

# Survey data from fishery independent surveys; part of the NWACS CAMEO database

**Website:** <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/663510>

**Data Type:** Cruise Results

**Version:** 1

**Version Date:** 2016-10-18

## Project

» [CAMEO: Patterns of Connectivity in Northwest Atlantic Fishery Ecosystems](#) (NW\_AtIEcosysConnect)

## Program

» [Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization](#) (CAMEO)

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## Abstract

Survey data from fishery independent surveys; part of the NWACS CAMEO database.

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## Table of Contents

- [Coverage](#)
  - [Dataset Description](#)
    - [Methods & Sampling](#)
    - [Data Processing Description](#)
  - [Data Files](#)
  - [Related Datasets](#)
  - [Parameters](#)
  - [Project Information](#)
  - [Program Information](#)
  - [Funding](#)
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## Coverage

**Temporal Extent:** 1959 - 2010

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## Dataset Description

Survey data from fishery independent surveys.

## Methods & Sampling

Data used in the estimation of biomass levels in individual ecosystems are derived from state and academic surveys. Much of the data are available online. The relevant surveys, and contact are:

ChesMAPP. Baywide trawl survey of Chesapeake Bay conducted by faculty, students and staff at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

[http://www.vims.edu/research/departments/fisheries/programs/multispecies\\_fisheries\\_research/chesmmap/index.php](http://www.vims.edu/research/departments/fisheries/programs/multispecies_fisheries_research/chesmmap/index.php)

Delaware Bay Trawl Survey. Baywide survey of Delaware Bay conducted by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife. <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/fw/SiteCollectionDocuments/FW%20Gallery/Research/trawl%20doc.pdf>

Long Island Sound Survey. Conducted by staff at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Management in CT waters of Long Island Sound. [http://www.ct.gov/DEep/cwp/view.asp?a=2696&q=322660&depNAV\\_GID=1647](http://www.ct.gov/DEep/cwp/view.asp?a=2696&q=322660&depNAV_GID=1647)

NMFS Bottom Trawl Survey. Conducted by NOAA Fisheries scientists in the Ecosystems Survey Branch in the northwest Atlantic coastal shelf since 1963. <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/femad/ecosurvey/mainpage/>

Rhode Island Trawl Survey. Conducted by faculty, students and staff of URIs Graduate School of Oceanography at a limited number of stations in Narraganset Bay. <http://www.gso.uri.edu/fishtrawl/>

VIMS Juvenile trawl survey. A long term trawl survey of Virginia waters of the Chesapeake Bay conducted by scientists at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. [http://www.vims.edu/research/departments/fisheries/programs/juvenile\\_surveys/index.php](http://www.vims.edu/research/departments/fisheries/programs/juvenile_surveys/index.php)

## Data Processing Description

BCO-DMO Processing:

- replaced blanks with "nd";
- modified parameter names to conform with BCO-DMO naming conventions;
- replaced spaces with underscores;
- removed parentheses from species names and replaced commas with semi-colons.

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

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## Data Files

File
<b>biomass_abund.csv</b> (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 3.27 MB) MD5:8d80f9edd4f8f886a5f8d32767770872
Primary data file for dataset ID 663510

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

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## Related Datasets

### IsRelatedTo

Miller, T., Collie, J., Frisk, M. G., Latour, R. J., Link, J. S., Townsend, H., Wilberg, M. (2016) **Data on commercial fishing catches (landings); part of the NWACS CAMEO database.** Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2016-10-18 <http://lod.bco-dmo.org/id/dataset/663484> [[view at BCO-DMO](#)]

Miller, T., Collie, J., Frisk, M. G., Latour, R. J., Link, J. S., Townsend, H., Wilberg, M. (2016) **Ecosystem metadata associated with the NWACS CAMEO database.** Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2016-10-18 <http://lod.bco-dmo.org/id/dataset/663190> [[view at BCO-](#)

[DMO](#)]

Miller, T., Collie, J., Frisk, M. G., Latour, R. J., Link, J. S., Townsend, H., Wilberg, M. (2016) **Environmental data (atmospheric indices) associated with the NWACS CAMEO database**. Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2016-10-18 <http://lod.bco-dmo.org/id/dataset/663558> [[view at BCO-DMO](#)]

Miller, T., Collie, J., Frisk, M. G., Latour, R. J., Link, J. S., Townsend, H., Wilberg, M. (2016) **Species metadata associated with the NWACS CAMEO database**. Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2016-10-18 <http://lod.bco-dmo.org/id/dataset/662312> [[view at BCO-DMO](#)]

Miller, T., Collie, J., Frisk, M. G., Latour, R. J., Link, J. S., Townsend, H., Wilberg, M. (2016) **Survey metadata associated with the NWACS CAMEO database**. Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO). (Version 1) Version Date 2016-10-18 <http://lod.bco-dmo.org/id/dataset/663236> [[view at BCO-DMO](#)]

