



Organizational Overview

The Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation (CFRF) is a 501(c)(3) organization based in Rhode Island. The CFRF's mission is to promote sustainable fisheries by generating and sharing better information and effective technologies to benefit the fishing community, seafood consumers, and the public. It was established in 2004 by a group of fishermen who aimed to protect groundfish species by enhancing gear selectivity and reducing bycatch. The organization has since expanded its mission to include developing conservation techniques and partnerships that benefit various species and fishing communities across the northeast. The CFRF is the only fishing industry-led non-profit research organization in New England. It serves numerous communities through its initiatives, including the fisheries science community, fishing industry, seafood consumers, and coastal communities. To execute its mission, the CFRF establishes collaborative relationships among scientists, managers, and fishing industry members to preserve resource species and support the vitality of historic fishing communities. Direct student engagement to demonstrate the value of these collaborations to the next generation is also at the core of CFRF's work.

Rhode Island Seafood Charity License Plate Initiative

The Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation is seeking Rhode Island state congressional support to produce a charity license plate under RIGL 31-3. The charity plate, designed by Andrew Lloyd Goodman, Assistant Professor at the Community College of Rhode Island, features eight iconic seafood species that are sustainably harvested locally in Rhode Island state waters and enjoyed throughout the state, region, and world. Proceeds from the license plate will directly support research focused on enhancing the sustainability and value of Rhode Island state fisheries. We thank you for your support of this initiative!