

**DRAFT CATALOG DOCUMENTATION**  
**NATIONAL COASTAL ASSESSMENT- NORTHEAST DATABASE**  
**YEAR 2000 STATIONSC**  
**CRAB AND LOBSTER DATA; "CRAB\_LOB"**

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**1. DATASET IDENTIFICATION**

**1.1 Title of Catalog document**

National Coastal Assessment-Northeast Region Database  
Year 2000 Stations  
Crab and Lobster size data

**1.2 Authors of the Catalog entry**

John Kiddon, U.S. EPA NHEERL-AED  
Harry Buffum, CSC Corp.

**1.3 Catalog revision date**

October 2, 2002

**1.4 Dataset name**

CRAB\_LOB

**1.5 Task Group**

National Coastal Assessment-Northeast

**1.6 Data Set Identification Code**

014

**1.7 Version**

001

**1.8 Request for Acknowledgment**

EMAP requests that all individuals who download EMAP data acknowledge the source of these data in any reports, papers, or presentations. If you publish these data, please include a statement similar to: "Some or all of the data described in this article were produced by the U. S. Environmental

Protection Agency through its Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP)".

## 2. INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION (for full addresses see Section 13)

### 2.1 Principal Investigators

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### 2.2 Sample Collection Investigators

Charles Strobel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, NHEERL-Atlantic Ecology Division (AED)

### 2.3 Sample Processing Investigators

Not applicable

## 3. DATASET ABSTRACT

### 3.1 Abstract of the Dataset

The CRAB\_LOB data file contains the following information for up to individual crustaceans of each species caught in a standard trawl at a station: key fields that uniquely identify the fish (station, stat\_alt, evntdate, common name of the fish, size class, and a sequence number ranging from 1 to 30), the fork length of the fish, and the frequency and location of pathologies. There may be multiple records for a single station. Scientific (Latin) names for the fish taxa can be found in the FISH\_TAX table for every common name used in this dataset.

### 3.2 Keywords for the Data Set

fish abundance per trawl, pathology

## 4. OBJECTIVES AND INTRODUCTION

### 4.1 Program Objective

The Coastal 2000 Initiative is a national EMAP effort. In Coastal 2000 we are demonstrating a consistent, integrated, probabilistic monitoring effort that will produce a national assessment of the condition of the U.S. marine estuaries. We partnered with EPA Regions, EPA's Office of Water, state resource/protection agencies in the 24 marine coastal states and Puerto Rico, USGS, and NOAA to conduct the sampling of estuaries during the late summer months of 2000 and 2001. A minimum of 50 sampling locations in each state have been established within EMAP's probabilistic sampling framework. From this we will develop a national report on the condition of the Nations's estuaries, as well as reports on the condition of the estuaries in each of the individual states and Puerto Rico. In 2002 we are beginning our assessment of the condition of the near-shore coastal environments to complement EPA's ongoing efforts to improve beach monitoring.

## 4.2 Data Set Objective

The objective of the CRAB\_LOB is to record the size of crustaceans caught at NCA stations for the purposes of tissue chemistry analyses.

## 4.3 Background Discussion

## 4.4 Summary of Data Set Parameters

*STATION	Station identifier
*STAT_ALT	Station Location (A,B or C)
*EVNTDATE	Date of sampling event
FCOMNAME	Taxa Common Name
FSEQNUM	Sequence Number
C_WIDTH	Carapace Width (mm)
SEX	Sex of Animal

\* denotes parameters that should be used as key fields when merging data files

## 5. DATA ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING METHODS

### 5.1 Data Acquisition / Field Sampling

#### 5.1.1 Sampling Objective

To collect a representative sample of fish at a station using a standard trawl. Additional nonstandard trawls were conducted when necessary to collect enough fish for histopathology analyses. These nonstandard trawls are not included in this data set.

#### 5.1.2 Sample Collection and Ship-Board Processing: Methods Summary

#### 5.1.3 Beginning Sampling Date

8 July 2000

#### 5.1.4 Ending Sampling Date

8 July 2000

#### 5.1.5 Sampling Platform

All program partners collected samples from various gasoline or diesel powered boats,  
25 to 27 feet in length.

#### 5.1.6 Sampling Equipment

#### 5.1.7 Manufacturer of Sampling Equipment

Not applicable

5.1.8 Key Variables

Not applicable

5.1.9 Sample Collection: Calibration

The sampling gear does not require calibration.

5.1.10 Sample Collection: Quality Control

A standard trawl was considered void if one or more of the following conditions occurred:

5.1.11 Sample Collection: References

Strobel, C.J. 1998. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program - Mid-Atlantic Integrated Assessment. Estuaries Component, Field Operations and Safety Manual. USEPA, Office of Research and Development, NHEERL-AED, Narragansett, RI. July 1998.

5.1.12 Sample Collection: Alternate Methods

Not applicable

5.2 Data Preparation and Sample Processing

All parameters reported in this file were measured aboard ship immediately following the trawl (see Section 5.1).

