

# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

## Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board

*January 31, 2023  
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Hybrid Meeting*

### Draft Agenda

The times listed are approximate; the order in which these items will be taken is subject to change; other items may be added as necessary.

- |                                                                      |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Welcome/Call to Order ( <i>M. Gary</i> )                          | 3:30 p.m. |
| 2. Board Consent                                                     | 3:30 p.m. |
| • Approval of Agenda                                                 |           |
| • Approval of Proceedings from November 2022                         |           |
| 3. Public Comment                                                    | 3:35 p.m. |
| 4. Addendum I on Ocean Commercial Quota Transfers for Final Approval | 3:45 p.m. |
| <b>Final Action</b>                                                  |           |
| • Review Options and Public Comment Summary ( <i>E. Franke</i> )     |           |
| • Review Advisory Panel Report ( <i>E. Franke</i> )                  |           |
| • Consider Final Approval of Addendum I                              |           |
| 5. Other Business/Adjourn                                            | 5:00 p.m. |

The meeting will be held at The Westin Crystal City (1800 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA; 703.486.1111) and via webinar; click [here](#) for details

# MEETING OVERVIEW

## Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board

January 31, 2023

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hybrid

Chair: Marty Gary (PRFC) Assumed Chairmanship: 01/22	Technical Committee Chair: Nicole Lengyel Costa (RI)	Law Enforcement Committee Rep: Sgt. Jeff Mercer (RI)
Vice Chair: Megan Ware (ME)	Advisory Panel Chair: Louis Bassano (NJ)	Previous Board Meeting: November 7, 2022
Voting Members: ME, NH, MA, RI, CT, NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, DC, PRFC, VA, NC, NMFS, USFWS (16 votes)		

### 2. Board Consent

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Proceedings from November 2022

**3. Public Comment** – At the beginning of the meeting, public comment will be taken on items not on the agenda. Individuals that wish to speak at this time must sign-in at the beginning of the meeting. For agenda items that have already gone out for public hearing and/or have had a public comment period that has closed, the Board Chair may determine that additional public comment will not provide additional information. In this circumstance, the Chair will not allow additional public comment on an issue. For agenda items that the public has not had a chance to provide input, the Board Chair may allow limited opportunity for comment. The Board Chair has the discretion to limit the number of speakers and/or the length of each comment.

### 4. Draft Addendum I on Ocean Commercial Quota Transfers (3:45-5:00 p.m.) Final Action

#### Background

- Draft Addendum I proposes options to allow for the voluntary transfer of striped bass commercial quota in the ocean region between states that have ocean commercial quota. It was approved for public comment in November 2022.
- Public comment was gathered from November 2022 through January 13, 2023 (**Briefing Materials**).
- The Advisory Panel reviewed the draft addendum on January 17 (**Supplemental Materials**).

#### Presentations

- Overview of options and public comment summary by E. Franke
- Advisory Panel report by E. Franke

#### Board actions for consideration at this meeting

- Select management option and implementation date.
- Approve final document.

### 5. Other Business/Adjourn (5:00 p.m.)

## Atlantic Striped Bass

**Activity level: High**

**Committee Overlap Score:** Medium (TC/SAS/TSC overlaps with BERP, Atlantic menhaden, American eel, horseshoe crab, shad/river herring)

### Committee Task List

- TC – June 15<sup>th</sup>: Annual compliance reports due
- TC – Review 2022 landings

**TC Members:** Michael Brown (ME), Kevin Sullivan (NH), Gary Nelson (MA), Nicole Lengyel Costa (RI), Kurt Gottschall (CT), Caitlin Craig (NY), Brendan Harrison (NJ), Tyler Grabowski (PA), Margaret Conroy (DE), Alexei Sharov (MD), Luke Lyon (DC), Ingrid Braun (PRFC), Joshua McGilly (VA), Charlton Godwin (NC), Jeremy McCargo (NC), Peter Schuhmann (UNCW), Tony Wood (NMFS), Steve Minkinen (USFWS), John Ellis (USFWS), Katie Drew (ASMFC)

**SAS Members:** Michael Celestino (NJ, Chair), Gary Nelson (MA), Alexei Sharov (MD), Hank Liao (VMRC), John Sweka (USFWS), Margaret Conroy (DE), Katie Drew (ASMFC)

**Tagging Subcommittee (TSC) Members:** Angela Giuliano (MD), Beth Versak (MD), Brendan Harrison (NJ), Chris Bonzek (VIMS), Gary Nelson (MA), Ian Park (DE), Jessica Best (NY), Josh Newhard (USFWS), Julien Martin (USGS), Katie Drew (ASMFC)

**DRAFT PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
ATLANTIC STRIPED BASS MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**The Ocean Place Resort  
Long Branch, New Jersey  
Hybrid Meeting**

**November 7, 2022**

These minutes are draft and subject to approval by the Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board.  
The Board will review the minutes during its next meeting.

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## INDEX OF MOTIONS

1. **Approval of Agenda** by consent (Page 1).
2. **Approval of Proceedings of August 2, 2022** by consent (Page 1).
3. **Main Motion**  
**Move to approve Draft Addendum I to amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for public comment** (Page 24). Motion by John Clark; second by Pat Geer. Motion amended.
4. **Motion to Amend**  
**Move to amend to add “if the stock is overfished, apply a 5% conservation tax to address discrepancy that a pound of striped bass quota is not equal across all states.” This would apply to options B and D** (Page 25). Motion by Megan Ware; second by Doug Grout (Page 26). Motion carried without objection (Page 27).
5. **Main Motion as Amended**  
**Move to approve Draft Addendum I to amendment 7 to the interstate fisheries management plan for public comment, and add if the stock is overfished, apply a 5% conservation tax to address discrepancy that a pound of striped bass quota is not equal across all states. This would apply to options B and D.** Motion carried without objection (Page 28).
6. **Move to approve Craig Poosikian representing Massachusetts to the Striped Bass Advisory Panel** (Page 28). Motion by Ray Kane; second by Justin Davis. Motion carried without opposition (Page 28).
7. **Move to adjourn** by consent (Page 28).

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## ATTENDANCE

### Board Members

Megan Ware, ME, proxy for P. Keliher (AA)	Adam Nowalsky, NJ, proxy for Sen. Gopal (LA)
Steve Train, ME (GA)	Kris Kuhn, PA, proxy for T. Schaeffer (AA)
Cheri Patterson, NH (AA)	Loren Lustig, PA (GA)
Doug Grout, NH (GA)	G. Warren Elliott, PA (LA)
Dennis Abbott, NH, proxy for Sen. Watters (LA)	John Clark, DE (AA)
Mike Armstrong, MA, proxy for D. McKiernan (AA)	Roy Miller, DE (GA)
Raymond Kane, MA (GA)	Craig Pugh, DE, proxy for Rep. Carson (LA)
Sarah Ferrara, MA, proxy for Rep. Peake (LA)	Mike Luisi, MD, proxy for L. Fegley (AA Acting)
Jason McNamee (AA)	Robert Brown, MD, proxy for R. Dize (GA)
David Borden, RI (GA)	David Sikorski, MD, proxy for Del. Stein (LA)
Eric Reid, RI, proxy for Sen. Sosnowski (LA)	Pat Geer, VA, proxy for J. Green (AA)
Justin Davis, CT (AA)	Bryan Plumlee, VA (GA)
Bill Hyatt, CT (GA)	Chris Batsavage, NC, proxy for K. Rawls (AA)
Sen. Craig Miner, CT (LA)	Jerry Mannen, NC (GA)
Jim Gilmore, NY (AA)	Marty Gary, PRFC
Emerson Hasbrouck, NY, (GA)	Dan Ryan, DC, proxy for C. Reese
Joe Cimino, NJ (AA)	Rick Jacobson, USFWS
Tom Fote, NJ (GA)	Max Appelman, NMFS

(AA = Administrative Appointee; GA = Governor Appointee; LA = Legislative Appointee)

### Ex-Officio Members

Nicole Costa, Technical Committee Chair	Jeffrey Mercer, Law Enforcement Representative
Louis Bassano, Advisory Panel Chair	Mike Celestino, Stk. Assmnt. Subcommittee Chair

### Staff

Bob Beal	Katie Drew
Toni Kerns	Madeline Musante
Tina Berger	

### Guests

Jason Avila	Jeff Brust, NJ DEP	Caitlin Craig NYS DEC
Linda Barry, NJ DEP	Mike Celestino, NJ DEP	Jessica Daher, NJ DEP
Louis Bassano, NJ	Blane Chocklett	Bob Danielson
Rick Bellavance	Matt Cieri, ME DMR	Maureen Davidson, NYS DEC
John Bello	Germain Cloutier	Patrick Denno
Jessica Best, NYS DEC	Phil Coates	Even Dintaman
Kurt Blanchard, RI DEM	Christine Condon, Baltimore Sun	Chris Dollar
Christopher Borgatti	Margaret Conroy, DE DFW	Russell Dize, MD (GA)
Delayne Brown, NH F&G	Matthew Corbin, MD DNR	Eric Durell, MD DNR
Simon Brown, MD DNR	Heather Corbett, NJ DEP	Wes Eakin, NYS DEC

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**Guests (continued)**

Arisa Edwards, CBF	Casey Marker, MD DNR	Patrick Rudman
Peter Fallon, Maine Stripers	Dan McKiernan, MA (AA)	Brandi Salmon, NC DMF
Tony Friedrich, SGA	Kevin McMenamin	McLean Seward, NC DENR
Tom Fuda	Jeff Mercer, RI DEM	Paul Shafer
John Gans, TRCP	Nichola Meserve, MA DMF	Scott Simms, MD DNR
Steve Garafalo	Mike Millard	Ethan Simpson, VMRC
Lewis Gillingham, VMRC	Steve Minkinen, US FWS	Amanda Small, MD DNR
Angela Giuliano, MD DNR	Derek Monfort	Ross Squire
Willy Goldsmith, SGA	Gabriel Montemuro	David Stormer, DE DFW
Kurt Gottschall, CT DEEP	Chris Moore, CBF	ElizaBeth Streifeneder, NYS DEC
Tyler Grabowski, PA F&B	Brandon Muffley, MAFMC	Kevin Sullivan, NH F&G
Brendan Harrison, NJ DEP	Kirby Rootes-Murdy, USGS	Colin Temple
Helen T. Heumacher, USFWS	Brian Neilan, NJ DEP	Michael Toole
Jaclyn Higgins, TRCP	Gary Nelson, MA DMF	Taylor Vavra
Peter Himchak, Cooke Aqua	Robert Newberry	Beth Versak, MD DNR
Mark Hoffman, CBC	Thomas Newman	Ralph Vigmostad
Jeffrey Horne, MD DNR	Jeffrey Nichols, ME DMR	Mike Waine, ASA
Harry Hornick, MD DNR	Tyler O'Neill	William Wayman, US FWS
Jesse Hornstein, NYS DEC	Zane Oliver	Craig Weedon, MD DNR
Bob Humphrey	Jeff Panzo	Tim Wheeler, <i>Bay Journal</i>
Jim Hutchinson, <i>The Fisherman</i>	John Papciak	Peter Whelan
Taylor Ingraham	Charles Paullin	Holly White, NC DENR
Gary Jennings, FL (GA)	Michael Plaia	Logan Williams
Dylan Jewell	Nicholas Popoff, US FWS	John P. Williams
Carrie Kennedy, MD DNR	Will Poston, SGA	Charles Witek
Gregg Kenney, NYS DEC	Marcus Quenzer	Steven Witthuhn
Jared Lamy, NH F&G	Michael Quinan	Michael Woods
Brooke Lowman, VMRC	Jill Ramsey, VMRC	Chris Wright, NOAA
Mike Luisi, MD DNR	Kathy Rawls, NC (AA)	Erik Zlokovitz, MD DNR
Shanna Madsen, VMRC	Jason Rock, NC DENR	Renee Zobel, NH F&G
John Maniscalco, NYS DEC	Mike Ruccio	

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The Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened in The Monmouth I Room in The Ocean Place Resort via hybrid meeting, in-person and webinar; Monday, November 7, 2022, and was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Martin Gary.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

CHAIR MARTIN GARY: Good afternoon, everybody, and welcome to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board meeting. My name is Marty Gary, I'm your Chair with the Potomac River Fisheries Commission. Our Vice-Chair for this Board is Megan Ware from the state of Maine, and I'm joined by staff members from ASMFC, Emilie Franke, seated to my right, and also our ASMFC Science Lead, Dr. Katie Drew.

Before we get started just a few announcements. I know the New Jersey DEP folks are going to get a lot of accolades over the next few days, but I'll start it, or maybe I'm second or third in line here. But I want to thank Joe Cimino, and all of his staff, Mike and Jeff and Heather and everybody for putting on a great show, and getting us settled here in Long Branch, New Jersey, a beautiful setting.

If any of you are lucky enough to see the sight this morning, it was pretty impressive to wake up to a textbook predator/prey relationship, huge amounts of menhaden along the beach, with stripers working on them, a humpback whale, and certainly a whole bunch of charter boat and fishing vessels.

The only thing I think that was missing, I was looking for Joe and a trident, as he summoned all of this to come together. Pretty impressive. Joe, thanks for all your hard work and all your staff for putting this together. We have a couple new Commissioners here, not new faces, but new in their seats. Doug Grout is here as a Governor's Appointee for New Hampshire, Doug, welcome back. You replace Ritchie White.

It's hard to believe we're not going to see Ritchie White around this table. But I will say, the granite state loses nothing in an intellectual and experiential

prowess, so we welcome you back to work with the Board here. Then also, welcome back to Adam Nowalsky, for New Jersey. Adam is going to be at the table as proxy for New Jersey's new Legislative Commissioner, Senator Vin Gopal.

I was going to say, Adam, I personally missed you not being here, to not miss the things that I miss. If everybody knows you, you don't miss anything. Thank you for all your hard work, and we welcome you back. Also, seated to my left is Sargent Jeff Mercer from Rhode Island, and he will be taking over at the Law Enforcement Committee for striped bass, so welcome, Jeff. He'll be replacing Kurt Blanchard, and Kurt, if you could raise your hand. Hopefully Kurt is still in the room, he's in the back. Kurt, thank you so much for all your help. (Applause)

Thank you, Kurt, for all your good work with this species over the years, much appreciated.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

CHAIR GARY: All right, so we'll move on with our agenda, Number 2, Board consent. First order of business is the Approval of the Agenda. Are there any additions or modifications to the agenda? Joe Cimino.

MR. CIMINO: No, I just wanted to say thank you for that. I just would be remiss. We can't accept all those kudos, ASMFC staff has just done so much. The thanks really belong to Laura and the Lisa's and Tina. Thank you.

CHAIR GARY: Thank you, Joe, and absolutely right on the kudos to the ASMFC staff, so thanks to all of them. If there are no objections to the agenda as presented, we'll approve that by consent and go on to our next item, which is approval of the proceedings from August 2022.

### **APPROVAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

CHAIR GARY: Are there any edits to those proceedings? Seeing none; we'll approve those proceedings by consent.

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

CHAIR GARY: Next up is Public Comment for items that are not on the agenda. We'll entertain comments for those items not on the agenda from those folks in the room, so we'll look for a show of hands, and also online, and I think, Katie, you have those if you see somebody, and Emilie. No hands online. Is there anybody that would like to make comments that is in attendance? There doesn't appear to be any, so we'll move on.

### **CONSIDERATION OF THE 2022 ATLANTIC STRIPED BASS STOCK ASSESSMENT UPDATE**

CHAIR GARY: Item Number 4 on the agenda is Consideration of the 2022 Atlantic Striped Bass Stock Assessment Update. We'll have a presentation of the stock assessment report. Dr. Gary Nelson from Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries is lead analyst for the Striped Bass Stock Assessment. He is joining us virtually on the webinar, and will present the 2022 Stock Assessment Update. Is Gary prepared?

MS. EMILIE FRANKE: Yes, we are pulling his presentation up on the screen right now.

### **PRESENTATION OF THE STOCK ASSESSMENT REPORT**

DR. GARY NELSON: Good afternoon, everyone. I will be presenting the results of the updated stock assessment, which we completed this past August, I believe. I will be going through each of the terms of reference that were assigned to us during the update. For the first Terms of Reference 1, we were required to update all the fisheries dependent data that were included in the last benchmark.

We did that by updating all of the commercial and recreational data for 2018 to 2021, these were included in the assessment. The recreational harvest and releases allowed us to calculate the dead releases, were obtained for each state via the MRIP website. The commercial harvest data were reported by the individual states, and as we did in the benchmark with the new improved method, we

estimated commercial discards using tag data and MRIP estimates.

Again, that method was approved at the benchmark. It's a kind of complicated method, so I won't get into it. Just as a reminder, there is actually some missing data sources which we have no information on. We have no harvest or release data from major rivers like the Hudson River, the Delaware River, and of course we really have no estimates of the amount of poaching that does take place. Those numbers are lacking from the assembly of the catch data. This slide just shows the total removals in millions of fish taken in Chesapeake Bay and the ocean region.

The ocean region includes all areas outside of Chesapeake Bay, and this is the time series since 1982. If you look at the vertical red dash line that indicates the separation between 2017 and 2018, and you can see that the landings after 2017 have been declining a bit. The total landings pretty much dropped and kind of leveled out in 2021.

The region with the highest removals is the ocean region, compared to Chesapeake Bay. This flag just shows the total removals by disposition category. Recreational harvest is here in pink. Recreational dead releases are in blue. Commercial harvest is in yellow, and the commercial dead discards are in black.

As you can see, recreational harvest and dead releases comprised most of the removals over the time series. In 2021, the recreational harvest and dead releases comprised about 86 percent of the total removals. This slide shows the age composition of the total removals from 2012 in the upper left-hand corner, to 2021 down at the lower right-hand corner.

Age is on the X axis here or the bottom axis. The strong year classes witnessed over time are represented as different colors. We have the 2011-year class here in yellow, and you can see starting in 2012, 2011-year class from Chesapeake Bay entered the fishery and progressed. You can see the landings progressing through time, they were strong age components of the total removals during the time

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period.

Then since like 2019, 2020 the contribution of that large year class has waned over time. We also show here in blue the 2014-year class out of the Hudson, that's in blue. Then also the 2015-year class that entered the fishery in 2016. You can see that progressing through time, where currently it is one of the major contributors to the total removals.

We also have plotted the about average 2018-year class here in green. You can see that starting to come into the population too. This just shows you what ages comprised the total reports. We also were charged with updating all of the fisheries independent data that were used in the previous peer review benchmark stock assessment, so showing you that.

What we did was we updated all the young of the year indices, the age specific indices. We had surveys with complete age composition data, and all of the information here is used in the stock assessment to help tune the model, to determine fishing mortality and spawning stock biomass. This table just shows a pattern of how some of the surveys were impacted during COVID, and also for other reasons.

During the period 2018 to 2021, during COVID, during year 2020, New York's Age 1 Survey was delayed a bit in getting started. The New Jersey Young of the Year Index sampling did not occur during 2020. Getting to some of the age composition surveys down below, Connecticut Trawl Survey did not occur in 2020, neither did the New Jersey Trawl, but it also it wasn't conducted in 2019 and '21, I think due to boat issues or something like that. Then the Delaware Spawning Stock Electrofishing Survey did not occur in 2020. The Maryland Gillnet Spawning Stock Survey was interrupted, I think shortened in 2021 for reasons I don't remember, and the ChesMMAP Index from the ChesMMAP Survey was not provided, because they switched vessels and they are running calibration studies, so that the studies prior to the Index, prior to 2019 can be compared to what happened in the past.

Just to point out, these are young of the year indices, and just point out a few features. Shown in this slide

are the young of the year at Age 1, survey indices from the Hudson River, Delaware Bay, and Chesapeake Bay, as well as the Maryland/Virginia Composite Index, which we use now as the primary Chesapeake Bay young of the year index in the assessment.

This is a modeling approach, where we combined the Maryland and the Virginia juvenile indices. The Young of the Year Index for New York showed a bit of a decline relative to 2008. The New Jersey, we've had a peak in 2020 and a drop in 2021, 2020 we still wonder whether this big peak here is either a strong year class coming out of the Hudson or it could have been due to the effect of that delay or later time period in which the survey was conducted.

The Virginia Index here shows a lack of strong year classes in the later time period in the lower one in 2021. The Maryland, in the lower left-hand corner, again we all know what's going on there. We have very low recruitment indicated by that index, and in New Jersey's Delaware Bay Index, they missed 2020, but the 2021 value has dropped to a fairly low value.

If we look at the composite up in the left-hand corner, this is the Maryland and Virginia Index, and we can see that the combined index is saying that recruitment has been declining since about 2017, '18, around there. These are for the Age 1 fishes, the Maryland Age 1 and the New York Age 1.

The Maryland as indicated here with the circles showing the strong 2015 and average 2018-year classes, and then New York Age 1, we can see that big 2014-year class indicated here. But in recent years it's getting lower. Recruitment appears to be lower. This map just shows the total index for the age surveys with complete age composition.

Again, ChesMMAP only provided, I think one data point from 2018, because from 2019 on they switched vessels. We can't really say much about what's going on in the nearest years. Maryland Spawning Stock Gillnet Surveys have always been kind of flat and variable through time. The Delaware 30-foot trawl survey has been kind of flat since the mid-2000s.

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Delaware Spawning Stock Electrofishing Survey showed their index as actually in the latter five or six years has been lower than in the former part of the time series. New Jersey trawls, we didn't have any information again for various reasons. The New York Ocean Haul Survey stopped in 2006, but we still use it in the assessment, and the index from the Connecticut Trawl Survey was missing 2020, but in 2021 value appears to be lower than previous years also.

Then the MRIP Catch Per Unit Effort Index that we developed has been declining a little bit in the last years. For TOR 3, we were assigned to tabulate a list of life history information used in the assessment in a model parameterization, and note any differences from the benchmark. Just to refresh your memory about the 2018 benchmark. We used a forward projecting statistical catch at age model, which estimates Age 1 abundance in each year. It estimates fully recruited F in each year. It estimates catch selectivity in four regulatory periods.

There is a catchability coefficient estimated for all indices. There is selectivity estimated for each of the age composition surveys, and the data are split into two fleets as mentioned before, the ocean and the Bay region, and this because we approved the selectivity fits and provides partial Fs for each of those regions.

We had used age-specific M's, which we had developed from various methods. To update, we used the same life history parameters, the natural mortality, maturity at age. We updated the weights at age for use in the spawning stock biomass calculation. We added a new selectivity block for 2020 and '21 because of all the regulatory changes that went into effect in 2020, where there were some major changes in size limits.

We thought it was best to start a new selectivity block. During the exploratory analyses, we tried to figure out what shape the new selectivity blocks, the selectivity kind of would be in these blocks. We explored providing a four parameter double logistic equation that can produce both flat top and dome

shaped selectivity, and the result was that the dome shaped was needed in Chesapeake Bay, but flat top was still evident for the ocean.

However, because of the size changes, the selectivity slid down to younger ages. As part of the update, we also adjust the CVs, you can see it is the statistical thing to do. We adjust the CVs for the surveys, and to get residual mean square area around 1.0, and then we also adjust the effective sample size of the survey age composition data using Francis's method.

TOR 4 was to update accepted model and estimate uncertainty, conduct retrospective analyses, include some sensitivity runs, and compare the benchmark assessments with the results from the current assessment. Our model, again we updated the model and we have a new selectivity period for both the Bay and ocean, and that was a model approved by the TC.

That is considered our base model. These are results from our base model. Shown here are the estimates of fully recruited fishing mortality for the Bay, which is in the lower gray line, and the ocean, which is the upper gray line. The total fishing mortality is in the red here. The highest fishing mortality generally occurred in the ocean region, and all of the regions showed a decline after 2017.

The fully recruited F in 2021 was 0.5 in the Bay, and 0.1 in the ocean. The total fishing mortality that we use in stock determination was estimated to be 0.136. If you look at the graph you can see that there has been a tremendous decline in fishing mortality since after 2017. The regulations have done its job.

Okay, this slide just shows the estimates of recruitment for the model. Remember, this is a combined stock model, so even though Chesapeake Bay catch influences a lot of the components in the estimates in the model, we also have Delaware, and also the Hudson River fish in here too. You can see, I just pointed out some of the past strong year classes, 2011, 2015 and that average year class 2018. In the last couple years, it's been estimated to be lower. This slide just shows the estimates of abundance coming from the model. Age 1 plus

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abundance, which is Age 1 through 15, is shown here in the gray, and you can see that increased over time, but has declined after about 2003 or '04, and has kind of jumped around.

That's simply because recruitment overshadows most of the other ages. But if we break it down into just Age 8 plus fish, you can see again there was a big increase up to about 2003 or '04, some bouncing around then since about 2011, numbers of 8 plus fish have declined. These are the estimates of female spawning stock biomass in metric tons that comes from the model.

Kind of similar pattern to the numbers, we were peak in about 2003 or '04, some bouncing around and after about 2010 or '11, it has declined. The current model estimates suggest that it's actually been increasing over the last few years. That is probably due to the 2015-year class starting to move into the active part of the population.

We were asked to do retrospective analyses on a model, and what a retrospective analysis allows is it allows you to observe the impact of parameter estimation with the addition of another year's worth of data. The way it works is that a current model estimate is compared to the estimates that would occur when the current year's data are deleted.

We do this essentially seven times, so what you're seeing here on the left are the actual estimates from each model run in which the current year is deleted, so we start at 2021 and repeat each model by deleting the next year and the next year and next year. It gives you a sense of how stable the estimates are.

The top is using the fully recruited  $F$ , and the bottom is female spawning stock biomass. Not too bad, in terms of stability of the estimates for fishing mortality. If we look at female spawning stock biomass you get a more sense that we're slightly overestimating the female spawning stock biomass now, and on the right are actually the retrospective plots, where you can see for most of the time series up top is fishing mortality.

We slightly overestimated fishing mortality, but in the more recent years we're underestimating slightly. Fishing mortality on average is about 10 percent or so. Below is the retrospective for seven peels for the female spawning stock biomass, and you can see here that we're actually slightly overestimating the female spawning biomass now.

In the past, the last benchmark assessment, it was kind of the other way. The spawning stock biomass actually was usually underestimated. But that underestimation was becoming less as we were approaching using the 2017 data. However, with the addition of the 2018 through '21, that pattern changed a bit with those data.

But it also changed because of a slight change in weightings that occurred this time around when we used the methods to reweight the data, the new data. It definitely has changed. That was an issue we all discussed during the TC and stock assessment. Since there is a slight systematic bias in the 2021 SSB and fishing mortality estimates, which we identified through the retrospective, we investigated whether our terminal estimates should be adjusted for that bias. What we did was use the National Marine Fisheries method of doing so, and in this method, what happens is that there is a statistic called the Mohn's Rho, which is calculated, essentially the average of the proportional differences between the retrospective peels, and we use seven peels.

