

William “Skip” Nelson, Ph.D.

During the past 20 years, Skip has been involved in a number of different activities related to marine science. He started working in this field at the National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory in Milford, CT, where he participated in aquaculture projects raising lobsters, scallops, and oysters. While at the Milford Lab, Skip also took part in toxicology testing with various shellfish species. From there, he moved to Rhode Island to pursue a Ph.D. at URI and began working at EPA’s Environmental Research Lab in Narragansett (now called the Atlantic Ecology Division - AED). During his tenure at AED, Skip has been involved in aquaculture activities, investigating the physiological effects of contaminants on blue mussels, and developing indicators to quantify both organism and ecosystem health. Relative to contaminated sediments, he has worked cooperatively with EPA Region I and the Army Corps of Engineers during the past 15 years to design and implement numerous monitoring programs at the New Bedford Harbor, MA, Superfund site. These monitoring activities include assessing the effects of operational dredging as well as long-term monitoring to assess the overall effectiveness of remediation.