5.2.1 Sample Processing Objective

Not applicable

5.2.2 Sample Processing: Methods Summary

Not applicable

5.2.3 Sample Processing: Calibration

Not applicable

5.2.4 Sample Processing: Quality Control

Not applicable

5.2.5 Sample Processing: References

Not applicable

5.2.6 Sample Processing: Alternate Methods

Not applicable

6. DATA ANALYSIS AND MANIPULATIONS

6.1 Name of New or Modified Values

Not applicable

6.2 Data Manipulation Description

Not applicable

## 7. DATA DESCRIPTION

### 7.1 Description of Parameters

#### 7.1.1 Components of the Data Set

NAME	TYPE	LENGTH	LABEL
STATION	Char	9	Station Identifier
STAT_ALT	Char	1	Station Location
EVNTDATE	Num	8	Date of Sampling
FCOMNAME	Char	30	Fish Taxa Common
FSEQNUM	Num	4	Fish Sequence Number
SEX	Char	8	Sex of Animal
C_WIDTH	Num	4	Carapace Width (mm)

#### 7.1.2 Precision of Reported Values

As displayed in Section 7.1.3 and 7.1.4.

#### 7.1.3 Minimum Value in Data set

Variable	Minimum Value
FSEQNUM	1
C_WIDTH	37

#### 7.1.4 Maximum Value in Data set

Variable	Maximum Value
FSEQNUM	34
C_WIDTH	305

### 7.2 Data Record Example

STATION	STAT_ALT	EVNTDATE	FCOMNAME	FSEQNUM	SEX	C_WIDTH
CT00-0001	A	8/17/00	BLUE CRAB	1		52
CT00-0001	A	8/17/00	BLUE CRAB	2		59
CT00-0009	A	8/31/00	BLUE CRAB	1		110
CT00-0011	B	9/1/00	AMERICAN LOBSTER	1		80
CT00-0011	B	9/1/00	AMERICAN LOBSTER	2		79

## 8. GEOGRAPHIC AND SPATIAL INFORMATION

### 8.1 Minimum Longitude (Westernmost)

-75.7737 decimal degrees

8.2 Maximum Longitude (Easternmost)

-67.0939 decimal degrees

8.3 Minimum Latitude (Southernmost)

38.4521 decimal degrees

8.4 Maximum Latitude (Northernmost)

44.9456 decimal degrees

8.5 Name of area or region

The National Coastal Assessment Northeast Region covers the northeastern US coastline from Maine to Delaware.

9. QUALITY CONTROL AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

9.1 Measurement Quality Objectives

Measurement quality objectives are outlined in the EMAP VA Province Quality Assurance Project Plans (Valente et al., 1990, Valente and Schoenherr, 1991, Valente et al., 1992, Valente and Strobel, 1993). Accuracy and completeness goals are:

Counting 90% accuracy goal 90% completeness goal

Taxon Identification 90% accuracy goal 90% completeness goal

9.2 Data Quality Assurance Procedures

One record for each standard and nonstandard trawl performed at each station is kept. Inspection of the sampling gear for tears or improper assemblage is done at the beginning of every trawl event.

10. DATA ACCESS

10.1 Data Access Procedures

Data may be downloaded from the web

10.2 Data Access Restrictions

None

10.3 Data Access Contact Persons

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10.4 Dataset Format

ASCII (CSV) and SAS Export files

10.5 Information Concerning Anonymous FTP

Not available

#### 10.6 Information Concerning WWW

No gopher access, see Section 10.1 for WWW access

#### 10.7 EMAP CD-ROM Containing the Dataset

Data not available on CD-ROM

### 11. REFERENCES

Strobel, C.J. 2000. Coastal 2000-Northeast Component: Field Operations Manual U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Atlantic Ecology Division, Narragansett, RI. EPA/620/R-00/002.

Holland, A.F., ed. 1990. Near Coastal Program Plan for 1990: Estuaries. EPA 600/4-90/033. U.S. EPA, Office of Research and Development, NHEERL-AED, Narragansett, RI. November 1990.

Strobel, C.J. 1998. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program - Mid-Atlantic Integrated Assessment. Estuaries Component, Field Operations and Safety Manual. U.S. EPA, Office of Research and Development, NHEERL-AED, Narragansett, RI.

Valente, R. and Strobel, C.J. 1993. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program- Estuaries: 1993 Virginian Province Quality Assurance Project Plan. U.S. EPA, NHEERL-AED, Narragansett, RI. May 1993.

### 12. TABLE OF ACRONYMS

AED	Atlantic Ecology Division
C	Degrees Celsius
CTD	Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth
DB	Delaware Bay
DO	Dissolved Oxygen
EMAP	Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
GED	Gulf Ecology Division
m	Meter
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
NHEERL	National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
ppt	Parts per thousand
SAV	Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
VER	Versar, Inc.
WWW	World Wide Web

### 13. PERSONNEL INFORMATION

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