Those values are then used to adjust the terminal  $F$  and the SSB values. In this graph here, the black value is a five-area plot of the fishing mortality on the left versus the female SSB in the black circle here is the 2021 values. We adjust the terminal  $F$  and SSB using the Mohn's Rho. This red value is what that adjustment would be.

If the adjusted values are outside the 90 percent five-area confidence interval here, which are these lines coming out from the original estimate. Then adjustment is desired. However, if the adjusted values are within the confidence intervals, then correction isn't required. That's kind of a rule that the National Marine Fisheries Service developed.

I couldn't explain completely how they got there, but that has been a standard that has been adopted, so we adopted that here. Based on this comparison here, the resulting values did not have to be adjusted in any way, so we'll just use the values that were produced somewhere else. We did a number of sensitivity-runs.

We ran a sensitivity analysis to examine the potential impact of the delay in sampling that occurred for the New York Age 1 Index, in that the shortened season in the Maryland Spawning Stock Survey. We looked at the impact by essentially moving those points from the assessment model, and re-estimating everything, and then comparing the estimates from the model.

You can see here on the left are the estimates of fishing mortality for both models, which you can't see, because they lay right over each other. The top is fishing mortality, middle is female spawning stock biomass, and bottom is the Age 1 recruits. The only slight difference that occurred was in the 2019 value, and if you look over to the right, which just shows the percent differences in the estimates between the two models.

There was a slight change between the base and the model with the points deleted, and it was essentially the current model estimates the recruitment about 10 percent higher than the models without those data points. It really wasn't much impact at all, so we weren't worried about it. We also examined other configurations for the selectivity blocks in the 2020 and '21 period.

We ran two scenarios to explore resulting changes to our model. In the first scenario, a selectivity block was used only in the ocean region, and in these graphs the ocean only region will be in red here, with the triangle. In the second scenario, we just continued using the same selectivity blocks as we used in the benchmark, which essentially the last block went from 1996 up to 2017. That was one time block.

These graphs just compare the changes in the fishing mortality and SSB. The resulting fishing mortality in

SSB for the ocean only stock actually ocean only selectivity block, came up almost about the same as our base model, which you can see here in the red the base model is in the black. That is fishing mortality. The estimates were just slightly lower. For SSBs they were just slightly lower than the base model. Assuming no changes in selectivity, the estimates were a lot higher in the orange here up above, then the current base model. The SSB actually declined a bit compared to the base model. This slide just shows a comparison of the fishing mortality and spawning stock biomass between the benchmark and the 2022 update. You can see up at the top this fishing mortality.

They pretty much agreed up until you got near the terminal years in the benchmark, but now the model is estimating a higher fishing mortality at particular years, so that it changes a little bit. At the bottom there is female SSB showing that during the early parts of the time series the new model is slightly underestimating SSB compared to the benchmark, pretty close during the middle, and now it is underestimating, I wouldn't say underestimating. It is lower than the benchmark produced in 2018. There are some changes.

Term of Reference 5 was to update the biological reference points of the stock and determine stock status. Because of that we're in the low recruitment period, all the reference points that I'll be showing were developed using the low recruitment regime, which are pretty much using the recruitment estimates from 2008 to 2021, which represents our low recruitment regime.

The female spawning stock biomass reference points are essentially determined from the estimates that come out of the stock assessment. The threshold is the 1995 spawning stock biomass value, and in the model, it was estimated to be 85,800 metric tons. Our SSB calculation is just taking 125 percent of the threshold, and that estimate is 106,800 metric tons. Oops.

The way we come up with the fishing mortality associated with those thresholds and targets, is we use a stochastic projection model. This is

parameterized with the estimates of abundance at age and associated errors from the model estimate ending in year 2021. We use an average selectivity after 2021 in the projection.

We project 100 years in the future and we do that 10,000 times, and during each time we're randomly drawing recruit Age 1 estimates from, again from the 2008 to 2021 low recruitment regime. Essentially in this model you adjust, we have an F that you adjust, and you adjust that until the median spawning stock biomass at the end of 100 years equals our SSB threshold and SSB target estimated from the stock assessment model.

The Fs associated with the threshold came out to be 0.20, and the F target was 0.17, which are pretty close to, if I remember correctly, pretty close to the F threshold and target that we had in the benchmark. If we overlay these values onto the female SSB and fishing mortality plots, on the left here the red solid line is the SSB threshold, and the upper dash line SSB target.

If you compare the estimates of female spawning stock biomass, they are all below those reference points, and so the stock is determined to be overfished. If we look at the fully recruited fishing mortality below however, current fishing mortality is estimated to be below both the F target and F threshold values, so we can conclude that overfishing is not occurring.

We were also asked to do short-term projections. This is TOR 6. What people were interested in is, determine the probability of reaching the target by 2029, under the low recruitment regime. We expect to project to the population using the same starting values that we did to determine the reference points, same values starting at 2021. We sampled from the low recruitment data, assuming that the current F remain constant over the time period. That would be in the upper graph here. The middle graph is assuming that we fished at the target after 2021.

Then at the bottom is fishing at the threshold after 2021. The red triangles here, the median of the 10,000 replicates, the projection, and then shown

here in the dash the upper and lower 2.5 and 97.5 percent tiles. The target and threshold are the dash lines, the threshold values and the solid, what do they call that? That dashed line, it was the dotted line is the target.

Under the current, if we can maintain F at the current level, it's projected that the SSB would be reached by around 2025. By 2029 there is a 78.6 percent probability that SSB has exceeded the target value. By that time too, close to almost 100 percent of the SSB will be above the threshold.

As we increase the fishing mortality to the target at 0.1677, we do reach the target value by 2029, and the probability of being above the target is about 52 percent or so, about 82 percent being above the threshold. Then if we fish at the threshold value, the SSB increases a little bit, but then tapers and starts coming closer to the threshold.

By 2029 there is only a 30 percent chance it is above target, and 59 percent chance or so that it is above the threshold. In conclusion, the stock is overfished, but overfishing is not occurring. This is relative to the new low recruitment at reference points. There is a 78.6 percent chance the stock will be at or above the SSB target in 2029 under the current F. Based on these results, there seems to be no further reduction needed at the time.

Just to mention some sources of uncertainty, 2020 and '21 data are more uncertain because of COVID-19. The retrospective pattern has changed directions a bit, and we're now underestimating F and overestimating SSB. We only have two years of data for which to estimate the new selectivity block, so that could change a little bit, at least the patterns in selectivity or the shape, I should say, might change a little bit when more years of data are added. That's it for me.

CHAIR GARY: Thank you, Gary for your presentation. At this time, we'll take questions for Dr. Nelson, and just a reminder, we do have two Board members participating online, so Katie and Emilie will be taking a look to see if they raise their hands. Questions for Dr. Nelson? Start with Jason, Mike Armstrong, and

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we'll go to John Clark.

DR. JASON McNAMEE: Thanks Gary for the kind of whirlwind tour of the assessment, appreciate it. The question I have, I want to hone in on that selectivity block that you noted. I had sort of made a note of that myself. What I was wondering, because that was an element of the assessment.

Everything was pretty stable for a lot of the different sensitivities that you guys tried. The one that has kind of an important impact, depending on the assumption that you make is that last selectivity block. You've only got two years in there, which you noted. What's your feeling of the ability of the model to kind of estimate parameters for the function of forms there? Did it seem like it could, were they stable? Was it coming up with the same kind of parameter estimates with the various runs, or did there seem like there was kind of a lack of stability there? I was wondering about how much faith we can kind of put in the model's ability to kind of figure out the shape of those selectivity's.

DR. NELSON: Well, I can tell you offhand that the selectivity parameters estimated have really tight CVs, you know less than 10 percent. There is information there. In terms of the potential shape, that may be an issue. It was my thinking that with the change in size regulations on the coast, you know going to a 35 maximum size limit, that the selectivity on the ocean, in my mind should have gone a little dome shaped.

The model still estimated its flat top, but the midpoint, if you will, the LD50, whatever you want to call it. Actually, those slid down so it's actually encompassing younger fish, which after talking about it for a long time in the group, we kind of considered that could make some sense. It may be different in another model, depending on how you're estimating things.

I think I did look at; I can't remember exactly. I think I did look at leaving out the 2021, and just running a 2020, and things came out fairly similar. But I'm more confident that the shape may not change that much as we add data, but it may will, at least for the

ocean. We might actually start seeing a dome shaped curve being developed as we add more data. I don't know if that answers your question, Jay.

DR. McNAMEE: Yes, absolutely did, thanks so much, Gary, appreciate it.

CHAIR GARY: Your next question is from Mike Armstrong.

DR. MIKE ARMSTRONG: Hey Gary, I think it's probably in the document. I couldn't find it. I'm curious, how much did the SSB reference points change with the low productivity at the end?

DR. NELSON: Yes, I would have to dig out the old assessment. I think it declined the SSB in the 1995 estimates went down. However, the F estimates associated with that level of SSB that we did through the projection, were kind of close to what we were using in the benchmark, if I remember correctly. I think the target was like 0.18, and I think the threshold might have been 0.22 or something. Katie, can you remember? You don't remember what that was?

DR. KATIE DREW: Yes, it seems a little bit more than you might think. The fishing mortality threshold previously was 0.24, and now it's 0.20 with the low recruitment assumption, so that's the threshold. Similarly, the target I think was 0.20 for the, sorry we don't have it, I think it was 0.20 for the old one and now it's more like 0.17.

I would say it was maybe like a 10 to 20 percent change on the F side of that. Then there was maybe a 10 percent change in the SSB threshold and target itself, but that was surely because of changes to what the model was estimating that 1995 SSB to be. I would say it was within sort of the confidence intervals of that last reference point.

DR. NELSON: I must have been thinking of 2017 stock assessment. Does that answer your question, Mike?

DR. ARMSTRONG: Yes, particularly the SSB. It didn't change radically, it's not like we have a whole new place to go to. It's almost the same. Looking at the



retrospective, you decided based on Mohn's Rho that you didn't adjust it, but just verify this for me. I did a little back of the envelope calculation. Even if you adjusted it, it wouldn't have changed stock status, right? It looks like it might have changed it from 0.14 to 0.15. We would still be okay, is that correct?

DR. NELSON: Yes, that's correct.

DR. ARMSTRONG: This one may be more of a comment. There might be a question coming out of it. The projections seem really sensitive to F, which no brainer, but we're talking operating in the hundredths place, and a few points changed there really changes the course of how we recover. Would you agree with that, Gary?

DR. NELSON: Yes, going from 0.13 essentially to 0.2 for the threshold. You know that is considerable increase in catches going from the lower one up to the other, which is why the population levels off at a different F. Are you asking me whether that is realistic or not?

DR. ARMSTRONG: I conclude with, it's just this Board should be very cautious, because it doesn't take a lot to change the course of a recovery, relatively minor change in rise in F that will put us back in the recovery period. That was my point. But just I wasn't to emphasize we have to remain cautious as we move forward.

DR. NELSON: Yes, particularly since there is error in the F estimates and stuff like that.

DR. ARMSTRONG: Thanks, Gary, that's all I've got.

CHAIR GARY: We'll go to John Clark, Emerson Hasbrouck and Mike Luisi.

MR. JOHN CLARK: Thank you for the presentation, Gary. I wanted to follow up on SSB. I have a, I'm sure it's a simpler question. One thing I found confusing than Mike Armstrong had there, but the benchmark assessment, the 2018 one had the SSB threshold at 202 million pounds, and now with this low recruitment it is down to 85 million, which is a much

bigger. I thought you just said it was a 10 percent decrease. Am I missing something there?

DR. NELSON: Yes, the ones I'm stating are in metric tons. I don't know what it would be in millions of pounds.

MR. CLARK: Okay, I was looking at the wrong thing there. The other thing I just was curious about was that even though they had about the same pattern as the benchmark, that the years at the highest SSB were above the target in this latest assessment, where to the benchmark they never surpassed the target. Is that all just having to do with using the low recruitment assumption, or were there other factors at play there?

DR. NELSON: That's a good question. I don't know, I'll have to run the projections again with the old recruitment period. I don't know. Do you have any idea, Katie?

DR. DREW: The low recruitment assumption doesn't have anything to do with the actual SSB target and threshold, that comes purely out of the model, based on the data that we've seen. The low recruitment assumption then is what level of F do you need to get back to that historical level? What changed is we've added new years of data.

We adjusted sort of the structure of the model a little bit at the end, and that caused a change in some of the historical perception of the stock. Where that '95 value is now estimated to be lower than it was in the benchmark, that then rippled through to the SSB target. I would say that right now, historically it looks like we were above that target. But I would also say that during the benchmark, if you looked at the confidence intervals around the SSB, those confidence intervals did encompass the target.

Similarly, they also encompassed below the target in this run. It adjusted the point values. We were really close to the target, but not at it previously. Now we add a little bit more data, the model adjusts itself a little bit, and now we're a little bit above it. But probably within the overall uncertainty of the benchmark and this one.

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MR. CLARK: The changes you're saying, Katie that really, it's following pretty closely what you saw with the benchmark, even with the changes in the low recruitment, the different selectivity block, and all that. Everything is following pretty much what we saw with the 2018.

DR. DREW: Yes, it's a very small difference. It's just enough, to kind of like flip you over that threshold, as opposed to just being slightly under it now at that target.

MR. CLARK: Just curious about that, thanks.

CHAIR GARY: We'll go to Emerson Hasbrouck and then over to Mike Luisi.

MR. EMERSON C. HASBROUCK: Thank you, Gary, for your presentation. My question and concern are very similar to what Mike just expressed a couple of minutes ago. Can we put up that slide that had the graphic in the table of rebuilding? It was up there just a couple minutes ago, yes, that one.

If the retrospective pattern is telling us that we tend to overestimate SSB and underestimate F, we're getting close to being on the razors edge here. As Mike said, you know a little bit of change in F can have a significant impact on our rebuilding for SSB to target. If F starts to approach the target, or even the threshold, it's going to have a significant impact here. Are we going to get another update next year, or do we have to wait two years?

DR. NELSON: I believe it's two years. But I hear what you're saying, no I understand what you're saying.

MR. HASBROUCK: Is there any way we can have like an interim update next year, to kind of see where we are with F? You know like I said, we're on the razor's edge here, and if we fall to the unfortunate side, we're going to be in worse shape two years from now.

DR. NELSON: I think that would be up to the Board and ASMFC whether they would want us to do another one. Doing an intermediate update would

take just as much work to do it. We have to update all the data, same process we do two years from now.

CHAIR GARY: Emerson, Toni I think wants to comment.

MS TONI KERNS: That would be the prerogative of the Board to make a recommendation to the Policy Board, and then the Policy Board would have to take that into consideration. As you all know, we look at the stock assessment schedule every year, and we are almost at or maybe more than at capacity for our stock assessment team, as well as the stock assessment members of the states, and organizations that partner with us. If we add striped bass, we would likely need to take something else off the schedule, in order to make time for that. That would be a consideration that the Policy Board would need to take into account.

CHAIR GARY: Emerson, do you have a follow up to that?

MR. HASBROUCK: Well, yes, I understand that. I thought there might have been like a quick and easy way, just to update and see where we are with F. But from what Gary said, it doesn't seem like there is a short version here.

DR. DREW: I think what the TC would recommend that we do is, so as part of these projections that you do, what you get out is kind of under this F. What would be your expected level of catch next year and the year after with some confidence intervals. Instead of updating the full model, we could look at the projections and say, we would expect, if we are still fishing at our current F or an acceptable level of F.

What is the acceptable range of tests to get out of that and still be within your sort of predicted F rate? Then compare that to the removals that we saw in 2022. When we do the FMP review in 2023, and see are we maintaining current levels of removal that are within our expected rebuilding trajectory. That would definitely be easier on the Technical Committee than doing a full assessment update, and

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then do the updates again in 2024, and have two more years of data to help anchor where we are.

MR. HASBROUCK: Yes, that sounds reasonable. If we get to a point, Mr. Chair, where you would like a motion to that effect, I would happy to do that.

CHAIR GARY: Thanks, Emerson, we're going to go to Mike Luisi, and I would like to go to Justin Davis, and then back to Mike Armstrong.

MR. MICHAEL LUISI: Gary, thank you for your presentation. You made a comment during your presentation, which was very well done, by the way. In speaking about spawning stock biomass that the regulations that we currently have in place are doing their job. I'm just interested in understanding maybe a little bit more about what the team that did the assessment discussed regarding maybe some of the social aspects. Based on your opinion, and the work that you've done over the years with striped bass, is it the regulations that are working or do we just have less effort and less availability? I'm just asking for your opinion. I think that is important to put on the record, based on the comment you made.

DR. NELSON: Yes, I'm not sure about effort. I haven't looked at the effort estimates from MRIP to see if they've gone up or down. Potentially we can do that and send it with a memo or something. I think actually in my opinion up here anyway, in Massachusetts I did think that the maximum size limit provided is really working.

There are lot of people releasing those big fish now, and I just think it is all part for allowing those older, mature fish to survive. We're getting this uptick in SSB as the 2015 in our year class is starting to go through. I think that year class has got to hold us out for a while as the 2000 (faded) progresses after that. I don't know if that answered your question.

MR. LUISI: Yes, that helps. It definitely helps, and I think it's a good thing for the public to understand that the actions that we've taken over the years are starting to show signs of progression towards our ultimate goal. I wanted to get your professional opinion, so thank you.

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CHAIR GARY: Over to Justin Davis.

DR. JUSTIN DAVIS: Thanks, Gary, for the presentation. I've got a two-parter here if you'll indulge me, Mr. Chair. The first question had to do with a low recruitment assumption. Based on the presentation we just saw, because you selected the low recruitment assumption in the rebuilding plan in Amendment 7.

The projections that were used to develop the reference points, the fishing mortality reference points and the short-term projections to see where we would end up by 2029 both use that low recruitment assumption, which is pulling from recruitment from 2008 to 2021. My question is, for the recruitment that we've seen in the last three years, which has been below average and kind of concerning.

I'm wondering, Gary, can you comment on whether the recruitment we've seen in the last three years is within that range from 2008 to 2021, the sort of low recruitment dataset we're using? If it's within that range, sort of where does it fall out? Is it 25th percentile, you know below the median, above the median?

DR. NELSON: You mean the what the index out of Maryland is showing, those last since 2018, the very low recruitment, how that compares?

DR. DAVIS: Yes, correct. I'm just trying to get a sense with the recruitment we've seen in the last couple years that's been low, how that compares to that range of years used for the low recruit assumption.

DR. NELSON: It includes up to 2021, so I have looked at the recent values, just for edification, using a model to estimate what the Age 1 recruitment might be out of the model, given the Chesapeake Bay Index. It's pretty much within the same range that we have in there for the last few years, the 2018 or '19 to 2021. The range is in there.

What we don't model in the projections is whether there is a serial correlation between one year to the

next, which less values the last four years or so with the Chesapeake Bay, it seems to be, it was a correlation with not much happening there, all kind of the same level. Does that answer your question?

DR. DAVIS: It does, thanks, Gary. The second question I had is probably simpler. If you had made the bias correction to F, based on the slide we're looking at right now. I'm just wondering if F current was biased corrected. Where would we kind of fall out relative to the three scenarios here? Essentially, what would be our probability of being at an SSB target by 2029 under that F, if it was bias corrected?

DR. NELSON: It's about, I'd say about 10 percent. Let me just pull out my calculator here. Current F would probably go up to 0.145/6 around there. If we look at the values on the slide here, current F of 0.36 and targeted point 0.67. We could adjust the SSB projections a little bit downwards, and I would think that we would still be reaching the target by 2029, based on what I see on the graph.

CHAIR GARY: Thanks, Gary, thanks, Justin. Over to Mike Armstrong.

DR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you for another bite. This is more of a comment, but I think it's the right time to bring it up. It's following what Emerson said, and I'm extremely sensitive to the workload. But again, this is a multibillion-dollar fishery, and perhaps, you know rather than doing a spot assessment, maybe striped bass is the one we should do, just my opinion.

I looked at the MRIP landings, and they are up considerably this year. There is only one way we can react as a Board to low recruitment, and that's maintaining an increasing SSB. If in fact the retrospective is right and we're a little bit higher, and some of the other uncertainty and landings are up. We may in fact be at the threshold already, after this year.

It would be good to know that. Alternatively, Katie brought up a method, maybe you can project landings and compared to what we actually did, and maybe we can say, you know we're okay, or conversely say no, we went up a lot. That is the

problem. We don't have an output control for a direct fishery, so there is stuff that happens again and again.

But the main reason we are in this situation is we have never hit our target F, at least for a prolonged period of time. To prevent that we need to know what F is. I would advocate for something, either an update, or what Katie was talking about, to kind of give us an idea within one year of where we're at. That's because mostly of the recruitment. We need to get SSB up, which may not work, but that's all we can do. I'll leave it at that.

CHAIR GARY: Thanks, Mike, Emilie is going to respond for the staff.

MS. FRANKE: Thanks, Mike. The method that Katie outlined were from these projections. We have the projected catch that would keep us at this current F, and we could compare the realized removals next year, once we have all the 2022 data to that projected catch.

I think that's something we could add to the FMP review process without any sort of motion, we could just do that. If the Board did want to see a more full assessment update that would require a motion for next year. But otherwise, the next update will be in 2024. But we can plan to do that comparison of realized removals versus projected catch next year.

DR. ARMSTRONG: If we did that, would we have time to get the assessment together, or would we wind up in a two-year period anyway?

MS. FRANKE: Right, so if we did that comparison that would be in August. We wouldn't have time then to do a 2023 assessment, we would still be waiting for 2024. It wouldn't be sort of a wait and see if we want to do a 2023, we would have to decide pretty soon if we were going to just do the projection comparison or go the full assessment update route next year.

DR. ARMSTRONG: I don't know quite how to react to that, other than you know we're not locked in. This is kind of crazy speak, but if we find that landings are high, and projected to go above F, we could

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always cut harvest without a quantitative assessment. I could sit here and make a motion and say, let's cut harvest by 10 percent.

I don't know what it will do. It may cause people to go crazy. But I just think we're in a spot that we need to react. That being said, stocks don't collapse overnight. But with 4 years of poor recruitment, we're approaching that point, in my mind. Anyway, something to think about for this Board.

CHAIR GARY: We're still on questions. We have a couple in the queue, we have Steve Train and then we'll go to Mike Luisi. Is there anybody else who wanted to ask a question who hasn't asked one yet? Okay that's our queue, and then we're going to pivot to staff for some additional information they are going to provide, before we open this up to comments and potential reaction to this. Go ahead, Steve.

MR. STEPHEN TRAIN: Thank you, Dr. Nelson. I'm, I won't say confused, but I guess I'm uncertain. One of the people at this table I would ask for advice from trying to decide on a species and what I'm going to vote for, what I think needs to be done is Mike, and I'm not sure I agree with what he's been asking.

I mean, for years we've told people when we're managing a fishery to trust the science. We've got some great graphs here of what the science tells us will happen if we maintain the course, and everyone seems worried that it's not enough, not everyone, but a lot. The stock is overfished, but overfishing is not occurring. Correct me if I say anything wrong, Dr. Nelson.

We are now returning trophies, which we didn't for a long time. That is a healthier egg, a better likelihood of spawn ability, and it seems to me like it's the best thing we've done for the brood stock since I've been on this Board. The retrospective analysis appears that this is a good model, although it did show us there was a little bit of trouble with the brood stock. But this is the new regime we're in with the management of returning the trophies. The stock will be growing, and if we do nothing, it should recover. If we stay the course this should recover.

That is if we trust the science. The only thing we don't know, I feel like I'm a politician, we don't know the unknown. We don't know how much effort that we haven't accounted for.

I guess with everything I've heard here, I'm wondering why we're questioning the science so much. If it's possible that it could be weak, that this is inaccurate because we have an unknown. How much damage can we do if we allow this to go under this for another year or two before we correct it? We're not going to wipe out this fishery, am I wrong?

DR. NELSON: I'm just thinking of those fronts. There is error in everything that we're showing here, so things may be a little higher, they may be a little lower. The big issue I think in my mind is we basically have no control on what the recreational fishermen do. You know it's unlimited access.

If all of a sudden like Mike said, there could be a huge increase in landings one year. If that forces the F to go above what we're showing here in the projections at F current, then yes it can be a definite impact on the rate of recovery of the spawning stock biomass. Yes, that's just what comes to mind. I don't know if that answers your question. I don't know if you were talking to me directly, or it sound like you were talking to a lot of people on the Board too.

MR. TRAIN: Yes, maybe a little of both, but I guess the question came down to, is it the unknowns that could really mess this up, and could it really cause a lot of problems in one or two years? I don't even think that would be big enough to throw us way off course.

DR. NELSON: Gee, that's hard to say, it depends on what the endpoints are. But I wouldn't see F increasing astronomically. It might be within a range that we're showing here. I don't see any of the selectivity patterns changing majorly with an addition of another year. That is a good question, but I really don't have a good feeling about the answer.

CHAIR GARY: All right, thanks, Steve, are you good, Mike?

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MR. LUISI: Yes, I'll hold my comment to the point where if somebody does make a motion on action, I'll save it for that.

CHAIR GARY: I would like to go ahead and turn to staff. Now there are a couple of additional points related to the assessment that they'll provide, so I'll go to Emilie.

MS. FRANKE: We're just taking back the screen here. Real quick thanks again, Gary, for the presentation. While we're getting the screen pulled up here, I was just going to quickly go over two points related to the stock assessment. The first is, the provision in Amendment 7 that specified the possibility of the Board taking quick action in response to this assessment, and noting that that does not come into effect, and I will go over that in a minute. I'm also going to just briefly go over some questions that we've gotten about the juvenile abundance indices, related to rebuilding. Again, there have been some questions following the recent release of the JAls in the Chesapeake Bay. I'll just briefly go over those two topics in just a moment. Perfect. The first point is the fast-track response. In Amendment 7 we have this provision that if the 2022 assessment indicated that there is less than a 50 percent chance of rebuilding, and at least a 5 percent reduction is needed, then the Board could adjust measures via Board action. By taking action at a Board meeting without going through the Addendum process.

As we heard in the presentation, the assessment indicates there is a greater than 50 percent probability of rebuilding, and that no reduction is needed. Neither of these criteria are met, so therefore this fast-track response does not come into effect. That means that any action the Board wanted to take would go through the normal addendum process. Then just a couple points on the JAls, again we've gotten some questions with the recent news from the Chesapeake Bay JAls.

