

Position ID

E17-7

Position Title

Fishery Management Specialist

Office Name

Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, NOAA

Portfolio Summary

The Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Management Division is responsible for the domestic management of Atlantic tuna, swordfish, billfish, and shark fisheries, including implementation of international agreements. HMS fisheries issues are often controversial, high profile, and representative of the challenges facing NOAA Fisheries agency-wide. These issues range from data collection programs and scientific analyses to fishing regulations to international trade. Given the wide range of HMS fisheries management issues, a Fellow would be able to select from any number of projects of interest.

A Fellow would be a full member of the Division and would work on projects of interest in which the Fellow could either be the lead staff person or be part of a team. Opportunities to visit regional offices, attend/hold meetings, and work on their thesis would also be available.

In the upcoming year, the HMS Management Division will be working on several actions, including:

- Fishery Management Plan amendments, including helping to finish updating essential fish habitat for all HMS;
- Rules and/or Fishery Management Plan amendments for HMS to implement recent national actions including National Standard 1, Ecosystem Based Fishery Management, Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology, and the New England Monument;
- Rules for various HMS and HMS issues as a result of negotiations at the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas annual meeting (Nov. 2016) or other issues;
- Implementation of outreach and other measures in Amendment 5b for dusky sharks;
- Continued implementation of Individual Bluefin Tuna Quota system and other bluefin tuna management measures;
- Addressing recreational and bycatch issues;
- Continuation of updating the HMS webpage (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/>); and
- Creation of tools to better enable constituents to understand HMS fisheries and management.

In the HMS Management Division, a Fellow can expect to gain:

- In-depth knowledge of the fishery management process, objectives, and current issues;
- Experience in identifying and estimating the ecological and socioeconomic impacts of proposed fishery management actions;
- Understanding on how regulations are written and the requirements of the rulemaking process;
- Improved written and oral communication skills;
- Contacts with other NOAA Fisheries offices/regions/centers; and
- Contacts with State, recreational, commercial, and environmental constituents.

In the HMS Management Division, a Fellow can expect to produce documents supporting rulemaking (environmental assessment, environmental impact statement, regulatory impact reviews, regulatory flexibility analyses) as well as publication of outreach materials (pamphlets, brochures, apps, webpage, social media).

Expertise Desired

Desired Background Skills

- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Some familiarity with analyzing ecological and/or socioeconomic data (e.g., SAS, ArcGIS, Excel, R)
- Ability to work in a team setting

Travel within DC (days per month)

<1 but depends on actions

Travel outside DC (days per month)

<2 but depends on actions

Accepts Foreign Nationals

No