



Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership

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Mr. Boelke:

On behalf of the Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership (ACFHP), thank you for submitting the Eelgrass Conservation Moorings Demonstration Project for endorsement consideration. We are pleased that you have sought recognition from ACFHP for this project.

After reviewing your application materials, ACFHP has approved the project for endorsement, as it is described in the supporting documentation you provided. Eelgrass communities are important ecological communities along the Atlantic Coast, providing habitat, nursery grounds, and food to an incredible diversity of coastal fish and shellfish species. Over the past 70 years, impacts from human activities like mooring fields have degraded or destroyed nearly 90% of all eelgrass along the Atlantic Coast. ACFHP applauds the search for tools, techniques and approaches to address impacts in these sensitive ecosystems.

Please note, because mooring of boats and the establishment of mooring fields in seagrass beds is generally recognized as a significant source of damage to these important ecological communities across their range, ACFHP is only providing an endorsement of specific remediation actions at this site which address historic damage caused by the scouring effects of traditional chain and block-anchor mooring systems.

ACFHP is pleased to grant use of the ACFHP logo on the project informational kiosk and ask that if additional use of the logo is planned, that approval be obtained beforehand. If you have any questions regarding the review of your application, please contact Emily Greene at egreene@asmfc.org.

ACFHP is made up of resource managers, scientists and professionals from 30 different state, federal, tribal and non-governmental entities working together to conserve habitat for Atlantic coastal, estuarine-dependent, and diadromous fishes. We commend your efforts in developing an innovative approach to fish habitat conservation and forging public-private partnerships across jurisdictions. Congratulations and we look forward to news as the project progresses!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Schuler".

George Schuler
ACFHP Chair

Disclaimer: The application of the techniques used, and effects of the efforts on identified habitats or analogous system are not endorsed beyond the scope of the current project, as it is defined. ACFHP expressly endorses projects as stand-alone efforts, only. This endorsement does not imply ACFHP commitment of funds, staff time or circumvention of laws. ACFHP is endorsing this project with the understanding that the project must obtain all relevant federal and state permits prior to initiating appropriate work.