Again, as Gary mentioned, there is the four JAls and the two Age 1 indices that all go into the stock assessment model to estimate Age 1 recruitment. Those indices are all weighted by the model, and

overall, the Maryland JAI is closely correlated to that model estimate of Age 1 recruitment. That indicates that the Maryland JAI is a good predictor of coastwise Age 1 recruits. For this year's stock assessment, the terminal year was 2021.

We have those Age 1 estimates of recruitment through 2021. That incorporated all those Age 0 JAls through 2020. Those low JAls from 2019 and 2020 translated into those below average recruits that we saw in the final two years of the assessment. Then the most recent JAls in 2021 and 2022, those will inform Age 1 recruitment estimates in the next assessment, when we're looking at Age 1 recruitment in 2022 and 2023, and so on.

Finally, this assessment used that low recruitment assumption that Gary reviewed. Just a note that these recent below average year classes, these recent JAls we've seen, those fish aren't going to reach maturity until 2027 and after that. These recent low year classes may not impact spawning stock biomass until after that 2029 rebuilding deadline. Future stock assessments are going to be really important to provide those updated projections, as we start to see those below average year classes enter the fishery.

CHAIR GARY: Could you remind the Board what action is required today as a result of this update.

MS. FRANKE: Sure, for stock assessment updates no Board motion is required. As I mentioned, if the Board did take any action, that would go through the typical Addendum process. If the Board didn't take any action, then things would remain as they are, status quo.

CHAIR GARY: What I would like to do now, before we embark on any additional Board discussion is, I know myself and several other Board members received a flurry of comments from the public in advance of this meeting. I would like to carve out five minutes and ask if we could put the timer up, and initiate it upon the first public comment. Carve out five minutes for public comment, and Emily, if you could help me out with that to see if there is anybody that would like to offer comment.

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MS. FRANKE: I see one hand on the webinar.

CHAIR GARY: All right, Ross Squire, would you like to comment?

MR. ROSS SQUIRE: Okay great, I actually had two questions. Can you explain, when you have the amount of data that is missing, in terms of the catch data from a number of rivers, and index data that is missing. What accommodation does the Technical Committee make in terms of estimating the impact of harvest in those areas?

Then the second question that I had is, you know we have a very large year class. The 2015-year class was a 24.2 young of year index versus the last four years coming in at about a 3.2. You have all of these large numbers of fish now exploitable within the slot. Can you tell me what, if any, impact that has in terms of how F is calculated going forward?

DR. DREW: This is Katie, I'll jump in, and then if Gary wants to add anything he can. I will say, so Number 1, I think your first question about missing catch. Catch that we're missing is catch that happens above the tidal limits of MRIP. You know catch in the rivers, essentially the Hudson River, the Delaware River et cetera.

We've looked at creel surveys that occurred on those rivers in the past, and compared them to MRIP estimates for those years. Overall, we've found that those estimates of harvest are very tiny, negligible compared to the rest of the coast. We know it's there; we know we're probably underestimating catch somewhat, but we don't believe it has a significant impact on the stock assessment.

In terms of years that we missed sampling, because of COVID or because of other issues. Basically, we just leave those estimates out of the model, and the model can smooth over them. It essentially just increases some of the uncertainty in the final results that are carried through into the projections, to try to figure out how much uncertainty there is around those percentages.

We know that it does increase the uncertainty, and that is sort of feeding into the projections. It's basically we can't correct for it or accommodate those missing surveys, because we don't know what happened. But we do have data from, it's not a complete lack of data. We do have data from other surveys that happened, it's just less information for the model to use.

Again, that uncertainty gets propagated through the projections, so when we were talking about that probability of rebuilding, some of that uncertainty about what happened in 2020 is included in those projections. Then the second question about, you know those fish entering the new slot, and that is taken into account when we do these projections, so that we start with that population.

You know you can see the 2015 and the 2018-year classes where they are now just starting to enter those fisheries. As we project them forward, we move them so the model will see how vulnerable they are to the fishery as it stands now. They will also see the amount of removals that we're expecting. As these strong year classes enter the fishery, it is expected that catch will go up somewhat, because there are just more fish out there, and that won't necessarily make F go up. However, there is a limit to as catch increases it will start to drive fishing mortality up, even as strong year classes come in to help support that catch. The model is aware of those year classes and how the fishery is impacting them, and it moves them forward to try to figure out how all of those things interact when we are finalizing our probabilities of rebuilding after that timeline.

MR. SQUIRE: Entering the slot will adjust F, or will it not? Is it just a datapoint that you're aware of, or is there some accommodation made for a significantly large year class entering the slot?

DR. DREW: The model knows that they're entering, and then it will expect that your catch will go up if you keep effort constant. I think what the model will not know is whether those increasingly available fish will cause effort to increase, which will drive your fishing mortality up more than we would expect.

That I think is harder to keep an eye on, but that's again why we would want to go back and check kind of how does the catch that we're seeing in 2022 compare to how much catch we would expect, given that these strong year classes are now more available to the fishery, and whether or not that catch indicates that effort is going up as well as the catch.

MR. SQUIRE: Thank you, Katie, thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR GARY: Thank you, Ross, good questions. We're going to take one more comment, and that's from Tony Friedrich.

MR. TONY FRIEDRICH: Thank you so much for the time, I sincerely appreciate this. I'm looking at fish inclusion slide, and it says there are sources of uncertainty because the 2020 and 2021 data are uncertain because of COVID-19, underestimates F and we only have two years of data with the new selectivity blocks.

We're betting the house, because we have three good year classes left and that's the 15th, 17th and 18th, and there are no regulation changes. We know that Maryland and New Jersey can keep their season plans, and that is not what the public wanted through the Amendment 7 process. You had over 6,000 comments with 98 percent saying to put guardrails on CE.

You know I don't know how long people can remember back, but we bet the house on the 2011-year class, and that did not work out very well. We should have taken more reductions. We took less reductions than we should have. The 2011-year class never came through, and are we betting the house that this selectivity block is going to work out as we think it's going to.

With squishy data on 2020 and 2021, and a retrospective pattern that underestimates F, with the 2015s have just entered the slot. The 2017s are coming up, 2018s will be right behind them, and we know, based on history that if there is more fish out there, effort will increase exponentially. It's so fractional that we have to maintain this F in order to

meet our conservation goal for 2029.

I feel like this is a little Lucy goosey, and there is one other thing that I would just kind of like to point out. You know not only is this not in the spirit of Amendment 7. I'm not trying to be too abrasive when I say this, but effort is down, because the fishing hasn't been as good. You can't say these regulations are the thing that's making the difference, because there are other forces at work. You have 2021 and 2020 data that is uncertain at best because of COVID, and we know that some areas are doing really well, and some areas it's like the dead sea. I wouldn't hang your hat necessarily on these regulations, because you're going to have all three of those year classes in the slot and F is going to go up.

Then when we come back to the table in a couple of years, we're not going to have anything to work with, because there are no year classes really between 2019 and 2022. Again, I'll just put an exclamation point on it. The point is pretty loud and clear and they certainly did not want to see CE without guardrails. Thank you so much for the time, Marty. I appreciate it so much and thank everyone else as well.

CHAIR GARY: All right, thank you, Tony, I appreciate that. We're going to return the discussion to the Board for any potential action. I'll open it up for discussion. Tom Fote.

MR. THOMAS P. FOTE: I've been sitting around this table for a long time, and basically, we basically try to do what is right. We trust the science, we work on the science, whether it's horseshoe crabs or whatever. The science isn't perfect, we all know that. Also, every time we tweak one thing it winds up doing something else.

I remember back when we changed size limits on striped bass three years in a row, because it showed different things if somebody tweaked it this way or that way. Then we basically counted these surf fishermen in a bigger range than they've ever been, and that's why we were overfished and overfishing when we put this Amendment through.

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Now, we're saying it will help the spawning stock biomass because we'll have larger spawning stock biomass and make heavier recruitment. Well, we did that. We said the same thing on weakfish, winter flounder and bluefish. I mean bluefish was doing great and we put a 10-fish bag limit then it went down the tank.

It had nothing to do with the bag limit or the commercial fishery, it had to do with the environmental conditions. We can't control the environment. We put a lot of restrictions in place, some of us didn't agree with the size limit slot that you picked, because it basically targeted what we thought would be the year classes coming along.

But everybody didn't want to go to a bigger fish or a smaller fish, they just wanted to move it along. I'm satisfied, and I got involved in this whole process in '86 because of striped bass, and I wouldn't do anything that would imperil the stocks. Yes, science is going to say we can do it. It might work out, and if we make a mistake, we'll fix it and correct it.

But if we start jerking around every year saying, also I didn't hear one of those persons say, suppose we've got a big young of the year next year and we show the numbers go up. Do we want to increase the stock? Do we want to increase the catch? I'm satisfied where we are. We don't have to make a motion to approve the stock assessment is what we were told. I agree with the stock assessment.

CHAIR GARY: Any other comment from the Board?  
Loren.

MR. LOREN LUSTIG: My question is for Emilie, and thank you for that excellent report to us. Early on in your slide presentation I was very impressed by the phrase, I think that was used either by you vocally or on the slide itself. If there was a greater than 50 percent probability of recovery, can you be more definitive than that? For example, if it's 51 percent probability of recovery, that means there is a 49 percent probability of failure. It would be helpful for me to know what that number might be in your estimation.

MS. FRANKE: In Amendment 7 that provision specified that 50 percent cut off as the metric for sort of success of whether if the measures have a certain probability of rebuilding. The Board agreed that if there was a greater than 50 percent chance then the Board potentially wouldn't have to take action.

If there was a less than 50 percent chance the Board could act quickly to take action. From the assessment there is under the current fishing mortality rate, there is a 78 percent chance that the stock will rebuild by 2029. That is where we're at. I'm not sure if that fully answered your question.

CHAIR GARY: Any other comments? I'll ask the question of the Board. We can accept this as is, unless somebody has a motion they would like to advance forward, and it's alternative to accepting this. Are there any such motions? Mike.

DR. ARMSTRONG: It's a comment, maybe leading to a motion. I've heard a few comments. I just want to talk to them. To Steve Train, I don't criticize science, but we have empirical data. I'm looking at the MRIP estimates for this year. Through the first four waves we're up between 17 percent or 1000 percent, pick your state.

We're up, F is up. It has to be up. To Tom Fote's point. We've failed time and time again because we did not hit the target F, and that is my concern, and why I think we need to track it better at this point in time. The only way we can do that is with an assessment or projection, anything would be helpful. That being said, I will make a motion to accept the stock assessment as presented today.

MS. FRANKE: Thanks, Mike, we don't actually need a motion to accept the assessment, but thank you.

DR. ARMSTRONG: Yes, but I wanted to do that.

CHAIR GARY: All right, before we move on. Emerson, go ahead.

MR. HASBROUCK: Earlier I believe Emilie said that we do not need a motion to take a look at that projected catch and actual catch. Are we to assume

then that the TC will be able to do that for us next year?

MS. FRANKE: Yes, as part of the FMP Review Process, which is typically in August of next year, once we have all the 2022 landings, we can include that in an FMP review, that comparison of what the catch was in 2022 versus what the assessment projected catch would be to maintain that F, so yes, we will include that next year.

CHAIR GARY: Got a couple of hands that popped up. I'm going to go to Chris Batsavage and then Mike, and then we're going to finish there.

MR. CHRIS BATSAVAGE: Yes, sorry for the last-minute question. Emilie, just to understand when we look at catch from the FMP review next year, and we see that it's quite a bit higher than what we projected. Would that be an opportunity for the Board to initiate an action to reduce catch? If so, would that possibly be in place by the 2024 fishing year, if the Board decided to go that route?

MS. FRANKE: I'll go to Toni first.

MS. KERNS: Chris, you could initiate an action through an addendum or an amendment at any time the Board desires. If we initiated action in August, I think it would be pretty difficult to get it in time for the 2024 fishery.

MS. FRANE: Yes, I think it would be difficult to get anything in place by 2024. One other potential direction is maybe we could have an earlier meeting with the TC, earlier in the spring once MRIP estimates are finalized, and maybe bring it to the May meeting. We won't probably have final commercial landings by that point. I'm not promising that's going to happen by May, but we could maybe talk to the TC and the Plan Review Team about taking an earlier look at the MRIP estimates, and just having a discussion of where we are at that point.

CHAIR GARY: Does that answer your inquiry, Chris? Okay. Mike, you have the last word.

MR. LUISI: Chris asked my first question. I did have a question, if I could ask it through you to staff. What

is being planned, as far as the comments that were made about a follow up? Is that going to be ASMFC only work, or is it going to require the Science Center as part of that as well?

Because the interaction that I have as the Chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Council, with our Northeast Regional Coordinating Committee, which includes Bob and Toni and Chairman Reid and others. I just wonder how that would all fit in. But if it's an ASMFC only thing, then I feel like I can fully support that.

MS. FRANKE: Yes, it would be an ASMFC only thing, with an in-house Plan Review Team and Technical Committee, and maybe the Stock Assessment Committee if needed.

CHAIR GARY: Are you good, Mike?

MR. LUISI: Yes, perfect, thanks, Marty.

CHAIR GARY: All right, thanks, everybody, for that discussion. Gary, before we move on, I want to just thank you on behalf of the Board for all of your hard work, the hard work of the Technical Committee and the Stock Assessment Subcommittee. Dr. Nelson, thank you so much for all that good work.

#### **CONSIDER DRAFT ADDENDUM I ON QUOTA TRANSFERS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

CHAIR GARY: We're going to move on to Item Number 5, Consider Draft Addendum I on Quota Transfers for Public Comment. I'll turn to Emilie.

MS. FRANKE: I feel those things to Gary as well. Today I'll provide an overview of Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 for Board review today. I'll start with the statement of the problem here for this Draft Addendum. There were questions and concerns that have been raised about the striped bass commercial quota system, with some particular concern about the current use of the 1970s reference period as the basis for state commercial quotas.

Also, other issues and questions about how the quota system could be set up. All these concerns were included in the scoping document for Draft

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Amendment 7 last year in 2021, but ultimately this issue of addressing commercial quotas was not selected for further development in Draft Amendment 7.

Some Board members expressed support for addressing the commercial quota issue separately from Amendment 7, with the intent of not slowing down the progress on Amendment 7. In August, 2021, the Board did initiate this draft addendum to consider allowing for the voluntary transfer of striped bass commercial quota in the ocean region.

That was in order to consider a management option that could provide some more immediate relief to states that were seeking a change to their commercial quota. Again, this would be separate from addressing those other concerns raised about the quota system. As we all know, other Commission managed species do allow for the voluntary transfer of commercial quota, and quota transfers can address issues like shifting stocks and quota overages, et cetera.

Here is the current timeline on the next slide for the draft addendum. After the Board initiated the Addendum in August of last year, the PDT developed the first draft of that draft addendum. In October of last year, the Board deferred consideration and later postponed until August of this year. Just a couple months ago in August, the Board provided additional guidance to the PDT for further development.

The PDT revised the draft addendum for the Board's review today, and the Board is considering approving the draft addendum for public comment. If approved, public comment could potentially occur from November through January, although I will note it might be a little bit tough to schedule hearings, depending on how many there are with the holidays. But you could probably make it work.

Then if that happened, the Board could consider final action in February, 2023. The initial development of the draft addendum last year was constrained due to the focus of the Board and the PDT on Amendment 7. The Board provided additional guidance a couple months ago, and the PDT met a couple times over

the past few months to revise the draft addendum for Board review. Today I'll review the PDT revisions. I'll outline a question the PDT has for the Board, and go over the range of options that are in the draft addendum.

This was all in a PDT memo that was in supplemental materials. For the introductory portion of the draft addendum, the PDT did some significant revisions to the background section, to focus more narrowly on the commercial quota system itself and the ocean fishery, since that is the focus of this Addendum.

It includes a more detailed history of quota changes in the FMP, both pre and post Amendment 6, and also includes some pertinent information on ocean quota utilization. Here is an example of one of the new figures, showing the ocean commercial landings in the blue bars underneath the total ocean quota, that red line.

It lists the percent quota utilization each year. Again, this was information the PDT thought was relevant to the discussion. The quota utilization section in the draft addendum also includes the PDT's concern that we had originally discussed last year, which is that quota transfers could potentially increase the utilization of the total ocean quota, and this could potentially undermine the goals of the reductions taken under Addendum VI.

The commercial fishery has consistently underutilized its quota due to fish availability, and also some states prohibiting commercial fishing. The Addendum VI calculations assumed that the commercial fishery would continue to underutilize its quota, as it has in the past. This assumption might be violated if quota transfers do occur.

Moving into the proposed options. The options consider allowing for the voluntary transfer of commercial quota in the ocean region, between states that have ocean quota. If transfers are permitted, the draft addendum states that quota would be transferred pound for pound. I'll come back to that at the end to go over the PDT's discussion on that point.

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The Draft Addendum options do not address Chesapeake Bay quota, Chesapeake Ocean quota, and the options also do not consider transfers between the ocean and the Chesapeake Bay. Then the PDT had a discussion about commercial quota that through CE is reallocated to the recreational sector.

The PDT determined that commercial quota that has been reallocated to a state's recreational fishery, so to a bonus program, is not eligible to be used for quota transfers. This is due to the complexity of accounting for moving quota back and forth between sectors during the year. You know when states are developing their CE proposals in the first place, you know they could specify that they want to reallocate part or all of their quota to the recreational sector.

If they choose to leave some of that quota in its original commercial quota form that would be eligible for transfer. But anything that is reallocated to the recreational fishery would not be eligible to be transferred. Getting into the options themselves. The revised draft for review today now includes some additional options.

There is sort of a range of options considering allowing voluntary transfers of ocean quota. Status quo is Option A, in which transfers are not permitted. That's the current status quo. Then the alternatives range from Option B, which would be a general transfer provision similar to other ASMFC species. Option C would limit transfers based on stock status. Option D would give the Board discretion to decide on whether to permit transfers each year, and potentially establish some criteria around that. Then Option E combines the stock status limitations and the Board discretion into one option. For the alternatives you're sort of starting with Option B, which is sort of the least restrictive. If you're going to allow transfers, and you kind of move down to Option E, which would be the most restrictive for allowing transfers.

Getting into the details, Option B would be that general transfer provision for voluntary transfers of ocean quota. Again, similar to the transfer process

in place for several other ASMFC species. The transfers may occur any time during the year, and up to 45 days after the last day of the calendar year.

All transfers require a donor and receiving state, and the Administrative Commissioners must submit a signed letter, and there is no limit on the amount of quota that can be transferred. Transfers do not require approval by the Board. These transfers don't permanently affect the state specific quota shares. The state receiving the quota is responsible for any overages.

The PDT did have a question for the Board regarding the 45-day window provision. In addition to voluntary quota transfers providing in-season relief for states, is it also the Board's intent for quota transfers to address overages after the season ends? If not, the Board could remove this 45-day provision from the Draft Addendum. That is a question for discussion at the end of the presentation.

Moving on to Option C. Option C would limit transfers based on stock status. Voluntary transfers would not be permitted if the stock is overfished. Again, it would be the same general transfer process, but with that built in stock status limitation. This type of option has been raised during Board and PDT discussions, and also in public comments. This type of option would address concerns about allowing quota transfers during stock rebuilding.

However, the PDT noted that given the current overfished status of the stock, this option would not provide that near-term relief for states that receive some additional quota, which was part of the basis for this Addendum. Moving in to Option D, this is the Board discretion option. The Board would decide whether voluntary transfers are permitted in the next one or two years. This option was added at the last Board meeting in August.

The process would be that the Board would decide by their final meeting of the year, whether to allow transfers in the next one or two years, based on information on the status of the stock, and also performance of the fisheries. The PDT did add here some flexibility for the Board to decide every one, or

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two years.

The two years is on track with when stock assessments would occur, so that might be some good flexibility. Then the PDT also added a note that transfers are not permitted unless the Board decides to allow them. If the Board for some reason doesn't make a decision for a particular year, then transfers would not be permitted until the Board decides to allow them.

If the Board did with this Board discretion, decide to allow transfers, the Board could specify some criteria. The Board could set a limit on how much quota could be transferred in a year. For example, only X number of pounds could be transferred in year 2024, and further the Board could set a seasonal limitation on when quota could be transferred. For example, the Board could say, you know no more than 50 percent of that quota amount could be transferred before July, with the intent there of saving quota throughout the year if states with different seasons might decide they want a quota transfer at different times.

The Board could also determine the eligibility of a state to receive a transfer, based on the percentage of that state's quota landed. For example, state's may not request a quota transfer until it has landed X percent of their quota. The PDT noted that if any of these criteria are implemented, the Board should be as specific as possible with these criteria.

Finally, for this option on Board discretion on the timeline. You know if the Board selects this option and the Addendum is approved in the middle of next year, 2023, the Board could decide at the time the Addendum is approved, whether or not to allow transfers for the rest of that year, and then the Board would start their regular process of deciding on transfers, you know at the end of the year before the next.

Finally, our last option here is Option E, and that combines both that stock status option and the Board discretion into one option. The Board would still decide whether voluntary transfers are permitted, except you have this built-in provision

that transfers are not permitted when the stock is overfished.

Again, the PDT notes here that given the current overfished status of the stock, this type of option would not provide near-term relief to states seeking quota at this time. The final section of the document is the compliance section on the next slide. Basically, any measures approved by the Board would be effective immediately.

Just a note here that if quota transfers are committed, states would need to account for any transfers and potentially order some extra commercial tags to account for additional quota that they might receive. Then I'll just wrap up with a couple slides on the PDTs discussion about transfers between states with different size limits.

One of the PDTs concerns about quota transfers is that a pound of stripe bass quota is not equal across states. This concern was also previously noted by the Technical Committee during discussion of Addendum IV in 2014. We know that state commercial fisheries catch different size of striped bass, due to multiple factors.

You know the variability of striped bass size distribution along the coast, and also different state management programs, different gear, size limits, et cetera. Then further, through CE, states have made adjustments to their commercial size limits over time, deviating from the historical standard size limit.

This has resulted in changes to some commercial quotas over time. Standard pound for pound transfers would be most efficient, but they wouldn't address this uncertainty of moving quota between states that catch different size fish. Per the Board's request, the PDT did discuss this. The PDT first considered a same number of fish approach. The intent here would be to transfer the same number of fish to the receiving state as would have been caught by the donor state under the transfer quota amount. This analysis would require an average weight of commercially harvested fish for both states to convert from pounds to number of fish. After you

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have the average weight for both states, it's a pretty straightforward calculation.

However, the PDT discussed that determining what average weight to use could be difficult, because one, not all states have recent commercial harvest, and then two, for those that do, commercial catch and the size of the fish caught vary within the season, depending on gear type, time of year, or the area within the state.

The Technical Committee could provide some criteria to determine the average weight for each state, but there would still be some assumptions associated with those populations. Then second, the PDT considered a maintain spawning potential approach. The intent here would be maintaining at least equivalent spawning potential as the quota moves from the donor state size limit to the receiving state size limits.

This would require yield per recruit, and spawning stock biomass per recruit, YPR and SPR analysis, and this is the same methodology that's been used in commercial CE programs. This type of analysis requires several inputs, including natural mortality, weights at age, maturity selectivity curve, et cetera.

This approach could more thoroughly address concerns about different size limits, but it would be a complex and time-consuming approach, and would require likely a TC review. Ultimately, the PDT supports moving forward with a standard pound for pound transfer approach. You know considering the complexity of the alternative approaches, particularly considering that it potentially could be a small amount of quota that could be transferred, and those transfers again are voluntary.

The revised draft addendum is currently written with a standard pound for pound transfers, and there is a note about the inherent uncertainty of transferring a quota between states that catch different size striped bass. The PDT noted that this uncertainty could potentially be limited, if there are criteria set to limit how much quota is transferred. That wraps up my presentation of the Draft Addendum, and I'm happy to take any questions.

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CHAIR GARY: For efficiency's sake, I would like to go ahead and get Board feedback for Emilie, and you can either ask questions or comments. Before we do that, Emilie, you may have mentioned this, but can you characterize the current prohibition on the state transfers related to how the PDT recommendation compares for other species that have state quotas? Does that make sense?

MS. FRANKE: Sure. As far as the range of options. You can actually go to the next slide, two slides in, maybe. Yes, perfect. Most, I think all other ASMFC species that allow commercial quota transfers have something like Option B, sort of a general transfer provision, with no specific restrictions. The Option C through E would be generally more restrictive compared to other species that allow transfers.

CHAIR GARY: We'll open it up for questions and/or comments for Emilie. I'll look to the Board. All right, we'll start with Megan Ware and then Doug Grout.

MS. MEGAN WARE: This is a question for Emilie. Something I think I've been focused on is kind of what the PDT put forward that a pound of quota in one state is not equal in another state. I appreciate their discussion on trying to figure out the best way to handle that. I think the fact that the quota is tied to a limit makes it different from other species that allow quota transfers, at least for what I can think of, in terms of fishery management plans at the Commission.

In the spirit of trying to come up with a simpler approach to handle that, I'm wondering if the PDT discussed some sort of conservation tax and I'm getting this from the Lobster Fishery Management Plan where we have a conservation tax on traps. If someone had a 10,000-pound transfer and you had a 5 percent conservation tax, the transfer would be 9,500 pounds. It's a way to kind of address some of that uncertainty simply, but still allow transfers.

MS. FRANKE: The PDT did not discuss that concept. It did not come up.

MS. WARE: Well, I'll throw that out there for Board consideration. I don't know if anyone likes that idea,

or if people don't like that idea. But it may be a way to address that discrepancy between the quotas.

CHAIR GARY: We'll go to Doug Grout and then Dennis Abbott.

MR. DOUGLAS E. GROUT: I had similar thoughts and concerns as Megan. You know when it came down to seeing this before I got the supplement materials with this potential addendum. I was thinking about all the different size limits and going, whoa, this is more difficult than other species, well the quota transfers.

When you came up with the options that you suggested here, one of the things that struck me was that in Option E, where the Board would set things up, you had some suggestions about potentially limiting the transferability, or the eligibility of a state to receive a transfer based on the percentage of the quotas landed. I thought that was a good way of dealing with it.

But I started to think that maybe we should have something like that as a concept under B, which gets back to your conservation tax, you know something where because we're in an overfished status, maybe you can allow some limited amount of transferability, that we would set ahead of time if we approved Option B. But we would need to have something where the Board, when they make the final decision, could say okay, only 90 percent of the quotas or 80 percent or something like that, which would get down to a transfer tax.

MS. FRANKE: I think I see what you're saying. I think that almost would be incorporated under the current Option D, where the Board has flexibility to set those types of criteria. But there are no criteria in there about this sort of conservation tax, this extra sort of, I guess penalty. I don't know if that is the right word for it, but a state would have to take by accepting a transfer.

