from funds appropriated for the Department of Commerce and the Department of the Interior for fiscal year 1985. For fiscal year 1986, there are authorized such sums as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this chapter.”

**§ 5157. Public participation in preparation of management plans and amendments**

**(a) Standards and procedures**

In order to ensure the opportunity for public participation in the preparation of management plans and amendments to management plans for Atlantic striped bass, the Commission shall prepare such plans and amendments in accordance with the standards and procedures established under section 5104(a)(2) of this title.

**(b) Application**

Subsection (a) shall apply to management plans and amendments adopted by the Commission after the 6-month period beginning on December 16, 1997.

(Pub. L. 98-613, §8, Oct. 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 3190; Pub. L. 105-146, §2, Dec. 16, 1997, 111 Stat. 2676.)

AMENDMENTS

1997—Pub. L. 105-146 amended section catchline and text generally, substituting provisions relating to public participation in preparation of management plans and amendments for provisions requiring the Secretaries to review the existing Plan and report to the Commission and Committees of Congress on its adequacy.

**§ 5158. Protection of striped bass in the exclusive economic zone**

**(a) Regulation of fishing in exclusive economic zone**

The Secretary shall promulgate regulations governing fishing for Atlantic striped bass in the exclusive economic zone that the Secretary determines—

- (1) are consistent with the national standards set forth in section 301 of the Magnuson Act (16 U.S.C. 1851);
- (2) are compatible with the Plan and each Federal moratorium in effect on fishing for Atlantic striped bass within the coastal waters of a coastal State;
- (3) ensure the effectiveness of State regulations on fishing for Atlantic striped bass within the coastal waters of a coastal State; and
- (4) are sufficient to assure the long-term conservation of Atlantic striped bass populations.

**(b) Consultation; periodic review of regulations**

In preparing regulations under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the appropriate Regional Fishery Management Councils, and each affected Federal, State, and local government entity. The Secretary shall periodically review regulations promulgated under subsection (a), and if necessary to ensure their con-

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by “and”.