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

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## Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
ecosystem	Ecosystem site code	unitless
species	Species common name	unitless
year	Four-digit year (YYYY)	unitless
biomass	Biomass	tons per square kilometer (t/km <sup>2</sup> )
biomass_SE	Standard error of biomass	tons per square kilometer (t/km <sup>2</sup> )
abundance	Abundance	number per square kilometer
abundance_SE	Standard error of abundance	number per square kilometer
biomass_index	Biomass index	tons?
biomass_index_SE	Standard error of biomass index	tons?
abundance_index	Abundance index	number per tow
abundance_index_units	Abundance index units	?
abundance_index_SE	Standard error of abundance index	number per tow
avg_len	Average length	meters (m)
avg_mass	Average mass	kilograms (kg)
source	Source	unitless
agency	Agency	unitless
season	Season	unitless

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

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## Project Information

**CAMEO: Patterns of Connectivity in Northwest Atlantic Fishery Ecosystems (NW\_AtIEcosysConnect)**

**Website:** <http://hjort.cbl.umces.edu/NWACS/NWACS.html>

**Coverage:** U.S. waters in the Northwest Atlantic coastal shelf, north of Cape Hatteras, NC, out to approximately -64W

*Description from NSF award abstract:*

The importance of fluxes across ecosystem boundaries is a characteristic of marine ecosystems that differentiates them from their terrestrial counterparts. From this viewpoint, any comparative analysis of marine ecosystems should address the patterns and degree of connectivity among ecosystems to be of highest utility. Here the investigators will conduct a suite of analyses that seek to quantify the sources, patterns and consequences of connectivity among 10 marine fishery ecosystems that together form the northwest Atlantic coastal shelf ecosystem. By conducting analyses in a hierarchical fashion with smaller ecosystems nested spatially within larger ecosystems they hope to identify scaling relationships in the ecological processes that characterize the dynamics of key species within these ecosystems. This work seeks to quantify the patterns and degree of connectivity among ecosystems in the Northwest Atlantic. Specifically, the investigators will conduct statistical analyses of empirical data from each ecosystem to quantify patterns in univariate, distribution and multivariate descriptors of their structure. They will also undertake time series analyses to describe relationships in the responses of different taxa and groups within each ecosystem. They will use the results of analyses conducted on the highly studied nearshore ecosystems as hypotheses to be tested on the somewhat sparser data of the offshore ecosystems. These analyses will delineate patterns of functional connectivity among ecosystems. They will also construct dynamic models of differing complexity to understand the principal consequences of the connectivity demonstrated in the first two objectives on ecosystem function. Models will include biomass dynamic and coupled predator-prey simulations that will consider the impacts of removals from the overall region globally and more specific patterns of localized spatial depletion.

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

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## **Program Information**

### **Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization (CAMEO)**

**Website:** [http://www.nsf.gov/geo/oce/programs/CAMEO\\_Webpage.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/geo/oce/programs/CAMEO_Webpage.jsp)

[CAMEO Science Plan](#) (2012).

The Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization (CAMEO) program was implemented as a partnership between the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service and National Science Foundation Division of Ocean Sciences. The purpose of CAMEO was to strengthen the scientific basis for an ecosystem approach to the stewardship of our ocean and coastal living marine resources. The program supported fundamental research to understand complex dynamics controlling ecosystem structure, productivity, behavior, resilience, and population connectivity, as well as effects of climate variability and anthropogenic pressures on living marine resources and critical habitats. CAMEO encouraged the development of multiple approaches, such as ecosystem models and comparative analyses of managed and unmanaged areas (e.g., marine protected areas) that can ultimately form a basis for forecasting and decision support. Central to the program was the emphasis on collaborations between academic and private researchers and federal agency scientists with mission responsibilities to inform ecosystem management activities. (adapted from CAMEO website)

This funding opportunity implemented CAMEO research by supporting the development of research tools and strategic approaches through the following types of proposals:

1. Development of strategies and methodologies for comparative analyses that can be applied consistently across spatial and temporal scales and ecosystems, and that facilitate the design of decision support tools for marine populations, ecosystems and habitats.
2. Development of models that address key scientific questions by comparing ecosystems and ecosystem processes. Models that are geographically and temporally portable, and that incorporate assessment of modeling skill, are particularly encouraged.
3. Retrospective studies that analyze, re-analyze or synthesize existing information (historic, time-series, ongoing program, etc.) using a comparative approach.
4. Studies that integrate the human dimension within ecosystem dynamics. The CAMEO program seeks to promote interdisciplinary research using comparative approaches to link marine ecosystem research with the social and behavioral sciences in new and vital ways.

To guide program priorities, a Science Steering Committee was formed through Dr. Linda Deegan and the initial

Scientific Planning Office at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA. This Committee was designed to provide scientific advice and broad direction to NOAA and NSF regarding the CAMEO program.

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

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## **Funding**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Award</b>
<a href="#">NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)</a>	<a href="#">OCE-1041711</a>

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]