

Voices from the Fisheries: Proposal for a National Archive \$15,920 *Local Fisheries Knowledge Pilot Project and will create a NOAA Fisheries clearinghouse to identify, consolidate, web-base archive and disseminate recordings and transcriptions of the stories and sounds from commercial fisheries and make them available to researchers and the public nationwide.*

Project Lead: Dr. Patricia Pinto da Silva, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

FINAL Report

The PAIG award we received provided the seed money to create a central database for oral histories across the nation related to our nation's marine resources and the human experience related to these resources. Funds were used to 1) identify existing collections, 2) convert them where necessary to digital format, 3) encourage collection holders to upload their collection, 4) create a user friendly and accessible web site and database through which to access these oral history collections and 5) to encourage the creation and uploading of new collections. There has been enormous interest in this project. We have been contacted by groups from across the country to get more information about the project and find out how they can become involved. Our partnerships have expanded to include the Commercial Fishermen of America and we look forward to adding a more representative and diverse group of project partners as we move forward. To date there are approximately 250 interviews online and more added weekly. In addition to the above funds, the Voices from the Fisheries Project has benefited from raising additional funds primarily through the Office of Science and Technology at NOAA Fisheries Service Headquarters. Most significantly, we have recently been awarded \$60,000 to be used over two years to help secure the long term viability of this effort! Please visit our website at: www.voices.nmfs.noaa.gov

~Dr. Patricia Pinto da Silva & Dr. Susan Abbott-Jamieson

