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Examples of Programs and Projects in New York that would benefit from S. 3528, the Coastal Jobs Creation Act of 2010

Senators Olympia J. Snowe (R-Maine) and nine original cosponsors introduced S. 3528, the “Coastal Jobs Creation Act of 2010,” on June 24, 2010. The Coastal Jobs Creation Act will create jobs for fishermen and coastal communities as fish populations rebuild. The following are examples of key programs in New York that could benefit from S. 3528:

New York Fishermen Engaged in Cooperative Research

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), through the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, funds cooperative research that employs commercial trawl fishermen from Northeast ports, including Montauk, to improve fisheries data and monitoring techniques. For the 2010 fishing season, NMFS funded commercial trawl fishermen to gather data on winter flounder, dogfish and skate populations, gear efficiency, statistics on capture of non-target ocean wildlife (bycatch), and monitoring techniques.¹ New York’s experience with cooperative research improves the likelihood of securing competitive grant funding² through S. 3528, providing New York fishermen with employment opportunities.

New York Sea Grant Fisheries Research

The New York Sea Grant Program is a cooperative effort of the State University of New York (SUNY) and Cornell University³ that offers competitive grants to partner organizations to improve fisheries science. In 2007- 2008, New York Sea Grant funded research that examined winter flounder stocks, worked with recreational fishermen to gather better data on recreational fishing on Lake Ontario, and identified the causes and potential mitigation measures for Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS), a disease that threatens New York’s Great Lakes fisheries.⁴ These projects fund local universities and organizations to improve fisheries data and solve some of the key issues facing New York’s coastal and Great Lakes commercial and recreational fisheries.

New York Urban Waterfront Program

The Hudson River Estuary Program is designed to protect and improve the natural and scenic Hudson River Watershed. The program has awarded 300 grants to local municipalities and partner organizations for conservation, education and river access. To date, the program has trained more than 3,000 community leaders to achieve local conservation goals and has revitalized community waterfronts, including capital improvements to public docks, piers and boat launches.⁵ This type of program would be eligible for funding under the Coastal Jobs Creation Act.

Habitat Research, Preservation, and Restoration

New York has several habitat research, preservation and restoration projects that could benefit from S. 3528. For example, the Beaver Dam Creek Tributary Restoration project in Brookhaven, NY restored approximately 30 acres of degraded salt marsh to enhance fish habitat.⁶

In addition, the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve is part of a national network of estuarine reserves eligible for funding under S. 3528 that support restoration and research of critical habitats, including nurseries for coastal fisheries. The Hudson River Reserve includes 5,000 acres of tidal wetlands and offers a research grant program to support scientific studies that will lead to a better understanding of the ecological processes and functions of this critical fish habitat.⁷

For more information, please contact:

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Please also visit our website for more resources at www.endoverfishing.org

¹ Northeast Fisheries Science Center Cooperative Research Study Fleet for Southern New England. Solicitation Number: EA133F10RQ0096 url:

https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&tab=core&id=93546c6e21235b018287bc22f9dfc932&_cview=1&cck=1&au=&ck=, accessed on April 14, 2010

² Northeast Fisheries Science Center Cooperative Research Study Fleet For Southern New England. Solicitation Number: EA133F10RQ0096 url:

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³ The New York Sea Grants Proposal Information. <http://www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/funding/pdfs/NYSGCall09-10.pdf>

⁴ New York Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant 2007- 2008 Project Descriptions with Budgets.

<http://www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/Images/Uploads/PDFs/omnibusresearch0207-projects.pdf>. Accessed May 13, 2010.

⁵ New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4920.html>

⁶ http://seahorse2.nmfs.noaa.gov/hcrpdb_app/class/rcdb_abstracts.jsp?PROJECT_ID=682

⁷ National Estuarine Research Reserve System, Research at Hudson River, NY.

<http://www.nerrs.noaa.gov/ReserveProgram.aspx?ID=511&ResID=HUD>. Accessed May 12, 2010.