I think maybe, if that is something the Board wanted to add, that could potentially be added as a criterion, maybe under Option B.

MR. GROUT: I thought under Option D, I was looking

under Option D, because I'm looking for something, you know D and E are where the Board has the discretion to do it for a two-year period. I was trying to think if there was a way where we could just put this into an option that we could potentially accept when approving this Addendum, and then we just keep going forward, as opposed to every two years the Board making a decision on this.

MS. FRANKE: I see what you're saying, so it would be a sub-option of Option B where it would be transfers are permitted, except there is this conservation tax associated with it.

MR. GROUT: Final question if we were to do that, if we were going to make a motion to do that. Would that delay approving this for going out to public hearing, or could we just add that in with a motion here, and then sending this out to public hearing at this meeting?

MS. FRANKE: I think it might kind of be right on the line. You know it could be a general enough criterion that if the Board was comfortable, staff could add that in. But if you wanted to see it more fleshed out, then the PDT could meet and the process could be delayed until the next cycle. I'll turn to Toni.

MS. KERNS: One other option that the Board has that we've done rarely, but have done before, is send a text out to the Board to approve in an e-mail vote just on that one part.

CHAIR GARY: Doug, would that work for you?

MR. GROUT: It would. I was just having a sidebar with Megan, if she had given any thought to what the conservation tax amount would be, because then if we had something in mind, we could just give you some guidance on that.

CHAIR GARY: We can come back, but I will say we would need a motion if this going to advance. Dennis, we have you.

MR. DENNIS ABBOTT: I don't know how big a can of worms we're opening here, and I do thank Emilie for putting all of this together. As we started this it

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might have seemed like a simple task to enact some sort of a transfer system. But as we peeled the onion back, there are so many factors involved. One of the things that I would like clarity on, or might be helpful in my decision making would be to know,

I think you said in your presentation that something like 76 percent of the commercial quota is utilized most recently. I would be interested in knowing which states are using their commercial quota entirely, which states would become interested borrowing states, or using 100 percent of their quota, which aren't, and what is the total of that say 24 percent unused quota.

What does that represent in poundage? You know how much striped bass would we be looking for to transfer? I'm not opposed to this entirely, but I think there is still, to me, a lot of unanswered questions that we should know. I'm not sure what the acceptance rate would be, undoubtedly by transferring quota we would be in some sense increasing mortality, and that goes along with our previous discussion also of where we're going with striped bass recovery. Those are just thoughts that I had.

MS. FRANKE: I can respond to your question about quota utilization. We did include a table with state-by-state quota utilization, and in 2021 all states that have a commercial fishery used almost 100 percent of their quota. About 13 percent of the ocean quota is held by North Carolina, and they've had zero harvest for the past decade or so. Then about 10 percent of the ocean quota is held by states that prohibit commercial fishing.

MR. ABBOTT: That's a good answer. Are we really curing a problem by going in this direction is my question.

CHAIR GARY: John Clark.

MR. CLARK: In answer to Dennis, the reason we brought this up is because yes, it is an approach to a problem that I think we've been bringing up here for, I don't even remember when we started on this process. But it was probably back when the halcyon

days, when striped bass were not overfished. But here we are. Anyhow, my question was, Emilie, you had one slide where it had something that the Board had to decide on. Does that need to be done before we can approve this for public comment, or is that something that can be done after the fact?

MS. FRANKE: I think it would be best to address that question. This is the question about the 45-day provision. I think if we left it in, could the Board take it out upon final approval? Yes, okay, it's okay to leave it in now. The Board could take out that 45 provision later if they wanted.

MR. CLARK: To the point that Megan and Doug made. If the Board wanted something like that, could we approve the Addendum for public comment and add that provision in before it actually goes to any hearings?

MS. FRANKE: Yes. To your question about the 45-day period, that could be decided later at the time of Addendum approval. To the option that Doug and Megan were potentially talking about, which is that conservation tax criteria. Yes, I think as Toni mentioned, we could sort of in the next week or so.

If there was some text staff could put together to come up with a sub-option. It could be approved by the Board via e-mail. It could be put into the Draft Addendum approved for public comment. I think we would still need a motion to add such a sub-option with the text finalized in the next week.

MR. CLARK: In that case, Mr. Chair, would it help to have a motion on the table to further this discussion, or would you rather wait on that?

CHAIR GARY: It would.

**MR. CLARK: Okay, well in that case, I would like to move for the Board to approve Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan for public comment.**

CHAIR GARY: Do we have a second to Mr. Clark's motion? Pat Geer. All right, I'll open it up for

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discussion on the motion. Go ahead, John.

MR. CLARK: Yes. As I think everybody is aware, Delaware has been bringing this up. I think everybody knows our Commissioner Craig Pugh, who is a commercial fisherman, that this is a valuable small-scale fishery. Once again, we are not talking about a lot of striped bass in the grand scheme of things here.

I also want to point out, of course, that commercial fishermen target striped bass in our area, because there is a market for this and everybody in the Mid-Atlantic enjoys having striped bass in the springtime. It's a very big item in restaurants and for the public. You know once again, this is something that would just be very helpful in states like Delaware, as we know we've got this sporadic allocation system, based on the 1970s landings.

This gives us a way, without going through the full reallocation process, which we know will be difficult, to allow a state that as anybody who looks at Table 2 can see, Delaware does utilize its quota. We have a very good accounting system. We have double tagging, where the netters have to tag every striped bass, they catch. They then have to take it to the weigh station where it gets another tag.

Both, report daily. This is not a situation where we're just looking for more, and there is a lot of problems with our system. I think we have a very good system. We certainly understand the striped bass is currently in an overfished status. But at the same time, we think, hopefully, as things improve, that the Board could see fit to allow a state like Delaware under these very controlled conditions, to get a little bit more quota.

CHAIR CLARK: Pat, as the seconder, do you have any comments?

MR. PAT GEER: No, I would just like to add. I don't think John is looking for a whole lot of quota. John, I think it wasn't a whole lot you were looking for.

MR. CLARK: No, we would not be asking for all of North Carolina's unused quota, obviously. You know

just starting off small.

MR. GEER: I think this Addendum also, it has enough flexibility in there. If the Board decides they don't want to do this. Some of those options allow the Board to make that decision, so I think in that regard, I would like to see it move forward with the options that are in here.

CHAIR GARY: Any other comments on the motion? Eric Reid.

MR. ERIC REID: I actually, when Mr. Pugh made the original motion to go down this road, I actually seconded that motion, because I was interested in it. I have no problem going out to the public. But to Mr. Abbott's point. Other than Chris Batsavage is going to be the most popular man in the entire world. I'm not really sure where quota will come from. You've got Maine and New Hampshire have no commercial fishery, and their total quota is about 6,000 pounds, maybe, something like that.

Connecticut and New Jersey give their quota to their recreational sector, so there is probably zero available there, which leaves North Carolina as, like I said. But that is just a comment more than anything. This is not an easy lift. There is going to be a lot of discussion about it. But thank God Delaware only wants a handful of fish, because that's all that is really going to be available. I guess that's my point, so thank you.

CHAIR GARY: Megan, did you have a comment?

**MS. WARE: I would like to make a motion to amend. I'll read it and then I have it on a piece of paper, so I'll pass it to staff. But it would be keeping the first part of the original motion, so move to approve Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the interstate fishery management plan for public comment.**

**Motion to Amend to add that if a stock is overfished, apply a 5% conservation tax to address the discrepancy that a pound of striped bass quota is not equal across all states, and it will apply to Option C and D, and if I get a second, I'll just provide**

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**one more piece of rationale.**

CHAIR GARY: Doug Grout seconds that motion to amend. Great, Megan, back to you. Do you want to go ahead and describe your action?

MS. WARE: Yes, I think people understand the idea. I think this is going to be a criticism that we hear in the hearings that the quota is tied to the side limits that states have. This is trying to preemptively address a comment that I think we're going to hear pretty strongly at the hearings.

CHAIR GARY: Doug, as a seconder.

MR. GROUT: Yes, Mr. Chairman, and what this gets for my point of view is an option where we don't have to go to the Board every two years to put these things in place. It just gets put in place; it is done with. Sufficiency.

CHAIR GARY: Cheri Patterson.

MS. CHERI PATTERSON: I'm definitely for this motion to amend. My question is, to Megan, 5% is arbitrary, so are we still going to have the TC or PDT take a look at this, to see if maybe they can come up with something less arbitrary? Because I know I'm going to get, how did we get that 5% conservation tax number, when we get into the public meetings.

MS. FRANKE: To get PDT or TC feedback, we wouldn't be able to approve it for public comment today. We would have to have a PDT or TC meeting, so that would be the choice of the Board if you wanted to go forward with approving it for public comment today with a number, of getting some PDT Feedback. Toni has a comment.

MS. KERNS: Emilie, I don't mean to put you on the spot, but the PDT did talk about, and you presented on the issue of the pounds not being equal across the board and they did not provide an option for the document. I'm not sure the PDT is going to be able to provide you a ton of feedback, based on that response from the PDT. I'm not going to speak for all the members, but that would be a sense that I might have, and I don't know what the TC will provide back

as well.

Unless you have a more specific question that you want them to get at. I guess it's the appropriate amount. You could have a range, and then the TC could look at it while the comment is going out, if you want to expedite this. I'm just trying to help the Board have a path to approve this today, because it seems like that is what people are looking to do. If that's what you wanted to do, you could give a range and the TC could comment on that range.

CHAIR GARY: Cheri, do you have any additional thoughts? I think Megan also wants to make a comment.

MS. PATTERSON: Yes, I think we're doing a little sidebar here between me and Megan.

MS. WARE: Yes, I mean I think it's a fair criticism that the 5% is ad hoc. This is just trying to minimize some discrepancy that we see between the different state's quotas. I'm not trying to make this more complicated than it already is turning out to be. I think a priority is approving this for Draft Addendum today, so I'm fine with a 5%.

CHAIR GARY: All right, any other comments from Board members? Tom Fote.

MR. FOTE: It's interesting sitting in this room, because the last time I sat in this room was a striped bass hearing that NOAA was putting on. Bill Hogarth was the hearing officer. This was when they opened the EEZ, and that was 1995. Winds up Bill says, you made me rent this room to sit all those people in. You're going to have empty seats. I said, I'll bet your dinner.

At the end of the night there were over 950 people in this room, so Bill bought me dinner, and it had to do with striped bass. It seems like it was a pertinent issue, and it was keeping the EEZ closed. But I think I just threw that in, because that was the last time I was in this room.

CHAIR GARY: Thank you, Tom, Katie, I think you have a comment.

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DR. DREW: Yes. I think to Cheri's question about like, is there a hard and fast number that we could come up with. I would say from a technical standpoint, the TC hasn't discussed this but the PDT has. I was part of those discussions. I think the PDT came to the conclusion that if there was a way to do this quantitatively, they would have done it and provided you with that as a way to correct for that. I think it comes back then to the Board's sort of risk tolerance of how risky or how conservative do you want to be, recognizing this is a source of uncertainty that we can't really quantify.

MS. FRANKE: I guess I would add to that, that I think the PDT noted that it could be maybe quantified, but it would be like every transfer would be unique. It wouldn't be a simple calculation in any way.

CHAIR GARY: Cheri, go ahead, you were going to reply to that. Then I'll go to John.

MS. PATTERSON: Follow up, thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes, I'm fine with the 5%, but I think we just have to make sure that we understand at the public hearing that we need to just indicate this is arbitrary numbers.

CHAIR GARY: John.

MR. CLARK: I just want to be clear. In other words, if a state asks for 100 pounds, they get 95. Is that? Okay. They better not ask for 110 then, right?

CHAIR GARY: Thanks, John, Pat Geer.

MR. GEER: Just to be clear under Option D. The Board has the discretion to do what they want if that option is selected in the final Addendum. In that regard it's not needed. This motion is not needed if Option D is selected, because we can put, you know we've already talked about you already have to have 90 percent of your quota landed for the year. We talked about having a maximum amount of transferability. I don't think it's needed for Option B.

MS. FRANKE: Just to respond to that. The Option D provides two types of criteria the Board can specify,

the state eligibility and then also how much can be transferred. By adding this provision to Option D. You know this would be in a situation where the Board decides to allow transfers when the stock is overfished. Then this would come into play. You know the Board could still decide whether or not to allow transfers when the stock is overfished. If they do, then we would just have this 5% conservation tax built in.

CHAIR GARY: All right, so any other discussion or are we ready to call the question on the motion to amend? I'm sorry, Mike, go ahead.

DR. ARMSTRONG: I might be missing something. But John was being facetious, but it's absolutely true. If I was coming for 100,000 pounds of quota, I would ask for 110, and I would get exactly what I wanted. It has zero conservation value. Isn't that correct? We can ask for whatever we want. I'll leave it at that for this. I have lots to say about whatever becomes the main motion, but I won't start with that yet.

CHAIR GARY: Steve Train.

MR. TRAIN: Mike, the way I see this is that there is going to be a lot of unintended consequences. I just said to John, you know if we get this through for Delaware, that he's going to be fighting three other states for the fish out of the Carolinas. He might not even get it. But if you've got a 5 percent transfer tax, before all that fish is gone, 5 percent of that quota that's being transferred is going to disappear to protect other fish. Even if it doesn't meet what you just said, because he's going to get his full hundred pounds. There will be fish saved.

DR. ARMSTRONG: If I could just respond. Under the condition that we use all the latent quota, which we can get into that in a second.

**CHAIR GARY: All right, thank you. If there isn't any other discussion, we'll go ahead and call the question on the motion to amend. Let's try this. Is there any opposition to the amended motion, the motion to amend? Seeing none; the motion to amend passes.** Now that is the original motion. For the record I'll ask again. I'm going to go ahead and

read the main motion into the record, and then we'll have a discussion.

**We'll go ahead and read this into the record. Move to approve Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the ISFMP for public comment, if the stock is overfished, apply a 5% conservation tax to address discrepancy that a pound of striped bass quota is not equal across all states. This would apply to Options B and D.** Any additional discussion before we take a vote? Tom Fote.

MR. FOTE: Can I have a minute to caucus?

**CHAIR GARY: One minute for a caucus, and then we'll vote. All right, let's go ahead and try to see if we can achieve consent. Is there any objection to the main motion that is up on the board? Seeing no objection, the motion passes.**

#### **REVIEW AND POPULATE ADVISORY PANEL MEMBERSHIP**

CHAIR GARY: Are we ready to move on, Emilie for our next item on the agenda, is Number 6, Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership. Tina.

MS. TINA L. BERGER: I offer for the Board's consideration and approval the nomination of Craig Poosikian, commercial rod and reel fisherman from Massachusetts.

CHAIR GARY: We have a nomination, Ray.

MR. RAYMOND W. KANE: That's Craig Poosikian, he's been a lifelong commercial, recreational, shell fisherman, hook and line, striper fisherman. I've known him for years. He was born and raised in Tom Fote's foreign state of Jersey, and then he moved to Massachusetts. I'm recommending him for the AP. I think he'll be an addition to the AP. Yes, by all means. **Move to approve Craig Poosikian, representing Massachusetts to the Striped Bass Advisory Panel.**

CHAIR GARY: Got a second, Justin Davis. Anyone in opposition? Seeing none; the motion passes. Toni.

MS. KERNS: I just want to note to the Board that we just approved an Addendum. It is November 7th today, and our meeting is at the end of January, which means we are going to have a very tight timeline with the holidays to get these public hearings done. Please, consider having joint hearings with your neighbors, maybe a webinar hearing, and responding to Emilie as quickly as possible, so that we can get the notice out to the public, and have these hearings on the Addendum. Bob now has information when we're done.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

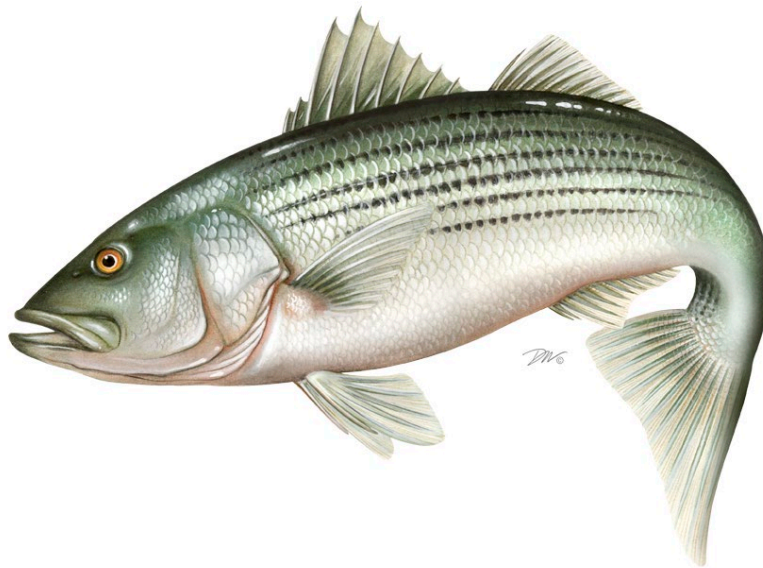
CHAIR GARY: All right, is there any other business to bring before this Board? Seeing none; we'll seek a motion to adjourn. All right, and then Bob, we'll turn it over to you.

(Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. on Monday, November 7, 2022)

***Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission***

**DRAFT ADDENDUM I TO AMENDMENT 7  
TO THE ATLANTIC STRIPED BASS  
INTERSTATE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

***Commercial Quota Transfers in the Ocean Region***



**November 2022**



Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

## Draft Document for Public Comment

### Public Comment Process and Proposed Timeline

In August 2021, the Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board initiated the development of Draft Addendum VII to Amendment 6 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass to consider allowing voluntary transfers of ocean commercial quota. Since then, Amendment 7 to the FMP was approved, so this draft addendum is now Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7. This Draft Addendum presents background on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s management of striped bass commercial fisheries; the addendum process and timeline; and a statement of the problem. This document also provides management options for public consideration and comment.

The public is encouraged to submit comments regarding the proposed management options in this document at any time during the public comment period. The final date comments will be accepted is **January 13, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. (EST)**. Comments may be submitted at state public hearings or by mail, email, or fax. If you have any questions or would like to submit comment, please use the contact information below. Organizations planning to release an action alert in response to this Draft Addendum should contact Emilie Franke, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at [efranke@asmfc.org](mailto:efranke@asmfc.org) or 703.842.0740.

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Arlington VA. 22201  
Fax: (703) 842-0741

Email: [comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org)  
(Subject: Striped Bass Draft  
Addendum I)

Date	Action
August 2021	Board initiated the Draft Addendum
August - October 2021	Plan Development Team (PDT) developed initial Draft Addendum document
October 2021	Board deferred consideration until May 2022, and later postponed until August 2022
August 2022	Board provided guidance to PDT for further development of the Draft Addendum
<b>November 2022</b>	<b>Board reviewed and approved Draft Addendum I for public comment</b>
November 2022 - January 2023	Public comment period, including public hearings; written comments accepted through January 13, 2023
February 2023	Board reviews public comment, selects management measures, final approval of Addendum I

## 1.0 Introduction

Atlantic striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*) are managed through the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) in state waters (0-3 miles) and through the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in federal waters (3-200 miles). The management unit includes the coastal migratory stock from Maine through North Carolina. Atlantic striped bass are currently managed in state waters under Amendment 7 (2022) to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

In August 2021, the Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board (Board) initiated Draft Addendum VII to Amendment 6 to consider allowing for the voluntary transfer of commercial striped bass quota in the ocean region, after deciding that changes to the commercial quota system would not be considered in the then ongoing development of Draft Amendment 7. Subsequently, this draft addendum was postponed to enable the Plan Development Team (PDT) and Board to focus on the development and completion of Amendment 7, which was approved in May 2022. In August 2022, the Board considered next steps for this draft addendum and provided additional guidance to the PDT on management options to be added. Due to Amendment 7's approval during its development, this addendum is now Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7.

## 2.0 Overview

### 2.1 Statement of the Problem

Members of the Board and public have raised questions about the striped bass commercial quota system, with particular concern regarding the 1972-1979 reference period and basis for state commercial quotas. Those concerns include, but are not limited to: changes in fishing effort and resource distribution since the 1972-1979 reference period; likely inaccuracies in the commercial landings data for the 1970s reference period due to the lack of mandatory reporting across all states and/or evidence of harvesters selling fish in states other than where it was landed; and inconsistent application of the reference period landings in one management action which increased all but one of the states' quotas (i.e., Delaware in Amendment 6). These concerns, along with other questions about the quota system (e.g., fixed quotas vs. setting quotas annually), were included in the scoping document for Draft Amendment 7 in 2021, but the issue of addressing commercial quotas was not selected for further development in Draft Amendment 7. Some Board members expressed support for addressing the commercial quota issue at a different time separate from Amendment 7, noting a desire to not slow Amendment 7's progress and focus on stock rebuilding.

In order to consider a management option that could provide some, more immediate relief to states seeking a change to their commercial quota, the Board initiated this addendum to consider allowing for the voluntary transfer of striped bass commercial quota in the ocean region. Many quota-managed fisheries allow for the voluntary transfer of commercial quota between states (e.g., black sea bass, bluefish, horseshoe crab). This is a useful technique that can be utilized to address a variety of problems in the management of a commercial fishery (e.g., quota overages, safe harbor landings, shifting stock distributions). The Atlantic Striped Bass FMP is the only Commission FMP with state-by-state commercial quotas that does not

allow for the voluntary transfer of commercial quota or quota reconciliation (using end-of-year quota underages to address any overages).

## **2.2 Background**

### **2.2.1 Commercial Quota Management for Atlantic Striped Bass**

The Atlantic Striped Bass FMP uses a quota system to manage the commercial fishery in the Chesapeake Bay and the ocean region. The FMP establishes a separate Chesapeake Bay-wide quota, which is then allocated to Bay jurisdictions per the mutual agreement of Maryland, the Potomac River Fisheries Commission (PRFC), and Virginia. The FMP establishes state-by-state quotas for the ocean region, which includes all coastal bay, inland rivers, and estuaries outside the Chesapeake Bay system. The ocean region commercial quotas are based on a proportion of the states' average landings during 1972–1979, with one exception for Delaware, and as modified by approved conservation equivalency (CE) proposals, as described in the following section.

Quota overages are paid back the following year on a pound-for-pound basis, while the transfer of quota between states and rollover of unused quota from one year to the next is not permitted.

In addition to commercial quotas, the FMP specifies commercial size limits, and requires states to implement a commercial tagging program whereby all commercially-harvested striped bass must be tagged at the point of harvest and/or the point of sale.

#### **2.2.1.1 History of Commercial Quota Management**

In general, the ocean commercial quotas are based on average landings during 1972-1979 and assuming a 28" minimum size limit. This historical base period was first used for management in 1989 under Amendment 4, which allowed for a modest relaxation of the stringent Amendment 3 requirements that had led to harvest moratoria in many states in the mid-to-late 1980s. Amendment 4 required closed seasons in order to restrict commercial harvest to 20% of the 1972–1979 base period, or an equivalent commercial quota as was elected by many of the states. The amendment allowed for separate "producer area" management (including a smaller size limit) for the Hudson River estuary, Chesapeake Bay, and inshore North Carolina. Due to New York's ban on commercial striped bass harvest in the Hudson River since 1976, this resulted in only an ocean quota for New York. In Maryland, separate Chesapeake Bay and ocean quotas were established, whereas Virginia was approved to adopt one state-wide quota for ease of management. Maryland was also authorized to employ a harvest control model to establish a flexible Chesapeake Bay quota based on projected exploitable biomass. The commercial fisheries never reopened in Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and New Jersey following their voluntary moratoria. In 1991, New Jersey started a Striped Bass Bonus Program (i.e., permit program), which reallocates their commercial quota to the recreational fishery, allowing participating recreational anglers to take a "bonus fish"; the New Jersey bonus program is still in place and currently operates through an approved CE program. Connecticut implemented a similar bonus program from 2011-2019.



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State-specific quotas were first implemented under Amendment 5 (1995) when the Commission declared the stock fully rebuilt; states were allocated 70% of their average landings during the 1972–1979 base period. Amendment 5 specified separate quotas for producer areas and the ocean, and extended producer-area status to the Delaware River and Bay, which allowed its producer-area commercial quota to be managed under a harvest control model (i.e., maintain a target  $F$  rate) similar to that used in the Chesapeake Bay. Like Virginia, Delaware was approved to combine its producer area and ocean quotas into one overall state quota beginning in 1996. The three Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions with commercial fisheries (Maryland, PRFC, and Virginia) adopted a Bay-wide commercial quota in 1997 (allocated per their own agreement) that was set using the harvest control model. Maryland maintained a separate ocean quota, while Virginia continued with a combined state-wide quota until 2002, when Virginia switched to managing the ocean and Bay quotas separately due to shifting effort into the coastal area.

Under Amendment 6 (2003), the state-by-state ocean commercial quotas were increased to 100% of the base period, except for Delaware's commercial quota which remained at the level allocated in 2002 for its statewide quota (Table 1). The decision to hold Delaware's commercial quota at the 2002 level was based on tagging information that indicated fishing mortality on the Delaware River/Bay stock was too high, and uncertainty regarding the status of the spawning stock for the Delaware River/Bay.

Producer areas were also no longer used as a management tool under Amendment 6, but the Chesapeake Bay and the Albemarle Sound/Roanoke River in North Carolina were defined as their own management areas, for different reasons. The Albemarle/Roanoke stock contributes minimally to the coastal migratory stock, and is therefore managed separately by the state of North Carolina under the auspices of ASMFC. On the other hand, the Chesapeake Bay stock, which is unquestionably part of the coastal migratory stock, was established as a management area in Amendment 6 in order to have a separate management program due to the size availability of striped bass in the area. This resulted in the ongoing use of a Chesapeake Bay-wide commercial quota distinct from the ocean commercial quotas.

Amendment 6 required all states to maintain a 28-inch minimum size limit for the commercial fishery, with three exceptions. The Delaware Bay shad gillnet fishery and the Albemarle Sound commercial fishery were subject to a 20-inch minimum size limit, and the Chesapeake Bay commercial fishery was subject to an 18-inch minimum size limit.

