

**Harry Blanchet** was employed by Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in 1983. Duties included identification and analysis of meroplankton for Louisiana Offshore Oil Port monitoring study. In 1985 he moved to the Saltwater Finfish Management Section, where he was responsible for finfish monitoring surveys in part of coastal Louisiana. In 1991, Blanchet became responsible for statewide operations of Saltwater Finfish Management Program, overseeing of sampling programs, development of fishery management plans and stock assessments, drafting of proposed legislation and rules, writing of reports and other informational materials, recommending research needed for finfish management.

From 1999-2004, Blanchet took a position as a Natural Resources Agent with Pennsylvania State University, College of Agricultural Sciences. He returned to Finfish Programs Manager position in 2004. Currently he is Biologist Director, Marine Fisheries Section, and is responsible for long-term fishery-dependent and fishery-independent monitoring programs in estuarine and marine areas of the state and for developing management recommendations for those fisheries, including continued participation in development of stock assessments and biological and fishery profiles for marine fishes and invertebrates.

Prior to joining LDWF, Blanchet was a Senior Staff Biologist at Mote Marine Lab, where he was involved in conducting a wide variety of studies, including baseline environmental assessments in estuarine and offshore environments, studies of mortality of fishes and larval decapods due to power plants, and other topics. Past major experience also includes a study of meroplankton (primarily decapod larvae) in Tampa Bay, and a survey of larval fishes in Apalachicola Bay.

Blanchet has been a member of the Gulf Council Finfish Stock Assessment Panel since 1989, Special Mackerel SSC member 1993-99, Standing SSC member 2005-present.