The ocean quotas were subsequently reduced by 25% in 2015 (Addendum IV) and by an additional 18% in 2020 (Addendum VI) in response to declining stock status (Table 1). Addendum IV required all states to maintain their 2013 commercial size limits and Addendum VI required all states to maintain their 2017 commercial size limits. Throughout quota management, states have used conservation equivalency (CE) to implement different commercial size limits resulting in changes to their quota amounts. Approved CE programs have used yield-per-recruit (YPR) and spawning stock biomass-per-recruit (SPR) analyses to determine how to adjust the quota to maintain the same spawning potential under a new

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commercial size limit. The Addendum IV quota reductions were applied to the Amendment 6 base quotas, whereas the Addendum VI reductions were applied to the Addendum IV quotas as modified by conservation equivalency. The Addendum VI quotas were further modified by some states through approved CE plans (Table 1). Massachusetts increased its Addendum VI base quota to account for increasing its commercial minimum size limit, and New York reduced its base quota to account for lowering the minimum size of its commercial slot limit. Additionally, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, PRFC, and Virginia increased their Addendum VI base quotas by taking a greater than 18% reduction in the recreational sector to offset the commercial sector taking a smaller reduction. Amendment 7 (2022) maintains the same commercial measures specified in Addendum VI to Amendment 6; all approved Addendum VI CE programs and state implementation plans are maintained until commercial measures are changed in the future.

Table 1. Commercial striped bass quotas for the ocean region from 2003-2022.

<b>Year</b>	<b>2003-2014</b>	<b>2015-2019</b>	<b>2020-2022</b>	
<b>State</b>	<b>Am6 Quota (lbs)</b>	<b>Add IV Base Quotas: 25% reduction from Am6 Quota (lbs)</b>	<b>Add VI Base Quotas: 18% Reduction from Add IV Quotas (lbs)</b> <i>[accounting for Add IV CE adjustments]</i>	<b>Add VI CE-Adjusted Quotas</b>
Maine*	250	188	154	154
New Hampshire*	5,750	4,313	3,537	3,537
Massachusetts	1,159,750	869,813	713,247	735,240
Rhode Island	243,625 <sup>a</sup>	182,719 <sup>b</sup>	148,889	148,889
Connecticut**	23,750	17,813	14,607	14,607
New York	1,061,060 <sup>a</sup>	795,795	652,552	640,718
New Jersey**	321,750	241,313 <sup>b</sup>	197,877	215,912
Delaware	193,447	145,085	118,970	142,474
Maryland Ocean	131,560 <sup>a</sup>	98,670 <sup>b</sup>	74,396	89,094
Virginia Ocean	184,853	138,640	113,685	125,034
North Carolina	480,480	360,360	295,495	295,495
<b>Ocean Total</b>	<b>3,806,275</b>	<b>2,854,706</b>	<b>2,333,409</b>	<b>2,411,154</b>

\* Commercial harvest/sale prohibited, with no re-allocation of quota.

\*\* Commercial harvest/sale prohibited, with re-allocation of quota to the recreational fishery.

a. Amendment 6 quota reduced through conservation equivalency; NY (828,293 pounds) and MD (126,396 pounds) beginning in 2004, RI (239,963 pounds) beginning in 2007.

b. Addendum IV quota reduced through conservation equivalency for RI (181,572 lbs), NJ (215,912), and MD (90,727 lbs).

### **2.2.1.2. Past Consideration of Quota Transfers**

Throughout its history, the Striped Bass FMP has not permitted the transfer of commercial quota between jurisdictions. The Board previously considered commercial quota transfers in the FMP through Draft Amendment 5 and Draft Addendum IV to Amendment 6. The Board did not approve the use of transfers in Amendment 5 (1995) in order to focus efforts on rebuilding the stock. During consideration of Draft Addendum IV to Amendment 6, the Technical Committee raised concerns that transfers had the potential to increase harvest at a time when harvest reductions were needed, which contributed to the Board not approving transfers under Addendum IV (2014).

### **2.2.2 Status of the Stock**

Female spawning stock biomass (SSB) and fishing mortality rate ( $F$ ) are estimated on a regular basis, and compared to target and threshold levels (i.e., biological reference points) in order to assess the status of the striped bass stock. The 1995 estimate of female SSB is currently used as the SSB threshold because many stock characteristics, such as an expanded age structure, were reached by this year, and this is also the year the stock was declared recovered. The female SSB target is equal to 125% of the female SSB threshold. The associated  $F$  threshold and  $F$  target are calculated to achieve the respective SSB reference points in the long term.

In November 2022, the Board reviewed the results of the 2022 Stock Assessment Update, which uses the same forward projecting statistical catch-at-age model from the peer-reviewed 2018 Benchmark Stock Assessment. The model uses fishery-dependent data and fishery-independent survey indices to develop catch-at-age matrices and estimate annual population size, fishing mortality, and recruitment. Data through 2021 were added to the model, and the model structure was adjusted for 2020-2021 to account for the regulation changes implemented through Addendum VI to Amendment 6.

The 2022 Stock Assessment Update found that the stock remains overfished but is no longer experiencing overfishing in the terminal year (2021). Female SSB in 2021 was estimated at 143 million pounds, which is below the SSB threshold of 188 million pounds and below the SSB target of 235 million pounds.  $F$  in 2021 was estimated at 0.14, which is below the  $F$  threshold of 0.20 and below the  $F$  target of 0.17. The reference points were updated using the low recruitment assumption, which resulted in a lower  $F$  target and  $F$  threshold compared to the 2018 Benchmark Assessment.

The assessment also indicated a period of strong recruitment (numbers of age-1 fish entering the population) from 1994-2004, followed by a period of low recruitment from 2005-2011 (although not as low as the early 1980s, when the stock was considered collapsed). This period of low recruitment contributed to the decline in SSB that the stock has experienced since 2010. Recruitment of age-1 fish was high in 2012, 2015, 2016, and 2019 (corresponding to strong 2011, 2014, 2015, and 2018 year classes), but estimates of age-1 striped bass were below the long-term average in 2018, 2020, and 2021. Recruitment in 2021 was estimated at 116 million age-1 fish, below the time series average of 135.7 million fish.

The 2022 Assessment Update also included short-term projections (using the low recruitment assumption) to determine the probability of SSB being at or above the SSB target by 2029, which is the stock rebuilding deadline following the initial overfished determination in the 2018 Benchmark Assessment. The 2022 Stock Assessment Update indicates that under the current fishing mortality rate, there is a 78.6% chance the stock will be rebuilt by 2029, indicating a reduction in catch is not necessary at this time.

The next stock assessment update is scheduled for 2024 with a terminal year of 2023.

### 2.2.3 Status of the Fishery

*Note: Since this draft addendum applies only to commercial quota in the ocean region, this section focuses primarily on the ocean commercial fishery. For information on the Chesapeake Bay commercial fishery or striped bass recreational fisheries, see the Review of the FMP for Atlantic Striped Bass: 2021 Fishing Year (August 2022).*

In 2021, total Atlantic striped bass removals (commercial and recreational, including harvest, commercial dead discards and recreational release mortality) were estimated at 5.1 million fish, which is about the same as removals in 2020. In 2021, the commercial sector accounted for 14% of total removals in numbers of fish (12% harvest and 2% dead discards), and the recreational sector accounted for 86% of removals in numbers of fish (36% harvest and 50% release mortality) (Figure 1). Removals for each sector by year are listed in the Appendix.

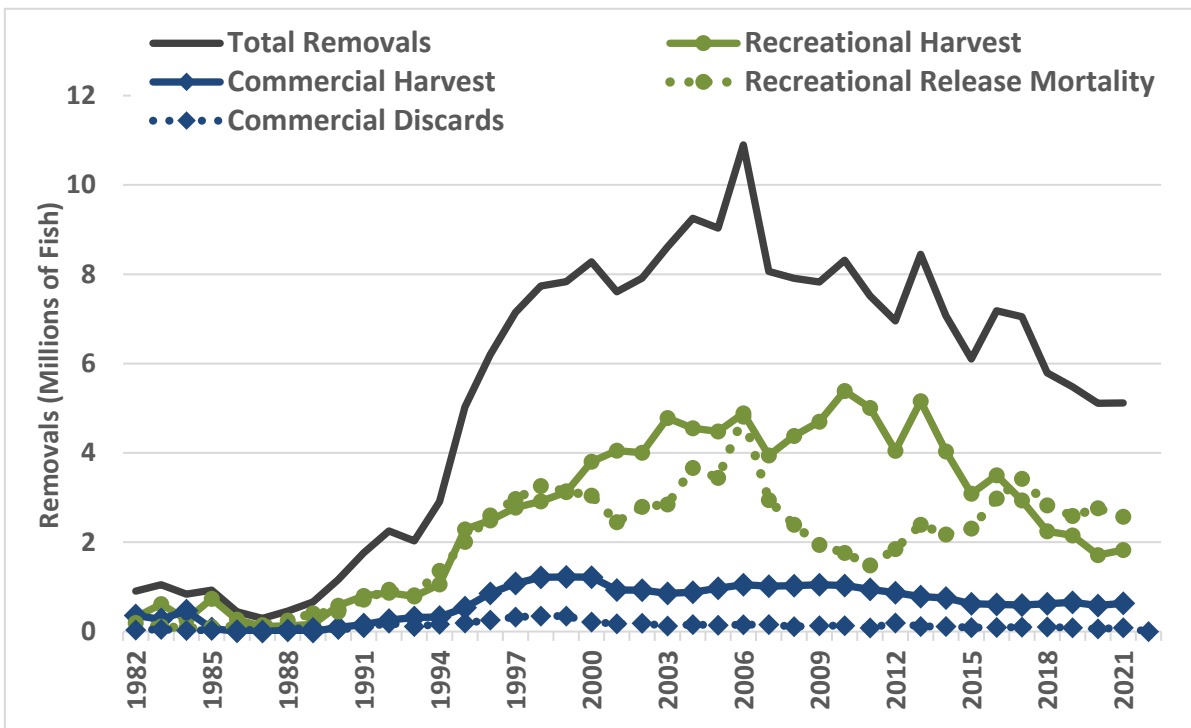


Figure 1. Total Atlantic striped bass removals by sector in numbers of fish, 1982-2021. Source: State compliance reports, MRIP, ASMFC.

**Commercial Fishery Landings**

In 2021, the ocean commercial striped bass quota was 2,411,154 pounds, and 1,840,693 pounds were harvested in the ocean region. In the Chesapeake Bay region, the 2021 commercial striped bass quota was 3,001,648 pounds, and 2,435,126 pounds were harvested. Neither quota was exceeded in 2021. Refer to the Appendix for 2021 quotas and landings by state, as well as 2021 commercial fishery regulations by state, including size limits, trip limits, and seasons, where applicable.

Since 1990, commercial landings from the ocean fishery have accounted for approximately 40% of total coastwide commercial landings by weight, with the other 60% coming from the Chesapeake Bay (Figure 2). The proportion of commercial harvest coming from Chesapeake Bay is much higher in numbers of fish (roughly 80%) because fish harvested in Chesapeake Bay have a lower average weight than fish harvested in ocean fisheries.

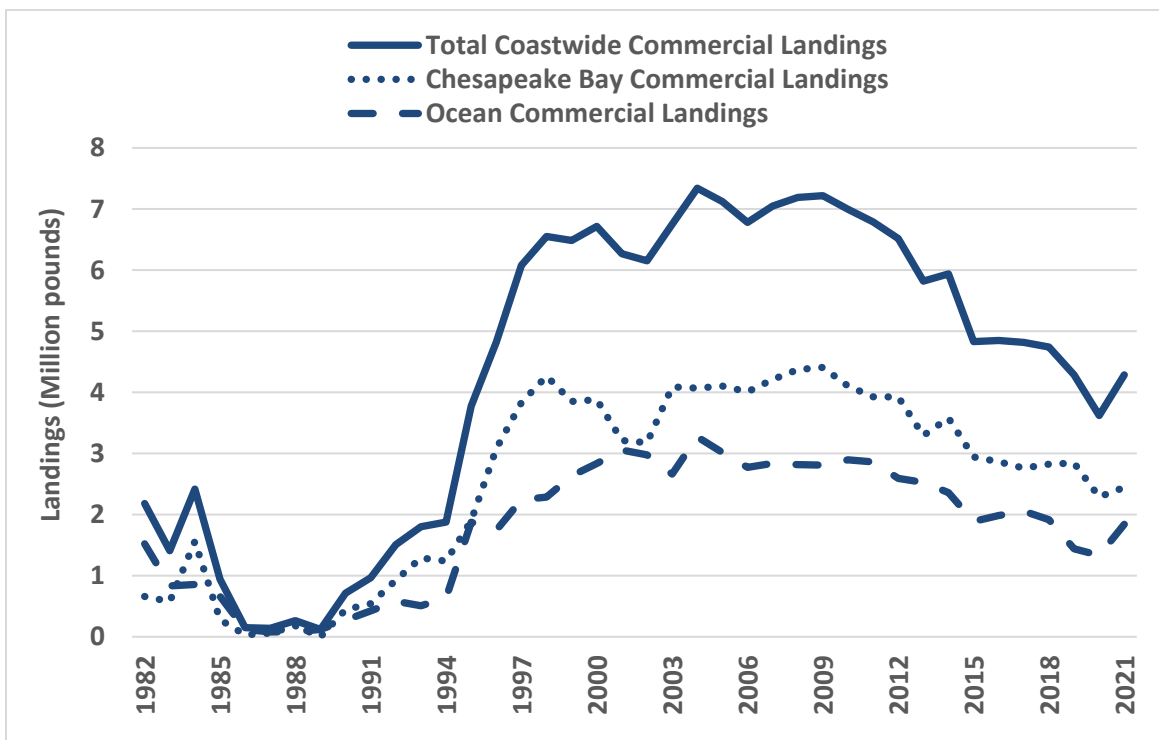


Figure 2. Commercial landings coastwide total, and by region, in pounds, 1982-2021. Source: State compliance reports.

From 2004 to 2014, ocean commercial landings averaged 2.8 million pounds annually. From 2015-2019, ocean commercial landings decreased to an average of 1.9 million pounds annually due to implementation of Addendum IV and a reduction in the commercial quota. In the last two years under Addendum VI, ocean commercial landings were 1.3 million pounds in 2020, and 1.8 million pounds in 2021.

In 2021, Massachusetts landed 40% of the ocean commercial harvest by weight, New York landed 34%, Delaware landed 8%, Rhode Island landed 7%, Virginia landed 7%, and Maryland landed 5%. North Carolina has had zero commercial harvest in their ocean waters since 2012.

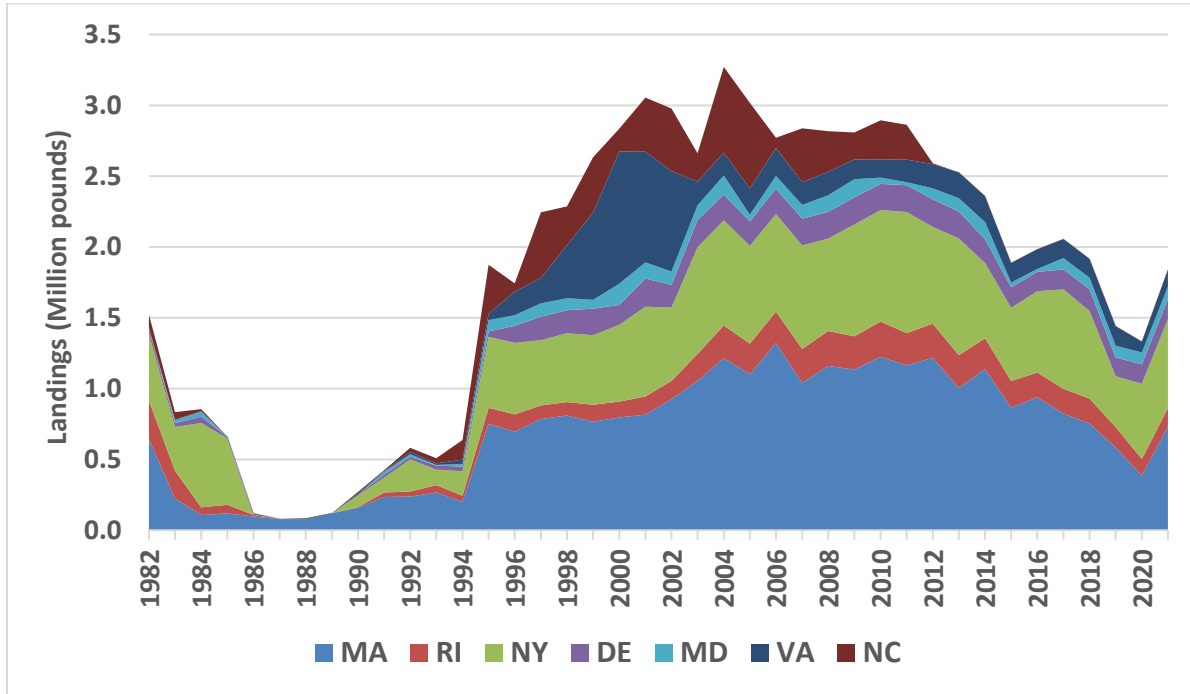


Figure 3. Commercial Atlantic striped bass landings from the ocean region by state in pounds, 1982-2021. Source: State compliance reports. Commercial harvest and sale prohibited in ME, NH, CT, and NJ. NC is ocean only.

**Commercial Quota Utilization in the Ocean Region**

The ocean region regularly underutilizes its cumulative quota due to lack of striped bass availability in some state waters (particularly North Carolina, which holds 13% of the ocean quota, yet has had zero ocean harvest since 2012) coupled with prohibitions on commercial striped bass fishing in Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and New Jersey (which collectively share about 10% of the ocean commercial quota).

In 2021, the commercial quota utilization in the ocean region increased from 55% in 2020 to 76% in 2021 (Figure 4). This is the highest ocean quota utilization in the past five years and is similar to the ocean quota utilization in 2017 (74%). Each state that allows commercial harvest utilized 87-99% of their ocean quota in 2021, with the exception of North Carolina which had zero ocean harvest (Table 2).

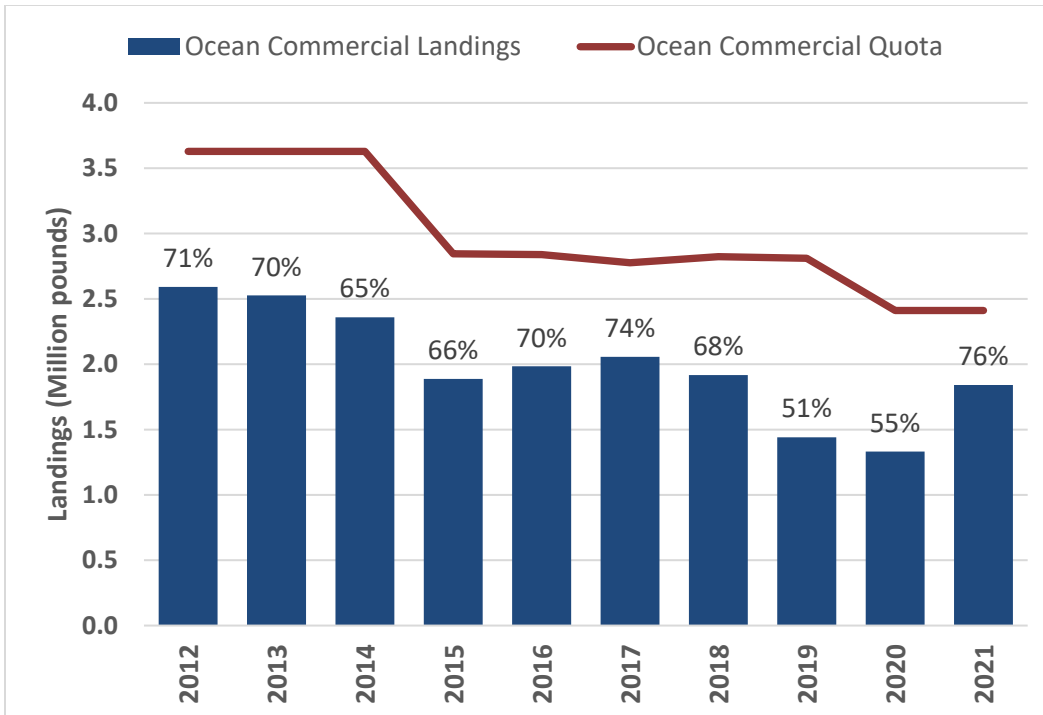


Figure 4. Ocean commercial landings and ocean commercial quota, and percent utilization, 2012-2021.

Table 2. Percent of ocean commercial quota utilized by state, 2017-2021.

State	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Maine*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
New Hampshire*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Massachusetts	103%	89%	67%	53%	100%
Rhode Island	97%	97%	79%	78%	88%
Connecticut*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
New York	88%	78%	45%	83%	98%
New Jersey**	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Delaware	98%	107%	98%	97%	98%
Maryland (ocean only)	89%	88%	91%	94%	100%
Virginia (ocean only)	97%	97%	100%	62%	96%
North Carolina (ocean only)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Ocean Total</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>76%</b>

\* Commercial harvest/sale prohibited.

\*\* Commercial harvest/sale prohibited, with re-allocation of quota to the recreational fishery.

There are several factors that could contribute to how much quota is landed each year, including year class availability, overall stock abundance, nearshore availability, fishing effort, and state management programs. These factors and their impact on striped bass commercial fisheries likely vary among states and within the seasons.

Allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum VI in 2020. The commercial ocean fishery has consistently underutilized its total quota, due to a combination of fish availability and state-specific regulations (e.g., commercial fishing prohibitions). Addendum VI was designed to achieve a specific reduction in total removals through more restrictive recreational measures and reduced commercial quotas in order to achieve the fishing mortality target. During the Addendum VI process, the Technical Committee noted the reduction in commercial quota would achieve the necessary reduction in commercial removals only if the commercial fishery performs as it has in the past (i.e., if the total quota continues to be underutilized to the same degree). This assumption may be violated if the transfer of commercial quota in the ocean region is permitted. If Addendum VI commercial quotas were fully utilized through the transfer of latent quota, commercial harvest would be higher than estimated in the Addendum VI projections and states may not maintain the desired commercial reduction.

### **3.0 Proposed Management Program**

Draft Addendum I presents options that would allow for the voluntary transfer of commercial quota in the ocean region between states that have ocean quota. However, commercial quota that has been reallocated to a state's recreational fishery (i.e., for a recreational bonus program) is not eligible to be used for commercial quota transfers. When developing CE proposals to reallocate commercial quota to a recreational fishery, states can specify reallocation of all or part of their commercial quota; any portion of the state's commercial quota that is not reallocated to the recreational fishery may be used for commercial quota transfers.

This draft addendum does not address potential transfers of the Chesapeake Bay quota among the Bay jurisdictions because the FMP does not establish state-specific shares of the Chesapeake Bay quota; Maryland, Virginia, and PRFC do so per the jurisdictions' mutual agreement. Additionally, this draft addendum does not consider allowing transfer of Chesapeake Bay quota to an ocean fishery (or vice versa) due to the distinct management programs between the regions (e.g., size and availability of fish).

If quota transfers are permitted, quota would be transferred pound-for-pound from the donor state to the receiving state. There would be some inherent uncertainty associated with transfers occurring between states that harvest different size striped bass. State commercial fisheries catch different size fish due to multiple factors, including variability in striped bass size distribution along the coast and state management programs (different size limits, gears, seasons). Further, through CE, states have been able to adjust their commercial size limits from the historical standard, which results in changes to their respective commercial quotas. Several



adjustments have been made to commercial size limits over time resulting in changes commercial quotas. Stated more simply, a pound of striped bass commercial quota is not equal across all states.

### 3.1 Options for Allowing the Voluntary Transfer of Ocean Commercial Quota

**Option A (status quo):** Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

**Option B: General commercial quota transfer provision (with overfished conservation tax).**

The voluntary transfer of commercial quota in the ocean region between states that have ocean quota would be permitted. Transfers between states may occur upon agreement of two states at any time during the fishing year and up to 45 days<sup>1</sup> after the last day of the calendar year. All transfers require a donor state (state giving quota) and a receiving state (state accepting additional quota). There is no limit on the amount of quota that can be transferred by this mechanism, however, if transfers occur when the stock is overfished, a 5% conservation tax would be applied to address the discrepancy that a pound of striped bass quota is not equal across all states.

*Example: If State A transfers 1,000 pounds to State B when the stock is overfished, State B would receive 950 pounds and the other 50 pounds would be the conservation tax that is no longer available for harvest.*

All other terms and conditions of the transfer are to be identified solely by the parties involved in the transfer.

The Administrative Commissioner of the agencies involved (donor and receiving state) must submit a signed letter to the Commission identifying the involved states, species, and pounds of quota to be transferred between the parties. A transfer becomes effective upon receipt of a letter from Commission staff to the donor and receiving states, and does not require approval by the Board. All transfers are final upon receipt of the signed letters by the Commission. In the event that the donor or receiving state of a transaction subsequently wishes to change the amount or details of the transaction, both parties have to agree to the change, and submit to the Commission signed letters from the Administrative Commissioner of the agencies involved. These transfers do not permanently affect the state-specific shares of the quota (i.e., the state-specific quotas remain fixed).

Once quota has been transferred to a state, the state receiving quota becomes responsible for any overages of transferred quota. That is, the amount over the final quota (that state's quota plus any quota transferred to that state) for a state will be deducted from the corresponding state's quota the following fishing season.

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<sup>1</sup> The Board can specify any number from 0 days up to 45 days to limit when transfers could occur after the calendar year ends.

**Option C: Limited commercial quota transfer provision based on stock status.**

Same as Option B except transfers would not be permitted when the stock is overfished (i.e., below the SSB threshold).

*Note: Given the current overfished status of the stock, this option would not provide near-term relief to states seeking additional quota.*

**Option D: Board discretion commercial quota transfer provision (with overfished conservation tax).**

The Board has discretion to decide whether the voluntary transfer of commercial quota in the ocean region between states that have ocean quota would be permitted in the next one or two years. Quota transfers are not permitted unless the Board decides to allow them. The Board would decide by their final meeting of the year, based on information the Board has available on the status of the striped bass stock and performance of the fisheries, whether to allow commercial quota transfers in the next one or two years.

*Note: If the Board selects this option and the Addendum is approved during 2023, the Board could decide at the time of the Addendum's approval whether to allow transfers for the 2023 fishing year.*

If the Board allows the voluntary transfer of commercial quota, the Board may choose to specify one or more of the following criteria:

- A limit on the transferable amount of quota (e.g., a set poundage or a set percentage of the total commercial quota), and further, a seasonal limitation on its transferability (e.g., no more than 50% of the transferable quota amount may be transferred before July 1).
- The eligibility of a state to receive a transfer based on percentage of that state's quota landed (e.g., state may not request quota until it has landed 90% of its annual quota).

If the above criteria are implemented, the Board should be as specific as possible when developing criteria (e.g., specify whether eligibility is based on total statewide quota utilization, or gear- or season-specific quota utilization within a state).

If the Board approves commercial quota transfers for a given year, transfers between states may occur upon agreement of two states at any time during the fishing year and up to 45 days<sup>2</sup> after the last day of the calendar year. All transfers require a donor state (state giving quota) and a receiving state (state accepting additional quota). All transfers must adhere to the quota transfer limitations/criteria established by the Board for that year. Additionally, if transfers occur when the stock is overfished, a 5% conservation tax would be applied to address the discrepancy that a pound of striped bass quota is not equal across all states.

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<sup>2</sup> The Board can specify any number from 0 days up to 45 days to limit when transfers could occur after the calendar year ends.

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*Example: If State A transfers 1,000 pounds to State B when the stock is overfished, State B would receive 950 pounds and the other 50 pounds would be the conservation tax that is no longer available for harvest.*

The Administrative Commissioner of the agencies involved (donor and receiving state) must submit a signed letter to the Commission identifying the involved states, species, and pounds of quota to be transferred between the parties. A transfer becomes effective upon receipt of a letter from Commission staff to the donor and receiving states, and does not require the approval by the Board. All transfers are final upon receipt of the signed letters by the Commission. In the event that the donor or receiving state of a transaction subsequently wishes to change the amount or details of the transaction, both parties have to agree to the change, and submit to the Commission signed letters from the Administrative Commissioner of the agencies involved. These transfers do not permanently affect the state-specific shares of the quota (i.e., the state-specific quotas remain fixed).

Once quota has been transferred to a state, the state receiving quota becomes responsible for any overages of transferred quota. That is, the amount over the final quota (that state's quota plus any quota transferred to that state) for a state will be deducted from the corresponding state's quota the following fishing season.

### **Option E: Limited Board discretion commercial quota transfer provision based on stock status.**

Same as Option D except transfers would not be permitted when the stock is overfished (i.e., below the SSB threshold).

*Note: Given the current overfished status of the stock, this option would not provide near-term relief to states seeking additional quota.*

### **4.0 Compliance Schedule**

Measures approved by the Board through this Addendum would be effective immediately on the date of approval.

If commercial quota transfers are permitted, states must account for any additional quota potentially received via transfers when determining the number of commercial tags required for the upcoming season.

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**Appendix. State-by-State Commercial Fishery Regulations, Commercial Landings, 2021 Quota Accounting, and Coastwide Removals by Sector**

**Table A1. 2021 Striped Bass commercial regulations.**

Source: 2022 State Compliance Reports. Minimum sizes and slot size limits are in total length (TL).

STATE	SIZE LIMITS (TL) and TRIP LIMITS	SEASONAL QUOTA	OPEN SEASON
ME	Commercial fishing prohibited		
NH	Commercial fishing prohibited		
MA	≥35" minimum size; no gaffing undersized fish. 15 fish/day with commercial boat permit; 2 fish/day with rod and reel permit.	735,240 lbs. Hook & Line only.	6.16-11.15 (or when quota reached); open fishing days of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, with Thursday and Friday added on October 1 (if quota remains). Cape Cod Canal closed to commercial striped bass fishing.
RI	Floating fish trap: 26" minimum size unlimited possession limit until 70% of quota reached, then 500 lbs. per licensee per day	Total: 148,889 lbs., split 39:61 between the trap and general category. Gill netting prohibited.	4.1 – 12.31
	General category (mostly rod & reel): 34" min. 5 fish/vessel/day limit.		5.20-6.30; 7.1-12.31, or until quota reached. Closed Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays throughout.
CT	Commercial fishing prohibited; bonus program in CT suspended indefinitely in 2020.		
NY	26"-38" size; (Hudson River closed to commercial harvest)	640,718 lbs. Pound Nets, Gill Nets (6-8" stretched mesh), Hook & Line.	5.15 – 12.15, or until quota reached. Limited entry permit only.
NJ*	Commercial fishing prohibited; *quota reallocated to recreational bonus program: 1 fish/permit at 24" to <28"	215,912 lbs.	5.15 – 12.31 (permit required)
PA	Commercial fishing prohibited		

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**Table A1, continued**

STATE	SIZE LIMITS (TL) and TRIP LIMITS	SEASONAL QUOTA	OPEN SEASON
DE	Gill Net: 20" min in DE Bay/River during spring season. 28" in all other waters/seasons.	Gillnet: 135,350 lbs. No fixed nets in DE River.	Gillnet: 2.15-5.31 (2.15-3.30 for Nanticoke River) & 11.15-12.31; drift nets only 2.15-28 & 5.1-31; no trip limit.
	Hook and Line: 28" min	Hook and line: 7,124 lbs.	Hook and Line: 4.1-12.31, 200 lbs./day trip limit
MD	Chesapeake Bay and Rivers: 18-36" Common pool trip limits: Hook and Line - 250 lbs./license/week Gill Net - 300 lbs./license/week	1,445,394 lbs. (part of Bay-wide quota)	Bay Pound Net: 6.1-12.31 Bay Haul Seine: 1.1-2.28; 6.1-12.31 Bay Hook & Line: 6.1-12.31 Bay Drift Gill Net: 1.1-2.28, 12.1-12.31
	Ocean: 24" minimum	Ocean: 89,094 lbs.	1.1-5.31, 10.1-12.31
PRFC	18" min all year; 36" max 2.15-3.25	572,861 lbs. (split between gear types; part of Bay-wide quota)	Hook & Line: 1.1-3.25, 6.1-12.31 Pound Net & Other: 2.15-3.25, 6.1-12.15 <u>Gill Net</u> : 11.9.2020-3.25.2021 Misc. Gear: 2.15-3.25, 6.1-12.15
VA	Chesapeake Bay and Rivers: 18" min; 28" max size limit 3.15-6.15	983,393 lbs. (part of Bay-wide quota)	1.16-12.31
	Ocean: 28" min	125,034 lbs.	
NC	Ocean: 28" min	295,495 lbs. (split between gear types)	Seine fishery was not opened Gill net fishery was not opened Trawl fishery was not opened

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**Table A2. 2021 Commercial quota accounting in pounds.**

Source: 2022 state compliance reports. 2021 quota was based on Addendum VI and approved conservation equivalency programs.

State	Add VI (base)	2021 Quota <sup>^</sup>	2021 Harvest	Overage
<b>Ocean</b>				
Maine*	154	154	-	-
New Hampshire*	3,537	3,537	-	-
Massachusetts	713,247	735,240	732,071	0
Rhode Island	148,889	148,889	130,308	0
Connecticut*	14,607	14,607	-	-
New York	652,552	640,718	629,491	0
New Jersey**	197,877	215,912	-	-
Delaware	118,970	142,474	140,250	0
Maryland	74,396	89,094	88,652 <sup>+</sup>	0
Virginia	113,685	125,034	119,921	0
North Carolina	295,495	295,495	0	0
Ocean Total	2,333,409	2,411,154	1,840,693	0
<b>Chesapeake Bay</b>				
Maryland	2,588,603	1,445,394	1,305,276 <sup>+</sup>	0
Virginia		983,393	729,736	0
PRFC		572,861	400,414	0
Bay Total		3,001,648	2,435,126	0

Note: North Carolina’s fishing year is December-November; PRFC’s fishing year for gill nets is Nov-March

\* Commercial harvest/sale prohibited, with no re-allocation of quota.

\*\* Commercial harvest/sale prohibited, with re-allocation of quota to the recreational fishery.

<sup>^</sup> 2020 quota changed through conservation equivalency for MA (735,240 lbs), NY (640,718 lbs), NJ (215,912 lbs), DE (142,474 lbs), MD (ocean: 89,094 lbs; bay: 1,445,394 lbs), PRFC (572,861 lbs), VA (ocean: 125,034 lbs; bay: 983,393 lbs).

<sup>+</sup> Maryland commercial landings for 2021 are considered preliminary.

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**Table A3. Commercial harvest by state and region in pounds (x1000), 1997-2021 calendar years.**

Source: State compliance reports. ^Estimates exclude inshore harvest.

Year	Ocean								Chesapeake Bay				Grand Total
	MA	RI	NY	DE	MD	VA	NC^	Total	MD	PRFC	VA	Total	
1997	784.9	96.5	460.8	166.0	94.0	179.1	463.1	2,244.4	2,119.2	731.9	983.0	3,834.2	6,078.6
1998	810.1	94.7	485.9	163.2	84.6	375.0	273.0	2,286.6	2,426.7	726.2	1,112.2	4,265.1	6,551.6
1999	766.2	119.7	491.8	187.1	62.6	614.8	391.5	2,633.7	2,274.8	653.3	923.4	3,851.4	6,485.1
2000	796.2	111.8	542.7	140.6	149.7	932.7	162.4	2,836.0	2,261.8	666.0	951.2	3,879.0	6,715.0
2001	815.4	129.7	633.1	198.8	113.9	782.4	381.1	3,054.3	1,660.9	658.7	893.1	3,212.6	6,267.0
2002	924.9	129.2	518.6	160.6	93.2	710.2	441.0	2,977.6	1,759.4	521.0	894.4	3,174.9	6,152.6
2003	1,055.5	190.2	753.3	191.5	103.9	166.4	201.2	2,662.1	1,721.8	676.6	1,690.4	4,088.7	6,750.8
2004	1,214.2	232.3	741.7	182.2	134.2	161.3	605.4	3,271.2	1,790.3	772.3	1,507.0	4,069.6	7,340.8
2005	1,102.2	215.6	689.8	173.1	46.9	185.2	604.5	3,017.4	2,008.7	533.6	1,561.0	4,103.3	7,120.6
2006	1,322.3	221.4	688.4	179.5	91.1	195.0	74.2	2,771.8	2,116.3	673.5	1,219.0	4,008.7	6,780.5
2007	1,039.3	240.6	731.5	188.7	96.3	162.3	379.5	2,838.1	2,240.6	599.3	1,369.2	4,209.1	7,047.2
2008	1,160.3	245.9	653.1	188.8	118.0	163.1	288.4	2,817.7	2,208.0	613.8	1,551.3	4,373.1	7,190.8
2009	1,134.3	234.8	789.9	192.4	127.3	140.4	190.0	2,809.1	2,267.3	727.8	1,413.3	4,408.4	7,217.5
2010	1,224.5	248.9	786.8	185.4	44.8	127.8	276.4	2,894.7	2,105.8	683.2	1,313.0	4,102.0	6,996.7
2011	1,163.9	228.2	855.3	188.6	21.4	158.8	246.4	2,862.5	1,955.1	694.2	1,278.1	3,927.3	6,789.8
2012	1,218.5	239.9	683.8	194.3	77.6	170.8	7.3	2,592.0	1,851.4	733.7	1,339.6	3,924.7	6,516.8
2013	1,004.5	231.3	823.8	191.4	93.5	182.4	0.0	2,526.9	1,662.2	623.8	1,006.8	3,292.8	5,819.7
2014	1,138.5	216.9	531.5	167.9	120.9	183.7	0.0	2,359.4	1,805.7	603.4	1,169.4	3,578.5	5,937.9
2015	866.0	188.3	516.3	144.1	34.6	138.1	0.0	1,887.5	1,436.9	538.0	967.6	2,942.5	4,830.0
2016	938.7	174.7	575.0	136.5	19.7	139.2	0.0	1,983.9	1,425.5	537.1	902.3	2,864.9	4,848.8
2017	823.4	175.3	701.2	141.8	80.5	133.9	0.0	2,056.1	1,439.8	492.7	827.8	2,760.3	4,816.4
2018	753.7	176.6	617.2	155.0	79.8	134.2	0.0	1,916.6	1,424.3	449.4	951.0	2,824.7	4,741.3
2019	584.7	144.2	358.9	132.6	82.8	138.0	0.0	1,441.2	1,475.2	417.3	951.1	2,843.6	4,284.8
2020	386.9	115.9	530.5	138.0	83.6	77.2	0.0	1,332.2	1,273.8	400.3	613.8	2,287.9	3,620.0
2021 <sup>+</sup>	732.1	130.3	629.5	140.3	88.7	119.9	0.0	1,840.7	1,305.3	411.3	729.7	2,446.4	4,287.0

+ Maryland commercial landings for 2021 are considered preliminary.

**Draft Document for Public Comment**

**Table A4. Total removals (harvest plus discards/release mortality) of Atlantic striped bass by sector in numbers of fish, 1992-2021 calendar years.** Note: Harvest is from state compliance reports/MRIP (June 2022), discards/release mortality is from ASMFC. Estimates exclude inshore harvest from NC.

Year	Commercial		Recreational		Total Removals
	Harvest	Dead Discards*	Harvest	Release Mortality	
1992	256,476	189,814	869,779	937,611	2,253,681
1993	314,526	114,317	789,037	812,404	2,030,284
1994	325,401	165,700	1,055,523	1,360,872	2,907,496
1995	537,412	192,368	2,287,578	2,010,689	5,028,047
1996	854,102	257,506	2,487,422	2,600,526	6,199,556
1997	1,076,561	324,445	2,774,981	2,969,781	7,145,769
1998	1,215,219	346,537	2,915,390	3,259,133	7,736,278
1999	1,223,572	347,186	3,123,496	3,140,905	7,835,158
2000	1,216,812	213,863	3,802,477	3,044,203	8,277,354
2001	931,412	175,815	4,052,474	2,449,599	7,609,300
2002	928,085	187,084	4,005,084	2,792,200	7,912,453
2003	854,326	126,274	4,781,402	2,848,445	8,610,447
2004	879,768	156,026	4,553,027	3,665,234	9,254,055
2005	970,403	142,385	4,480,802	3,441,928	9,035,518
2006	1,047,648	152,308	4,883,961	4,812,332	10,896,250
2007	1,015,114	158,078	3,944,679	2,944,253	8,062,124
2008	1,027,824	108,830	4,381,186	2,391,200	7,909,039
2009	1,050,055	133,317	4,700,222	1,942,061	7,825,654
2010	1,031,448	132,373	5,388,440	1,760,759	8,313,020
2011	944,777	82,015	5,006,358	1,482,029	7,515,180
2012	870,684	192,190	4,046,299	1,847,880	6,957,053
2013	784,379	112,620	5,157,760	2,393,425	8,448,184
2014	750,263	114,065	4,033,746	2,172,342	7,070,415
2015	621,952	88,614	3,085,725	2,307,133	6,103,425
2016	609,028	91,186	3,500,434	2,981,430	7,182,077
2017	592,670	98,801	2,937,911	3,421,110	7,050,492
2018	621,123	101,264	2,244,765	2,826,667	5,793,819
2019	653,807	85,262	2,150,936	2,589,045	5,479,050
2020	583,070	58,641	1,709,973	2,760,231	5,111,915
2021	634,552	85,676	1,824,484	2,572,931	5,117,643

\* Commercial dead discard estimates are derived via a generalized additive model (GAM), and are therefore re-estimated for the entire time series when a new year of data is added.



**Draft Document for Public Comment**

**Table A5. Proportion of total removals (harvest plus discards/release mortality) of Atlantic striped bass by sector in numbers of fish, 1992-2021.** Note: Harvest is from state compliance reports/MRIP (June 2022), discards/release mortality is from ASMFC. Estimates exclude inshore harvest from NC.

Year	Commercial		Recreational	
	Harvest	Dead Discards*	Harvest	Release Mortality
<b>1992</b>	11%	8%	39%	42%
<b>1993</b>	15%	6%	39%	40%
<b>1994</b>	11%	6%	36%	47%
<b>1995</b>	11%	4%	45%	40%
<b>1996</b>	14%	4%	40%	42%
<b>1997</b>	15%	5%	39%	42%
<b>1998</b>	16%	4%	38%	42%
<b>1999</b>	16%	4%	40%	40%
<b>2000</b>	15%	3%	46%	37%
<b>2001</b>	12%	2%	53%	32%
<b>2002</b>	12%	2%	51%	35%
<b>2003</b>	10%	1%	56%	33%
<b>2004</b>	10%	2%	49%	40%
<b>2005</b>	11%	2%	50%	38%
<b>2006</b>	10%	1%	45%	44%
<b>2007</b>	13%	2%	49%	37%
<b>2008</b>	13%	1%	55%	30%
<b>2009</b>	13%	2%	60%	25%
<b>2010</b>	12%	2%	65%	21%
<b>2011</b>	13%	1%	67%	20%
<b>2012</b>	13%	3%	58%	27%
<b>2013</b>	9%	1%	61%	28%
<b>2014</b>	11%	2%	57%	31%
<b>2015</b>	10%	1%	51%	38%
<b>2016</b>	8%	1%	49%	42%
<b>2017</b>	8%	1%	42%	49%
<b>2018</b>	11%	2%	39%	49%
<b>2019</b>	12%	2%	39%	47%
<b>2020</b>	11%	1%	33%	54%
<b>2021</b>	12%	2%	36%	50%

\* Commercial dead discard estimates are re-estimated for the entire time series when a new year of data is added. Note: Percent may not sum to 100 due to rounding.



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board

**FROM:** Emilie Franke, FMP Coordinator

**DATE:** January 17, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Draft Addendum I Public Hearing Summaries

Eight public hearings were held for twelve jurisdictions from December 7, 2022 through January 9, 2023. Five hearings were conducted via webinar only: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Maryland-Virginia-Potomac River Fisheries Commission-District of Columbia, North Carolina. Two hearings were conducted in a hybrid format with attendees participating via webinar and in-person: Delaware, Maine-New Hampshire. One public hearing was conducted in-person only: New York.

193 individuals (not including state staff, ASMFC staff, or Commissioners/Proxies) attended the hearings, and some of these individuals attended/participated in polls at multiple hearings. Each public hearing is summarized in the following pages and the summaries are ordered from north to south. Live polls or a show-of-hands vote were used at most hearings for the proposed options. Each hearing summary lists the number of public participants who attended the hearing as well as the number of people who provided comments and/or participated in polls during the hearing. Full attendance lists are provided following each hearing summary.

*Note: A summary of all public comment (written and hearing comments) received by ASMFC on Striped Bass Draft Addendum I is provided in a separate memorandum in the 2023 Winter Atlantic Striped Bass Board main meeting materials.*

**Maine-New Hampshire Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**

January 9, 2023 – Hybrid: Webinar and Portsmouth, NH

Public Attendees: 61

Hearing Officers: Megan Ware (MEDMR), Cheri Patterson (NHFG)

ASMFC Staff: Toni Kerns, Tracey Bauer

49 attendees participated in live polling and/or provided comments, including comments on behalf of the Maine Association of Charterboat Captains (MACC), Plum Island Surfcasters (PIS), Native Fish Coalition (NFC), American Saltwater Guides Association (ASGA), Stripers Forever (SF)

**Poll**

Option A	48
Option B	
Option C	1
Option D	
Option E	

**Polls/Commenters from**

ME	22
NH	21
Other	6 (MA, NY, NJ, MD, FL)

48 people (including MACC, PIS, NFC, ASGA, SF) support status quo Option A: no transfers permitted for the following reasons:

- The stock is still overfished and any increase in fishing mortality should not be considered; management should focus on rebuilding.
- Any increase in harvest would undermine rebuilding progress.
- There is only a 78% chance of rebuilding the stock by 2029, and anything that removes more fish will lower that percent chance of rebuilding and negatively impact the stock.
- Commercial fisheries target large breeding females; if additional quota is transferred to states like Massachusetts, there would be significant impact on large spawners.
- Recruitment has been very poor for the last four years, and management needs to be as conservative as possible to rebuild the stock; the Technical Committee has noted the potential future negative impact of the low recruitment.
- This is not the time to maximize quotas when the stock is vulnerable to future decline.
- Although transfers are in place for other species, the striped bass fishery is unique and the Board has decided in the past that transfers don't fit this fishery.
- Quota transfers are contrary to what the public wants.

1 person supports Option C: transfers permitted except no transfers if overfished.

- No verbal comment provided.

Other comments included:

- Striped bass should be managed for abundance.
- Management should focus on the population as a whole and environmental balance; abundance helps insulate against forces like climate change.
- Conservation equivalency should not be part of management.
- Need to protect spawning locations.
- Live fish are more valuable than dead fish.
- Concern about the data used in the stock assessment related to COVID data quality issues.
- Commercial harvest should end and striped bass should be a gamefish.

**Maine-New Hampshire Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**

January 9, 2023

Hybrid: Webinar and Portsmouth, NH

In-Person Attendees: enclosed sign-in sheet

Webinar Attendees:

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>State</b>
Agnelli	Larry	Massachusetts
Batter	Victoria	Maine
Bauer	Tracey	Virginia
Bryand	Michael	Maine
Calagione	Sam	Maine
Cloutier	Germain	Maine
Cronin	James	New York
Dart	Evan	Maine
Dutremble	Jason	Maine
Evanilla	Johnathan	Maine
Fallon	Peter	Maine
Ferdinand	William	Maine
Fitzgerald	Betsy	Maine
Fleming	Richard	New Hampshire
Friedrich	Tony	Maryland
Gallahue	Benjamin	New Hampshire
Hildreth	Carle	Maine
Hillier	Bryce	Maine
Hunter	Zandri	Maine
Johnson	Tom	Maine
Kingston	Jack	Massachusetts
Kleiner	Don	Maine
Lamy	Jared	New Hampshire
Landry	Aaron	Maine
Mohlin	Pete	Maine
Newman	Thomas	North Carolina
Opsatnic	Levi	Maine
Pappas	Thomas	Maine
Patterson	Cheri	New Hampshire
Phillips	Chris	New Hampshire
Poston	Will	Maryland
Roach	Eric	New Hampshire
Rubner	Cody	Florida

Last Name	First Name	State
Rudman	Patrick	Maine
Sarcona	Tony	Maine
Sawyer	Ian	Maine
Schaefer	Kyle	Maine
Spendley	Paul	New Hampshire
Sullivan	Kevin	New Hampshire
Temple	Colin	Massachusetts
Tirado	Lou	Maine
Vavra	Taylor	Maine
Wallace	Capt. Eric	Maine
Ware	Megan	Maine
Whalley	Ben	Maine
Williams	Brian	New Jersey
Willsea	Flynn	Maine
Young	robert	New Hampshire
Zobel	Renee	New Hampshire

*ASMFC Staff: Toni Kerns, Tracey Bauer*

**Atlantic Striped Bass Draft Addendum I for Public Comment**

***Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission***

January 9, 2023

Portsmouth, NH

**-- PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY --**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company/Organization</u>	<u>City, State</u>
Ritchie White	CCANH	Rye NH
Scott Klose	Bye Polar Fishing	Bedford NH
SCOT CALITRI	ORCA	DURHAM, NH
Dylan Carney	13 mile Fl, CO	Dover, NH
Michael Toole	Plum Island SurfCaster	Stratham, NH
Nick Martin	NFC	Litchfield NH
JOE FORRESTALL	NFC	Acworth NH
Derek Cummings		Portsmouth NH
Joshua Dionne		S. Berwick ME
Matt Larkin		Newmarket, NH
Tom Briantman		Dover, NH
Doug Goulet		Sunapee NH
DJ Lovett		Nottingham NH
Peter Whelan		Portsmouth NH
James Shanley	NFC	Portsmouth, NH
Janet Kan	NFC	Milton Mills, NH
DENNIS ARBOFF	ASMFC	NEWMARKET NH
Stephen		
Stephen Collins		Portsmouth, NH
Rob Wolfchuck		Brentwood, NH
JORDAN CHESTER		SOUTH BERWICK, ME





**Massachusetts Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
December 19, 2022 – Webinar**

Public Attendees: 48

Hearing Officers: Mike Armstrong (MADMF)

ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, James Boyle

37 attendees participated in live polling and/or provided comments, including comments on behalf of the Cape Cod Salties Fishing Club (CCS), Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association for the MA sector (RISAA-MA), Stellwagen Bank Charter Board Association (SWBCA)

**Poll**

Option A	29
Option B	2
Option C	2
Option D	1
Option E	3

**Polls/Commenters from**

MA	28
Other	9 (ME, NY, CT, FL)

29 people (including CCS, RISAA-MA) support status quo Option A: no transfers permitted for the following reasons:

- The stock is still overfished.
- The stock is starting to improve and allowing transfers would increase mortality, which is contrary to the rebuilding plan that is an important part of Amendment 7.
- Allowing transfers would have unintended consequences as quota changes each year; allocations should be fair and equitable in the first place.
- There is a risk of concentrating harvest in certain areas if transfers are allowed; there could be unintended consequences for different breeding stocks.
- There is only a 79% chance of rebuilding and there are many scenarios where we won't achieve that goal.
- Allowing transfers would put more pressure on the commercial sector.
- The striped bass stock is fragile and we are approaching the rebuilding deadline.

2 people support Option B: transfers permitted with overfished conservation tax.

- No verbal comment provided.

2 people support Option C: transfers permitted except no transfers if overfished.

- No verbal comment provided.

1 person supports Option D: Board discretion on transfers with overfished conservation tax.

- No verbal comment provided.

3 people support Option E: Board discretion on transfers except no transfers if overfished.

- No verbal comment provided.

Other comments included:

- A SWBCA Board member noted that most comments opposing transfers are coming from recreational anglers.
- The surfcasting community has spent a lot of time working on improving catch and release mortality in the fishing community.

**Massachusetts Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**

December 19, 2022

Webinar

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>State</b>
Adams	Mike	Massachusetts
Armstrong	Mike	Massachusetts
Audet	Jerry	Massachusetts
Avila	Jason	Massachusetts
Ayer	Matt	Massachusetts
Bannon	Mark	Massachusetts
Batsavage	Chris	North Carolina
Boghdan	Kalil	Massachusetts
Boland	Collins	Massachusetts
Bravo	Peter	Connecticut
Castano	Raymond	Massachusetts
Clark	Dean	Massachusetts
Cloutier	Germain	Maine
Creighton	Jack	Massachusetts
Cullen	James	Massachusetts
Cummings	Derek	New Hampshire
Dello Russo	Joe	Massachusetts
Delzingo	Capt. Mike	Massachusetts
Dresser	Winslow	Massachusetts
Fallon	Peter	Maine
Fetterman	Jacob	New York
Frenje	Johan	Massachusetts
Friedrich	Tony	Maryland
Gordon	Jesse	New York
Henrich	Georgette	Massachusetts
Hoffman	William	Massachusetts
Holden	Brendan	Massachusetts
Hughes	Ian	Massachusetts
Jewkes	James	Massachusetts
Johns	Caroline	Massachusetts
Jones	Kevin	Massachusetts
Kane	Raymond	Massachusetts
Mauck	Capt. Parker	Massachusetts
McKiernan	Daniel	Massachusetts
Meserve	Nichola	Massachusetts
Petracca	Timothy	Utah

Last Name	First Name	State
Pinkus	Will	Massachusetts
Poirier	Anthony	Massachusetts
Poosikian	Craig	Massachusetts
Prodouz	William	Massachusetts
Rubner	Cody	Massachusetts
Savino	Robert	Massachusetts
Schofield	Austin	Massachusetts
Schwond	Peter	Massachusetts
Shukis	Alex	Massachusetts
Sikorski	David	Maryland
Sullivan	Tamer	Massachusetts
Sylvestre	Capt. George	Massachusetts
Temple	Colin	Massachusetts
Thiebault	Kristen	Massachusetts
Tighe	John	Massachusetts
Ungerland	Jon	Massachusetts
Vespe	Greg	Massachusetts
Webb	Anna	Massachusetts
Whalley	Ben	Maine
White	Kyle	Massachusetts
Williams	Al	Massachusetts
Woods	Michael	Rhode Island
Zlokovitz	Erik	Maryland

*ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, James Boyle*

**Rhode Island Public Hearing**  
**Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**  
December 14, 2022 – Webinar

Public Attendees: 16

Hearing Officers: Jason McNamee (RIDEM)

ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, Tracey Bauer

11 attendees participated in live polling and/or provided comments, including comments on behalf of the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association (RISAA), Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BHA), and American Saltwater Guides Association (ASGA)

**Poll**

- Option A 11
- Option B
- Option C
- Option D
- Option E

**Polls/Commenters from**

- RI 9
- Other 2 (ME)

11 people (including RISAA, BHA, ASGA) support status quo Option A: no transfers permitted for the following reasons:

- Increasing fishing mortality is contradictory to rebuilding striped bass, and we don't want to derail the rebuilding effort.
- If fishing mortality increases, the probability of rebuilding by 2029 will decrease and the rebuilding timeline will extend.
- The rebuilding plan is already on a razor's edge with a thin margin of error, and any increase in mortality is risky.
- The stock is still overfished, so now is not the time to maximize harvest.
- Recovering striped bass and protecting the fishery long-term is most important.
- The options that intend to provide guardrails would still increase fishing mortality.
- The Addendum VI assumption of underutilization must remain valid, and transfers would violate that assumption.
- If, through transfers, one state can harvest way more striped bass than other states, that might impact the striped bass in that area; for example, if quota ends up in a state where striped bass have not been heavily harvested in the past, there could be bigger consequences than intended.

- If the Board wants to address broader issues with the commercial quotas, the Board should reassess the allocations first.

Other comments included:

- The figure showing the percent quota utilization is misleading since it does not show the percent of quota that was re-allocated to the recreational sector (NJ quota), which is about 9% of the quota. The figure should more clearly show how much quota is re-allocated to the recreational sector and how much quota is in states that don't have commercial fisheries.

**Rhode Island Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**  
December 14, 2022  
Webinar

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>State</b>
Bertoline	Sue	New York
Blanchard	Kurt	Rhode Island
Calagione	Sam	Rhode Island
Cloutier	Germain	Maine
Finnegan	Owen	Connecticut
Friedrich	Tony	Maryland
Halavik	Byron	Rhode Island
Hittinger	Rich	Rhode Island
Jenkins	Peter	Rhode Island
Kalil	Chris	Rhode Island
Lengyel Costa	Nicole	Rhode Island
McManus	Conor	Rhode Island
McNamee	Jason	Rhode Island
Newman	Thomas	North Carolina
Poston	Will	Maryland
Spicer	Ken	Rhode Island
Tiska	Carl	Rhode Island
Vespe	Greg	Rhode Island
Whalley	Ben	Maine
Woods	Michael	Rhode Island

*ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, Tracey Bauer, Toni Kerns, Madeline Musante*

**New York Public Hearing**  
**Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**  
December 7, 2022 – Kings Park, NY

Public Attendees: 21  
Hearing Officers: Jim Gilmore (NYDEC)  
ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke

21 attendees participated in a show of hands/or provided comments, including comments on behalf of the New York Coalition on Recreational Fishing (NYCRF) and American Saltwater Guides Association (ASGA)

**Show of Hands**

Option A     21  
Option B  
Option C  
Option D  
Option E

**Attendees from**

NY             21

21 people (including NYCRF and ASGA) support status quo Option A: no transfers permitted for the following reasons:

- Allowing transfers would increase removals and jeopardize the 2029 rebuilding plan.
- Increasing harvest is not acceptable while in a rebuilding period; harvest should not be maximized at this time.
- Rebuilding success hinges on maintaining a low fishing mortality rate, and intentionally increasing commercial harvest goes against that.
- The rebuilding plan already has a small margin of error.
- Allowing transfers would add risk and uncertainty to the rebuilding plan, especially considering recent low recruitment.
- The stock is still overfished and this action is being considered at the wrong time; it is contrary to any progress being made following Amendment 7.
- Amendment 7 public comments were overwhelmingly in support of conservative management.
- Commercial reductions for Addendum IV and Addendum VI were taken off the commercial quota, not off harvest levels, and Addendum VI assumed the same level of quota underutilization.
- The Board has rejected quota transfers twice in the past.



- The original issue was quota for just one state (Delaware); now this addendum is much broader and could lead to harvesting all unused quota and unintended consequences.
- The safeguards presented in the alternative options are not adequate. For example, the conservation tax should apply to every transfer to address the size discrepancy, not just those that happen when the stock is overfished. And in addition to no transfers when the stock is overfished, no transfers should be permitted when overfishing is occurring.
- Two commenters noted that if Option A is off the table, Option E (Board discretion with no transfers when overfished) would be the 'least bad' second choice.

Other comments included:

- The use of conservation equivalency should be stopped.

Atlantic Striped Bass Draft Addendum I for Public Comment

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

December 7, 2022

Kings Park, NY

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Company/Organization</u>	<u>City, State</u>
Ross Squire	NYCRF	Centerport, NY
Paul Dixon	ASGA	East Hampton NY
CHARLOS WITUR		W. Babylon, NY
Craig Casatello	VANSTAAL	Cutchogue, NY
MORR SEBOTT		SAG HARBOR, NY
Matt Brackbill	The Fisherman Mag	Medford, NY
Jim Levison	ASGA	SAG Harbor NY
Dominic DeFlumeri	DBS Surfcasting	Massapequa Park, NY
Joseph Aiello		HURTINGTON NY
Dylan Jewell	All Island Surfcasters	Shirley N.Y.
APT Boyd	ALL ISLAND SURFCASTERS	SAYVILLE NY
STEVE Withuhn	For-Hire/Comm.	ELWOOD NY
Luyen Chou	Rec angler	East Hampton, NY
Susan Bertolin	ASGA	Floral Park, NY
Tom m'cheluey		Floral Park, NY
Kerry Heffernan	chef/Rec Angler	New York NY
Mike Dean	Manhattan to Montauk	East Quogue, NY
Adam Cooperstock	Rec angler	Merrick, NY
John Seifert	Rec. Flyfishing	Smithtown NY
DAVE FLANAGAN	FORNPE	ST JAMES, NY
Vinny Catalano	for hire	Centerport, NY

**New Jersey Public Hearing**  
**Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**  
December 20, 2022 – Webinar

Public Attendees: 34

Hearing Officers: Joe Cimino (NJDEP)

ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, Tina Berger

25 attendees participated in live polling and/or provided comments, including comments on behalf of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA).

**Poll**

Option A	23
Option B	1
Option C	
Option D	
Option E	1

**Polls/Commenters from**

NJ	16
Other	9 (ME, NH, MA, NY)

23 people (including JCAA) support status quo Option A: no transfers permitted for the following reasons:

- The stock is still overfished and transfers would go against rebuilding the stock.
- Rebuilding depends on maintaining a low fishing mortality rate, and transfers would increase commercial landings while trying to rebuild the stock.
- Transfers have not been supported by the Board in the past.
- The focus should be rebuilding the stock as quickly as possible.
- Management should strive for a higher than 78% probability of rebuilding the stock, and transfers would decrease that probability.

1 person supports Option B: transfers permitted with overfished conservation tax.

- No verbal comment provided.

1 person supports Option E: Board discretion on transfers except no transfers if overfished.

- No verbal comment provided.

Other comments included:

- Conservation equivalency should be eliminated; continuing CE seems like an intentional loophole in Amendment 7 despite overwhelming public opposition to CE.
- Fishery has been sporadic and is not doing well coastwide.
- Make striped bass a gamefish.
- The New Jersey bonus program collects important striped bass data that should be used.

**New Jersey Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**  
December 20, 2022  
Webinar

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>State</b>
Araujo	Jovaun	Massachusetts
Archer	Colin	New Jersey
Barbato	Carmine	New Jersey
Bertoline	Sue	New York
Bogan	Raymond	New Jersey
Brust	Jeffrey	New Jersey
Camarata	Joe J.	New Jersey
Cantelmo	Craig	New York
Carr	Michael	New Jersey
Catalano	Vincent	New York
Celestino	Michael	New Jersey
Cimino	Joe	New Jersey
Cloutier	Germain	Maine
Corbett	Heather	New Jersey
Cudnik	Greg	New Jersey
Cummings	Derek	New Hampshire
DePersenaire	John	New Jersey
Emerson	Clay	New Jersey
Friedman	Justin	New York
Friedrich	Tony	Maryland
Gary	Martin	Virginia
Haasz	Steve	New Jersey
Haertel	Paul	New Jersey
Harrison	Brendan	New Jersey
Harrison	Brendan	New Jersey
Kameen	Paul	Pennsylvania
Koch	Greg	New Jersey
Kosinski	Thomas	New Jersey
Lynch	David	Massachusetts
ONeill	Tyler	Delaware
Papciak	John	New York
Petersen	Daniel	Massachusetts
Poston	Will	Maryland
Rubner	Cody	Massachusetts
Taylor	Doug	New Jersey
Walsifer	Peter	New Jersey

Last Name	First Name	State
Whalley	Ben	Maine
Williams	Capt Brian	New Jersey
Woods	Michael	Rhode Island
Zorzi	Ken	New Jersey

*ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, Tina Berger*

**Delaware Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**

December 15, 2022 – Hybrid: Webinar and Dover, DE

Public Attendees: 18

Hearing Officers: John Clark (DENREC)

ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, Madeline Musante, Toni Kerns

16 attendees provided comments, including comments on behalf of the American Saltwater Guides Association (ASGA)

**Comments**

Option A 2  
Option B 12  
Option C  
Option D 2  
Option E

**Commenters from**

DE 16

2 people (including ASGA) support status quo Option A: no transfers permitted for the following reasons:

- The stock is in a rebuilding period and allowing transfers would increase harvest at the wrong time.
- The recreational slot has saved fish from the recreational sector and is contributing to the increase in spawning stock biomass; these fish were saved in order to rebuild by 2029, not to be killed before they can spawn.
- There should be no additional take as the stock rebuilds, especially take of larger striped bass.

12 people support Option B: transfers permitted with overfished conservation tax.

- All those in support of Option B are commercial fishermen.
- Support for allowing transfers as Delaware has been seeking more quota for some time.
- Option B is the only option that benefits Delaware in the near-term.

2 people support Option D: Board discretion on transfers with overfished conservation tax.

- Some oversight would be a good thing.
- However, oversight should not be excessive; for example, would not be supportive of the criteria that would not allow a state request a transfer until 90% of its quota is harvested.

**Delaware Public Hearing**  
**Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**  
December 15, 2022  
Hybrid: Webinar and Dover, DE

In-Person Attendees: enclosed sign-in sheet

Webinar Attendees:

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>State</b>
Friedrich	Tony	Maryland
Logan	Kenneth	Delaware
Pangman	Kelsey	Delaware
Parrott	Eric	Delaware
Poston	Will	Maryland
Satterfield	Paul	Delaware
Stangl	Michael	Delaware
Townsend	Wes	Delaware

*ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, Toni Kerns, Madeline Musante*





**Maryland-Virginia-Potomac River Fisheries Commission-District of Columbia**  
**Public Hearing**  
**Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**  
January 5, 2023 – Webinar

Public Attendees: 29

Hearing Officers: Mike Luisi (MDDNR), Pat Geer (VMRC), Marty Gary (PRFC), Danny Ryan (DCDOE)

ASMFC Staff: Toni Kerns, Caitlin Starks, Madeline Musante

20 attendees participated in live polling and/or provided comments, including comments on behalf of the Annapolis Anglers Club (AAC) and Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF)

**Poll**

Option A	15
Option B	
Option C	1
Option D	
Option E	4

**Polls/Commenters from**

MD	6
VA	4
Other	10 (ME, MA, NY, NJ, FL)

15 people (including AAC, CBF) support status quo Option A: no transfers permitted for the following reasons:

- The stock is still overfished and recruitment has been low for the past few years.
- Any transfer would likely be large fish that are important to the spawning stock biomass.
- There is only a 78% chance of meeting the rebuilding deadline, so it seems inappropriate to change limits and still be able to meet the rebuilding deadline.
- Prefer changing allocations instead of allowing transfers.
- Stock productivity is already uncertain due to climate change, low recruitment, etc.

1 person supports Option C: transfers permitted except no transfers if overfished.

- No verbal comment provided.

4 people support Option E: Board discretion on transfers except no transfers if overfished.

- No verbal comment provided.

Maryland-Virginia-Potomac River Fisheries Commission-District of Columbia

Public Hearing

Striped Bass Draft Addendum I

January 5, 2023

Webinar

Last Name	First Name	State
Batsavage	Chris	North Carolina
Catalano	Vincent	New York
Cloutier	Germain	Maine
Deem	Jeff	Virginia
Friedrich	Tony	Maryland
Gary	Martin	Virginia
Geer	Pat	Virginia
Gillingham	Lewis	Virginia
Haile	Kayla	Maryland
Hogan	Sean	New York
Holtz	Jacob	Maryland
Hornick	Harry	Maryland
Humphrey	Bob	Maine
Kelly	Brian	Massachusetts
Koller	Stan	Virginia
LeMense	Julia	New York
Luisi	Michael	Maryland
Lynch	David	Massachusetts
Madsen	Shanna	Virginia
McCrickard	Alex	Virginia
McGilly	Joshua	Virginia
McMenamin	Kevin	Maryland
Miller	Roy	Delaware
Moore	Chris	Virginia
Musick	Susanna	Virginia
Newberry	Capt. Robert	Maryland
Nolan	Dave	Virginia
Owens	Ronald	Virginia
Poston	Will	Maryland
Pride	Bob	Virginia
Roach	Matthew	Maryland
Rubner	Cody	Florida
Ryan	Daniel	Maryland
Shoultz	Matthew	Maryland
Sikorski	David	Maryland

Last Name	First Name	State
Stoehr	Joel	New York
Whalley	Ben	Maine
Williams	Brian	New Jersey
Williams	Al	Massachusetts
Woodruff	Frederick	Maine
Woods	Michael	Rhode Island
Yarworth	Rudolph	Maryland
Zlokovitz	Erik	Maryland

*ASMFC Staff: Toni Kerns, Caitlin Starks, Madeline Musante*

**North Carolina Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
December 8, 2022 – Webinar**

Public Attendees: 11

Hearing Officers: Chris Batsavage (NCDENR)

ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, James Boyle

7 attendees participated in live polling and/or provided comments including the American Saltwater Guides Association (ASGA)

**Poll**

Option A 6  
Option B 1  
Option C  
Option D  
Option E

**Polls/Commenters from**

NC 2  
Other 5 (ME, CT, MD)

6 people (including ASGA) support status quo Option A: no transfers permitted for the following reasons:

- Allowing transfers would increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.
- We should be doing everything possible to rebuild the stock to hopefully support striped bass eventually returning to NC at the southern end of the stock.
- The rebuilding plan is on a razor's edge and there are concerns about 2020 data.
- Increasing quota utilization would decrease the buffer between commercial landings and the full quota, which would reduce the margin for error in rebuilding the stock.
- Striped bass are managed differently along the coast so there are risks with transfers.
- This issue has grown from just focusing on Delaware to the entire coast.
- The fishery is mostly catch and release and should be managed as such.

1 person supports Option B: transfers permitted with overfished conservation tax for the following reasons:

- The commercial sector has relatively low harvest and discards.
- Striped bass is a profitable fish but North Carolina has not had them for ten years, so other states should be able to use the quota.
- The commercial fishery is accountable with a payback mechanism in place so it will not cause overfishing.
- The reason overfishing is occurring is recreational discards.

**North Carolina Public Hearing  
Striped Bass Draft Addendum I**

December 8, 2022

Webinar

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>State</b>
Batsavage	Chris	North Carolina
Bryand	Michael	Maine
Cloutier	Germain	Maine
Friedrich	Tony	Maryland
Fuda	Tom	Connecticut
Lowman	Brooke	North Carolina
McGilly	Joshua	Virginia
Meyers	S	Virginia
Mulvey-McFerron	Owen	North Carolina
Newman	Thomas	North Carolina
Poston	Will	Maryland
Roller	Tom	North Carolina
Whalley	Ben	Maine
Williams	Scott	North Carolina

*ASMFC Staff: Emilie Franke, James Boyle, Madeline Musante*



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

1050 N. Highland Street • Suite 200A-N • Arlington, VA 22201  
703.842.0740 • 703.842.0741 (fax) • [www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org)

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board

**FROM:** Emilie Franke, FMP Coordinator

**DATE:** January 17, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Public Comment Summary for Draft Addendum I: Ocean Commercial Quota Transfers

The following is an overview of all comments received by ASMFC on Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 of the Atlantic Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan as of January 13, 2023 (closing deadline) regarding ocean commercial quota transfers.

A total of 1,979 written comments were received on Draft Addendum I from individual comments, organizations, and form letters. A total of 30 organizations submitted written comments. A total of 1,190 comments were received through six form letters<sup>1</sup>. The remainder of comments (759) came from individual comments including from private anglers, charter captains, commercial fishermen, and concerned citizens.

Eight public hearings were held for twelve jurisdictions from December 7, 2022 through January 9, 2023. Five hearings were conducted via webinar only: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Maryland-Virginia-Potomac River Fisheries Commission-District of Columbia, North Carolina. Two hearings were conducted in a hybrid format with attendees participating via webinar and in-person: Delaware, Maine-New Hampshire. One public hearing was conducted in-person only: New York. Live polls or a show-of-hands vote were used at most hearings for the proposed options.

193 individuals (not including state staff, ASMFC staff, or Commissioners/Proxies) attended the hearings, and some of these individuals attended/participated in polls at multiple hearings.

The following pages include tables summarizing how many comments were received and how many comments were in support of each option proposed in Draft Addendum I. There is also a list of other topics commonly raised in the comments. The summary tables are followed by the letters and emails sent by organizations, form letters with total submissions count, and individual comment letters and emails. The public hearing summaries and attendee lists are provided as a separate attachment included in the 2023 Winter Striped Bass Board main meeting materials.

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<sup>1</sup> Form letters (3 or more of the same comment) include comments stating support for an organization's comments; however, if the commenter provided additional comments/rationale related to management beyond the organization's or letter's comments, then it was considered an individual comment.

**Table 1. Total Comments Received and Hearing Attendees**

Number of written comments received by individuals, organizations, and form letters, and number of people who attended and participated in the polls/provided comments at each public hearing.

<b>Written Public Comments Received</b>		
Individual Comments		759
Form Letters		1,190 <sup>^</sup>
Organizations		30
<i>TOTAL</i>		1,979
<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b># Public Attendees*</b>	<b># Poll Participants/ Commenters**</b>
Maine-New Hampshire	61	49
Massachusetts	48	37
Rhode Island	16	11
New York	21	21
New Jersey	34	25
Delaware	18	16
Maryland-Virginia-PRFC-DC	29	20
North Carolina	11	7
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>238*</i>	<i>186**</i>

<sup>^</sup> 6 different form letters received.

\*Some people attended multiple hearings. **193 unique public attendees** attended the public hearings. Public attendees do not include state staff, ASMFC staff, or Commissioners/Proxies.

\*\* Some individuals and organizations participated in polls at multiple hearings and/or provided verbal comments at multiple hearings.



**Table 2. Number of Comments in Support of Each Option**

Number of written and public hearing comments in support of each option.  
 For each public hearing, the table notes where poll participants/commenters were from:  
 in-state or from a different state.

	<b>Option A. No transfers</b>	<b>Option B. Transfers allowed, with overfished tax</b>	<b>Option C. Transfers allowed, except no transfers when overfished</b>	<b>Option D. Board discretion transfers, with overfished tax</b>	<b>Option E. Board discretion transfers, except no transfers when overfished</b>	<b>Comments Unrelated to Options</b>	
Individual	731	9	0	0	1	18	
Form Letter	1,190						
Organization	29				1		
<b>Written Total</b>	<b>1,950</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	
Hearings						<i>In-State</i>	<i>Out-State</i>
Maine-New Hampshire	48		1			43	6
Massachusetts	29	2	2	1	3	28	9
Rhode Island	11					9	2
New York	21					21	
New Jersey	23	1			1	16	9
Delaware	2	12		2		16	
MD-VA-PRFC-DC	15		1		4	10	10
North Carolina	6	1				2	5
<b>Hearing Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>		

The vast majority of commenters favored the status quo Option A (no transfers permitted). The most common rationale was concern about expanding harvest and increasing fishing mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding, still overfished, and experiencing poor recruitment. Commenters noted that management shouldn't focus on maximizing harvest; it should focus rebuilding the stock. Comments noted that allowing quota transfers would jeopardize stock rebuilding.

Several comments supporting Option A referred to the Board's past decisions to not allow quota transfers, as well as the potential for transfers to violate the Addendum VI reduction assumptions. Some comments noted that allowing transfers would be in conflict with stakeholder input supporting conservation during the Amendment 7 process. Some comments noted if states are not harvesting their full quotas, that indicates the stock is not doing well and extra quota should not be transferred/harvested by another state.

Of the alternative Options B, C, D or E, Option B (transfers permitted with overfished tax) had the most support. Many commenters in support of Option B noted they are commercial fishermen. Commenters noted that quota transfers allow for the efficient use of commercial quota. They noted the small impact of striped bass quota transfers on the overall fishery, noting the commercial fishery is small relative to the recreational fishery. Commenters also noted the commercial fishery has accountability measures in place with payback for any overages. Comments also noted that transfers would help avoid regulatory discards in states that fill their quota, and noted the benefits of quota transfers used for other species.

Those in favor of Option D (Board discretion with overfished tax) noted that some Board discretion on transfers would be beneficial, but cautioned against too much oversight and overly restrictive transfer criteria. Those in favor of Option E (Board discretion except no transfers when overfished) noted that Option E would provide maximum oversight by the Board and would support caution during rebuilding, while still benefitting states seeking transfers after filling their quota early in the season.

### ***Additional Topics Raised in Comments***

Commenters raised additional topics, including:

- Concern that commercial fisheries are removing large breeders and the importance of protecting large spawning females.
- Concern about ongoing conservation equivalency programs (CE) and support for ending current CE programs.
- The commercial sector should have the same regulations (e.g., size limits) as the recreational sector.
- Concern about the potential for a future moratorium if the stock does not recover.
- Support for ending commercial harvest and making striped bass a gamefish (recreational only).
- Concern about menhaden harvest in the Chesapeake Bay.
- Concern about impacts from commercial gill nets.

**Written Comments were submitted by the following groups and organizations:**

American Saltwater Guides Association

American Sportfishing Association

Annapolis Anglers Club

Backcountry Hunters and Anglers:

    New England Chapter

    New York Chapter

Berkeley Striper Club (NJ)

Cape Atlantic Striper Club (NJ)

Cape Cod Salties Sportfishing Club

Center for Sportfishing Policy

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Coastal Conservation Association, National

Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Fish Hawks Saltwater Anglers Club (NJ)

Fun Under Boats Dive Club (NJ)

Hartford Surf Fishing Club (CT)

Hi-Mar Striper Club (NJ)

Jersey Coast Anglers Association

Maine Association of Charterboat Captains

Native Fish Coalition:

    Connecticut Chapter

    Maine Chapter

    Massachusetts Chapter

    New Hampshire Chapter

    New York Chapter

New Jersey Council of Diving and Clubs

New York Coalition for Recreational Fishing

North Fork Anglers Fishing Club (NY)

Plum Island Surfcasters (MA)

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Virginia Anglers Club

Virginia Saltwater Sportfishing Association

*Note: The following organizations provided comments at the public hearings only and are included in the public hearing comment count:*

*Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association*

*Stripers Forever*

**Written Comments were submitted via the following form letters:**

American Sportfishing Association (1,054)

Coastal Conservation Association (44)

Form Letters from unknown sources:

    Form Letter 1 (49) *[recreational anglers]*

    Form Letter 2 (37)

    Form Letter 3 (3)

    Form Letter 4 (3)

## Emilie Franke

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**From:** kevin@annapolisanglersclub.com  
**Sent:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:56 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Cc:** Kevin  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I

**Categories:** Auto Replied

Dear Ms. Franke,

On behalf of over 700 Members of the Annapolis Anglers Club, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission regarding Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan. We oppose allowing commercial quota transfers and urge the Board to support Option A (status quo).

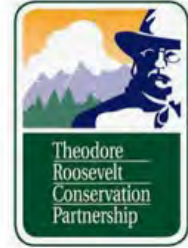
The Atlantic Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan (FMP) has never allowed commercial quota transfers between jurisdictions. As the addendum highlights, the Board previously considered allowing commercial quota transfers in Amendment 5 (1995) and Amendment 6 (2014). However, the Technical Committee raised concerns that commercial quota transfers had the potential to increase removals at a time when the resource needed further conservation to achieve FMP goals and population rebuilding.

The 2022 Atlantic Striped Bass Stock Assessment update concluded the population is still overfished, but not experiencing overfishing with a relatively good probability of achieving rebuilding if fishing mortality is maintained at its current level. The rebuilding projections operate under the assumption that commercial quota utilization will remain unchanged, and the allowance of quota transfers would violate that assumption jeopardizing rebuilding probability. Although the Technical Committee was not tasked to formally comment on this proposed action, their previous concerns still stand considering the resource is overfished and maintaining fishing mortality at current levels is paramount to achieving the FMP's 2029 rebuilding deadline.

We encourage the SBMB to manage the Striped Bass Fishery with a bias towards recovery and sustainment of the Striped Bass Spawning Mass and reverse course from a past bias of achieving maximum yield.

Sincerely,

Kevin Mcmenamin  
President: Annapolis Anglers Club  
745 Rolling View Drive  
Annapolis, MD 21409  
(410) 340-5030 Mobile  
kevin@annapolisanglersclub.com



January 13, 2023

Emilie Franke  
ASMFC Fishery Management Plan Coordinator  
1050 North Highland Street, Suite 200A-N  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Ms. Franke,

On behalf of America's 7.5 million striped bass anglers and the sportfishing industry, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission regarding Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan. We oppose allowing commercial quota transfers and urge the Board to support Option A (status quo).

The Atlantic Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan (FMP) has never allowed commercial quota transfers between jurisdictions. As the addendum highlights, the Board previously considered allowing commercial quota transfers in Amendment 5 (1995) and Amendment 6 (2014). However, the Technical Committee raised concerns that commercial quota transfers had the potential to increase removals at a time when the resource needed further conservation to achieve FMP goals and population rebuilding.

The 2022 Atlantic Striped Bass Stock Assessment update concluded the population is still overfished, but not experiencing overfishing with a relatively high probability of achieving rebuilding if fishing mortality is maintained at its current level. The rebuilding projections operate under the assumption that commercial quota utilization will remain unchanged, and the allowance of quota transfers would violate that assumption, jeopardizing rebuilding confidence. Although the Technical Committee was not tasked to formally comment on this proposed action, their previous concerns still stand considering the resource is overfished and maintaining fishing mortality at current levels is paramount to achieving the FMP's 2029 rebuilding deadline.

We realize that to ensure the health and abundance of Atlantic striped bass in the future, immediate and difficult management decisions must be made. The long-term health of the striped bass population is our top priority, and the recreational fishing community has made many sacrifices to ensure successful rebuilding. Therefore, we do not support allowing commercial quota transfers at this time because that will increase commercial removals and jeopardize rebuilding this valuable iconic public resource.

Sincerely,

Michael Waine  
Atlantic Fisheries Policy Director  
American Sportfishing Association

Chris Horton  
Senior Director of Fisheries Policy  
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Jeff Angers  
President  
Center for Sportfishing Policy

John Gans  
Northeast Field Representative  
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Ted Venker  
Conservation Director  
Coastal Conservation Association



January 12, 2023

Emilie Franke  
FMP Coordinator  
1050 N. Highland Street  
Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

**RE: Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass**

Dear Ms. Franke,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Draft Addendum I on commercial quota transfers for striped bass. The American Saltwater Guides Association (ASGA) represents conservation-minded fishing guides, private anglers, and fishing-related businesses that value abundant and sustainably managed fisheries. The health of the striped bass stock is critical to our members' businesses, as striped bass are the lynchpin-fishery in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. While we generally try and focus on issues relating to the recreational sector, we strongly oppose Draft Addendum I, to allow commercial quota transfers, at this time, based on historic precedence, threats to rebuilding, and the associated uncertainties. Therefore, ASGA supports Option A: Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Commercial quota transfers are not a new idea at the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) or in the striped bass management plan, for that matter. Draft Addendum I identifies two such examples when quota transfers were considered in the striped bass fishery—Amendment 5 (1995) and Draft Addendum IV to Amendment 6 (2018). Those actions were rejected by the Striped Bass Board “to focus efforts on rebuilding the stock” and over “concerns that transfers had the potential to increase harvest at a time when harvest reductions were needed,” respectively. Both of those precedents for rejecting commercial quota transfers hold true today, as the stock remains overfished, in a rebuilding plan, and must maintain a low fishing mortality rate for the near future.

Successfully rebuilding this stock by 2029 is our number one priority, and we contend that allowing voluntary commercial transfers would jeopardize that outcome. The primary concern is that increasing commercial quota utilization, which historically has gone underutilized by more than 25%, will increase fishing mortality at a time when maintaining low fishing mortality levels is paramount for rebuilding. In addition, allowing commercial transfers would violate assumptions made during the Addendum VI reductions. Furthermore, the Addendum VI reductions were not realized by the commercial sector in the Chesapeake nor in the ocean; the reduction was taken from the quota, not the harvest. Since the commercial sector does not maximize quota in a normal year, the required reductions across the sectors were not equitable. As an example, the 2018 commercial ocean harvest, before the 2019 Addendum VI reductions, is almost identical to the 2021 harvest. The recreational community, while accounting for the

majority of removals, is doing its part to recover striped bass by achieving required reductions. The commercial community is not meeting these reductions. ASGA chose to not make this an issue in previous management actions, but we can no longer ignore these shortcomings in management with the potential implications of Draft Addendum I.

Allowing commercial quota transfers would inject additional uncertainties into striped bass management. Another substantial concern of ours is the fact that transferring x pounds of quota from one state to another is not necessarily an equal pound-pound transaction due to the patchwork of commercial regulations comprising the coastwide management unit.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, a potential transfer could have an unintended effect on a specific segment of the striped bass population—again, this concern is heightened by the fact that the stock is in a rebuilding plan.

Had this action been a one-off transfer of quota from North Carolina to Delaware, we most likely would have supported it. However, we cannot support Draft Addendum I based on the above reasons. Additionally, we do not wish to see the striped bass stock subject to the “horse-trading” that we can’t help but suspect would become a possibility should voluntary commercial quota transfers be allowed. ASGA strongly supports Option A, no commercial transfers. Thank you for your consideration of this comment and please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Friedrich", is centered on the page.

Tony Friedrich  
Vice President and Policy Director  
American Saltwater Guides Association  
[Tony@saltwaterguidesassociation.org](mailto:Tony@saltwaterguidesassociation.org)

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<sup>1</sup> ASMFC. November 1. PDT Updates to Draft Addendum I on Quota Transfers for Board Review.  
<http://www.asmfc.org/files/Meetings/2022AnnualMeeting/AtlantStripedBassBoardSupplemental.pdf>



## **Berkeley Striper Club**

PO Box 9  
Seaside Park, NJ, 08752

Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Ms. Franke,

Thank you for considering this public comment about **Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan** offered on behalf of the more than 100 members of the Berkeley Striper Club.

The Berkeley Striper Club supports **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted** in Draft Amendment I to Amendment 7.

The spirit and mandate of Amendment 7 reflects the overwhelming public preference to rebuild the Atlantic Striped Bass stock as quickly as possible and not later than 2029. We believe that consideration of this Addendum at a time when Striped Bass Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) is below target and experiencing historically low recruitment reflects bad faith by members of the commission to allow increased harvesting of Atlantic Striped Bass in the service of limited special interests. We expect options that allow quota transfers will increase the withdrawals and impair rebuilding.

Established in 1966, the Berkeley Striper Club is one of the largest and most active surf-fishing clubs in New Jersey and we take the preservation of Striped Bass stocks seriously. While our home waters are primarily around Seaside Park, New Jersey, our members fish for Striped Bass as far north as Maine and as far south as North Carolina and as far west as Santa Cruz, Ca. The Berkeley Striper Club seeks to promote and protect recreational fishing interests, while safeguarding our natural resources. Our club cares deeply about the health of the Atlantic Striped Bass and we invest our time and resources to protect them.

Our public position on this question is consistent with the positions we took in the past. Our club supported more forceful measures to reduce striped bass mortality and increase female Striped Bass Spawning Stock biomass in 2013 and 2019. We were disappointed that the Commissions adopted solutions that only had a 50% chance of success. We were not surprised to learn that Atlantic Striped Bass were overfished since 2013 and the half measures put in place did not succeed.

In April 2022, our club again responded to a request for public input to Draft Amendment 7 of the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fisheries Management Plan reflecting our continuing support for conservation, our preference for abundant stocks, and a level of dissatisfaction with actions over the last decade that allowed healthy stock fall to its the present over-fished state. Our preference was for options that compel the Commission to act quickly and forcefully. We preferred enforceable measures that carry a high level of certainty (certainty substantially better than coin-flip) to restore the Atlantic Striped Bass to good health in the shortest period of time. We oppose options that allow the Board discretion for inaction when the science indicates that action is

required.

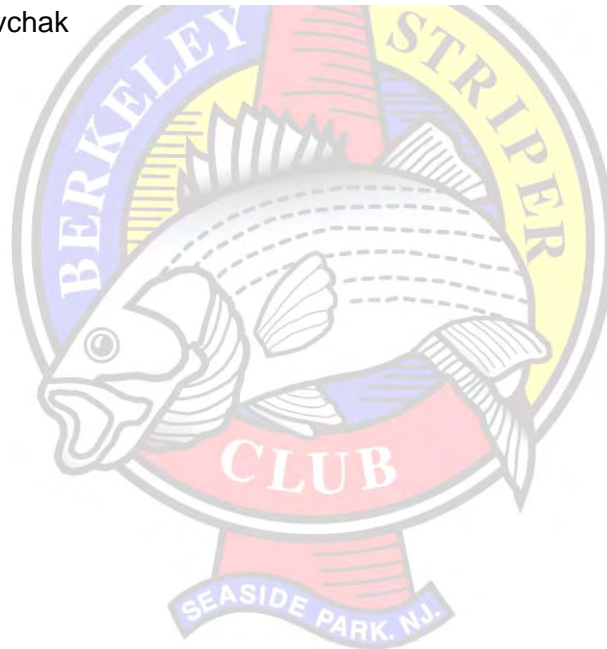
Our club was briefly encouraged by the commission's action on Amendment 7. We now encourage the members of the commission, especially those from the State of New Jersey and even the commissioner who is member of the Berkeley Striper Club, to keep faith with the public and fulfill their mandate to act as stewards for the official state saltwater fish. Reject measures that will weaken Amendment 7 and support efforts to return the Atlantic Striped Bass stock to robust health as quickly as possible.

Thank you again for your kind consideration.

Very Respectfully,

John Kravchak

President  
Berkeley Striper Club





# BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS AND ANGLERS

## NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

## NEW YORK CHAPTER

January 12, 2023

Via Email: [comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org)

Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201  
Attn: Emilie Franke  
Fishery Management Plan Coordinator

Re: New England BHA Comments on Draft Addendum 1 to Striped Bass Amendment 7

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (BHA) seeks to ensure North America's outdoor heritage of hunting and fishing in a natural setting. As a component of this mission, BHA supports management policies that ensure abundant populations inhabit our public lands and waters and are accessible to the hunters and anglers who choose to pursue them.

During the development of Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan the New England and New York Chapter Leadership Boards of BHA advocated with two principles in mind – to recover the Striped Bass fishery as soon as reasonably possible, and to implement policies that ensure target levels are maintained long-term after recovery. Because little time has elapsed since the adoption of Amendment 7 and the state of the fishery has changed minimally, although our understanding of today's fishery has been enhanced by the acceptance of the November 2022 Stock Assessment, we still consider these principles our top priorities.

While we understand, to a degree, the desire by some managers to utilize the totality of the ocean region's commercial quota and/or increase their proportional share we are concerned both with the timing of the proposal before us now, as well as the long-term likelihood of proposed changes to protect the fishery. As a result, **we urge the Striped Bass Board to select Option A – status quo** and will detail our concerns further below.

### **Near-Term Transfer Options (B & D)**

According to the November 2022 Stock Assessment the Striped Bass fishery remains overfished, with the current female SSB approximately 24% below the threshold and 39% below the target set in Amendment 7. By including conservation-minded options in Amendment 7 in May 2022 the Striped Bass Board seemed committed to recovering the fishery's abundance to target SSB by 2029 – and this was urged overwhelmingly and celebrated by the interested public.

The 2022 Stock Assessment Update Report also outlines probabilities for recovery under different fishing mortality (F) scenarios (Table 10). While the odds of achieving target SSB by 2029 should current F be maintained seem positive there is no guarantee that fishing mortality levels will remain constant. One

trend is clear in Table 10, and that is that if F were to increase than the odds of successfully achieving target SSB by 2029 – a commitment the Striped Bass Board made – decrease.

Because of their inclusion as potential options in Addendum 1 it is clear that some members of the Striped Bass Board seek to claim unused commercial quota in the near term, and we are concerned that should Option B or Option D be selected a mechanism would exist to circumnavigate future public input and facilitate such utilization either by Board action or without Board approval at all. Successful efforts to secure quota transfers would undoubtedly result in increased fishing mortality, and in the near term such efforts would subsequently extend the recovery timeline and reduce the chances of achieving target SSB by 2029.

**Stock Status Restriction on Transfer Options (C & E)**

As slightly more restrictive approaches, Options C & E propose limiting the transfer of commercial quota based on stock status. Specifically, they state that “transfers would not be permitted when the stock is overfished”, or in other words when the stock’s abundance is below the SSB threshold. During times when the Board is required to rebuild the stock due to either of the SSB triggers being tripped, which is currently the case, Amendment 7 requires the stock be rebuilt to target SSB, not the relatively lower threshold SSB that designates the stock overfished.

As a result, when an overfished stock is being recovered a period necessarily exists when the stock is no longer overfished but has not yet achieved target SSB. During this period we feel that the Board’s focus should remain on the final stages of recovery rather than facilitating increased fishing mortality, so we do not feel that the additional restrictions posed in Options C & E adequately protect the fishery or facilitate recovery when doing so should be the top priority.

In conclusion, our concerns with Options B, C, D, and E make status quo the only option that we support. We respectfully urge the Striped Bass Board to prioritize recovering the fishery as soon as reasonably possible, and implement policies that ensure target levels are maintained long-term after recovery, by selecting Option A.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input, and for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Michael Woods



Chair, New England Chapter Board  
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

And the undersigned Chapter Leadership Boards:

New England Chapter Board  
(Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts,  
New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)  
[newengland@backcountryhunters.org](mailto:newengland@backcountryhunters.org)

New York Chapter Board  
[newyork@backcountryhunters.org](mailto:newyork@backcountryhunters.org)

## Emilie Franke

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**From:** Cape Atlantic Striper Club <capeatlanticstriperclubllc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:19 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Draft Addendum 1 to amendment 7

**Categories:** Auto Replied

Good evening, on Behalf of Cape Atlantic Striper Club, I would like to say we do not support any change to amendment 7. Any transfer of commercial quota, will potentially be detrimental to the goal of rebuild by 2029. With historically low spawns year after year, we must do whatever is necessary to rebuild this stock. And giving a state unused commercial quota, is the exact opposite of that.

So, we oppose addendum 1 and are in favor of Status Quo. Any questions or concerns, please feel free to respond to this email. Thank you

Dean Danenhower  
President, Cape Atlantic Striper Club

## Emilie Franke

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**From:** P. Jonathan Ungerland <pjungerland@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 3:10 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Cc:** Jack Creighton; Guido DiPietro  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I -Attention Emilie Franke

**Categories:** Auto Replied

To the respected directors and staff of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission -

The Cape Cod Salties Sportfishing Club - a committed membership of approximately 300 informed individuals on Cape Cod and in the broader New England region, concerned with sustainable enjoyment of our environment and ongoing educational engagement with community - formally submits the following in response to the ongoing hearings pertaining to the proposed Striped Bass Addendum I to ASMFC policies.

As expressed verbally by the Trustee of our Board of Directors (Jack Creighton) during the 12/19 public hearing on the topic, and pursuant to the formal vote of our membership on 12/12/22 regarding the proposed amendment, *our club opposes Striped Bass Draft Addendum I and supports "Option A" discussed during th 12/19 meeting (status quo, do not allow for transfer of commercial quota between states).*

For the benefit of the staff and directors of ASMFMC, the following are representative of *some* of the informed perspectives and concerns of our club:

- It is our club's understanding MA did not meet its assigned striped bass quota for two of the last three years, and in those two years the percentage of quota realized was in the low 50th percentile range, which would lead us to believe that there was not an "abundance" of striped bass within our waters - abundance being the stated federal objective and measure for species management.
- Further, public data combined with firsthand experiential immersion in and exposure to the species and stocks in the fishery would lead us to believe the 'young of year' fish numbers were down in Maryland and low in NY, which is demonstrably not good for mid and long term prospects of the stock.
- Further, with the midsize of 35" for striped bass in MA, every fish commercially harvested and sold translates to the loss of a breeder; which, again, our club concludes would negatively impact the fisheries long term goals for abundance and ASMFC's targeted 2029 fishery management metrics.
- Finally, while we recognize this is a tangential matter related more to the recreational perspective, we would simply point out that, due to the current slot limits within our fishery for the striped bass species, many fish kept by recreational fishermen are also breeders (thus compounding the total annual impact on the fishery). The conclusion being, any amendment to policy which contributes to commercial harvesting of additional breeders is destructive to the near and long term established metrics of the fishery.

In closing, we're supremely confident the ASMFC and its talented resources were already aware of these data points and likely share many of the perspectives we have offered. Nonetheless, we figured it might be valuable for our club to document the perspective of engaged and informed citizens, utilizers, and stewards serving and recreating in the fishery.

Respectfully,  
Jon Ungerland  
President, Cape Cod Salties Sportfishing Club  
303-916-0428



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION  
*Saving a National Treasure*

January 13, 2023

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Emilie Franke  
Fishery Management Plan Coordinator  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

RE: Comments on Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass  
Interstate Fishery Management Plan

Submitted via email only to: [comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org)

Dear Ms. Franke:

On behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), we wish to provide the following comments on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP). CBF is the largest conservation organization dedicated solely to saving the Chesapeake Bay. Our motto, *Save the Bay*, defines the organization's mission and commitment to reducing pollution, improving fisheries, and protecting and restoring natural resources such as forests, wetlands, and underwater grasses. CBF represents more than 300,000 members who support the wise management of the region's living resources with a particular focus on striped bass.

CBF recently released its *2022 State of the Bay Report* which, since its inception, has included striped bass as an indicator species used to help judge the overall health of the Chesapeake Bay. In this report, we noted that although conservation measures have reduced mortality to appropriate levels, the population is still considered depleted and Chesapeake Bay recruitment has been considered average at best.

It is likely that factors such as climate change are already affecting recruitment, habitat availability, and the range of striped bass. Like many species, striped bass populations seem to be moving northward as waters warm. ASMFC has seen ample evidence of this as North Carolina has not reported any ocean harvest since 2012 and the state recently reduced harvest in the Albemarle Sound and Roanoke River management areas. In the Chesapeake Bay, low recruitment numbers have led to ASMFC using a low recruitment scenario for management decisions moving forward. Historically, above average recruitment conditions for striped bass have coincided with cooler water conditions and ample rainfall.

The transfers contemplated by Addendum I would likely increase the harvest of large fish that are especially important to a healthy spawning stock given the low recruitment observed

BROCK ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

3663 MARLIN BAY DRIVE | VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23455 | 757-622-1964 | CBF.ORG

in recent years. ASMFC staff have noted that allowing quota transfers such as those contemplated by Addendum I could undermine the success of conservation measures included in Addendum VI.

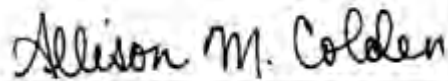
Therefore, Option A–Status Quo is the most appropriate path forward for Addendum I. The most recent stock assessment update for striped bass indicated that fishing mortality rates must remain at or below current levels in order to have a high probability of achieving rebuilding success by the 2029 deadline. Any increase in fishing mortality rates, including those that would likely result from allowing quota transfers, puts rebuilding of the striped bass stock in jeopardy. Given the status of the potential changes in the range of the stock, it would be more appropriate that ASMFC consider a reallocation process when the stock is considered rebuilt instead of moving forward with Addendum I.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments on Draft Addendum I. CBF hopes that these comments are helpful in the deliberations by the Board. We know that all stakeholders are very focused on restoring this iconic species and have seen hope in the management actions that have been taken thus far.

Sincerely,



Chris Moore  
Senior Regional Ecosystem Scientist



Allison M. Colden, Ph.D.  
Maryland Senior Fisheries Scientist

cc: Alison Prost, Vice President, Environmental Protection & Restoration, CBF  
Peggy Sanner, Virginia Executive Director, CBF  
Josh Kurtz, Maryland Executive Director, CBF



## Emilie Franke

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**From:** Marc Sherry <marcandlori@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 11, 2023 11:04 AM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Transfers Of Striped Bass

**Categories:** Auto Replied



The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) and Atlantic Coastal States from Maine to North Carolina have scheduled hearings to gather input on **Addendum I to Amendment 7** to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The Addendum considers allowing voluntary transfers of striped bass ocean commercial quota between states that have ocean quota.

Allowing the transfer of unused commercial quota from one state to another will result in many more stripers being killed at a time we are trying to rebuild the stocks.

**Therefore, the Fish Hawks Salt-Water Anglers Club which is 170 member strong, located in Lacey Township Supports Option A - (status quo), Commercial quota transfers are **NOT** permitted.**

Mickey Sherry  
Political Advocate  
Fish Hawks  
[mickeysherry@gmail.com](mailto:mickeysherry@gmail.com)

Frank L. Macalik  
525 Lakewood Road  
Neptune, New Jersey, 07753

January 4, 2023

Emilie Franke, FMP Coordinator  
1050 N. Highland St, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Striped bass management program addendum 1, amendment 7 comments:

Dear Ms. Franks,

I represent FUB (Fun Under Boats) dive club located in Monmouth County, New Jersey. We are a group of local SCUBA divers that dive New Jersey reefs, rock piles, and Inlets regularly and, we dive year-round.

I was on the 12/20 conference call and I must admit, I got the feeling there is more to this request than was discussed. Based on the data reported, striped bass stocks are overfished. In addition, as reported we only have a 79% chance of full stock recovery by the 2029 deadline. So, why are we discussing quota increases for any group? I understand New Jersey had an exceptional year for striped bass fishing. But, one good year should not relax our long-range plan to rebuild striper stocks. We think we need to maintain our original management plan. Therefore, our position is option A (status quo) let's continue to build the striped bass fishery and meet the 2029 deadline.

Sincerely yours,

*FM*

Frank Macalik  
[Frankmacalik@gmail.com](mailto:Frankmacalik@gmail.com)  
732-754-5345

## Emilie Franke

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**From:** Judith Vann <vanns@att.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 11:02 AM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Hartford Surf Fishing Club Comment - Oppose Commercial Transfer of Quota

Transfer of Commercial Striped Bass Quotas - Addendum I of Amendment VII

The Hartford Surf Fishing Club is opposed to any transfer of commercial quota and therefore recommends Option A (status quo): Commercial Transfer of Quota Not Permitted.

Despite ASMFC's latest assessment showing striped bass harvests below model target levels and projected full recovery by 2029, the increased commercial harvest this transfer would allow is inconsistent with the increased protection needed at this time. Therefore, the Hartford Surf Fishing Club opposes said allowance and again chooses Option A (status quo): Commercial Transfer of Quota Not Permitted.

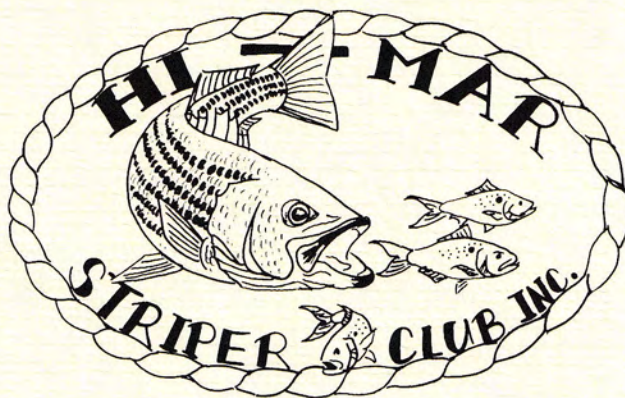
The decline in striped bass at the beginning of this century that has continued for almost two decades suggests that striped bass harvests and recruitment are very difficult to assess despite ASMFC best models and data collection efforts. The resulting current overfished population is likely to remain below fully recovered for many more years especially with low productivity being more of the norm. Furthermore, it is concerning that ASMFC allows significant commercial and recreational harvests of juvenile stripers from the Chesapeake Bay spawning population. Such low productivity would suggest that further protection of this population is necessary around these critical spawning and juvenile striper nursery habitats. Such efforts would likely show significant population gains and be beneficial to all interests up and down the Atlantic coast.

Respectfully,

Hartford Surf Fishing Club, Steve Higgins, President; Chris Vann, Conservation Chairman

sent 1/5/2023





P.O. BOX 126 • MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748

January 4, 2023

Ms. Emilie Franke  
FMP Coordinator 1050 N. Highland St. Suite 200 A-N  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
Arlington, VA 22201  
Email: [comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org)

Subject: Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan

Ms. Emilie Franke:

The Hi-Mar Striper Club of Middletown/Highlands, New Jersey is submitting the following comment to the Draft Addendum which considers allowing the voluntary transfers of Striped Bass ocean commercial quota between states that have ocean quota. The 52 members of the Hi-Mar Striper Club are opposed to allowing the transfer of unused commercial quota from one state to another. Allowing the transfer of unused commercial quota from one state to another will result in the killing of more Striped Bass and is counter-productive to the Striped Bass Management Plan which is intended to rebuild the stocks of Striped Bass.

The Hi-Mar Striper Club supports and endorses Option A (maintaining status quo) – Commercial Quota transfers are not permitted. Thank you for this opportunity to submit this comment.

Stephen M. Machalaba  
Vice-President, Hi-Mar Striper Club  
Email: [smachalaba@aol.com](mailto:smachalaba@aol.com)

cc. J. Bastos, President  
P. Brindley, Secretary  
T. Devine, Treasurer

# **Jersey Coast Anglers Association**

## **Working for Marine Recreational Anglers**

1594 Lakewood Road, Unit 13, Toms River, NJ 08755

TEL.: 732-506-6565 - FAX: 732-506-6975



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1/8/23

ASMFC Striped Bass Board,

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association is composed of approximately 75 fishing clubs throughout our state. Allowing the transfer of unused commercial quota from one state to another will result in many more stripers being killed at a time we are trying to rebuild the stocks. Though overfishing is not occurring, the stocks are overfished. Recruitment has been poor in recent years and yet while recreational fishermen have been forced to establish slot limits, commercial fishermen are allowed to harvest the larger breeders. That is counterproductive! Many of the clubs who belong to JCAA have members who are avid striper fishermen. They hold an element of distrust towards our fisheries managers and even considering transfers at a time like this has further raised their ire. Therefore, the **Jersey Coast Anglers Association supports Option A - (status quo) Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.** JCAA urges you do the right thing by rejecting any transfers.

Sincerely,

Paul Haertel

JCAA Striped Bass Committee Chairman





January 12, 2023

Emilie Franke  
FMP Coordinator  
1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

**Re: Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1**

Dear Ms. Franke and members of the Striped Bass Board:

On behalf of the members of the Maine Association of Charterboat Captains [MACC], thank you for the opportunity to comment on the ASMFC Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan.

**We're urging board members to select Option A, the status quo, not permitting transfer of ocean commercial quota.**

The 2022 Stock Assessment Update found that the stock remains overfished. While we're encouraged by the finding that overfishing is no longer occurring, now is not the time to risk the progress we're seeing by increasing the commercial harvest.

The ASMFC Draft Document For Public Comment states:

Allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum 6 in 2020. During the Addendum 6 process, the Technical Committee noted the reduction in commercial quota would achieve the necessary reduction in commercial removals only if the commercial fishery performs as it has in the past. This assumption may be violated if the transfer of commercial quota in the ocean region is permitted.

The Board did not approve the use of transfers in Amendment 5 (1995) in order to focus efforts on rebuilding the stock. During consideration of Draft Addendum IV to Amendment 6, the Technical Committee raised concerns that transfers had the potential to increase harvest at a time when harvest reductions were needed, which contributed to the Board not approving transfers under Addendum IV (2014).

Some supporters of Ocean Quota Transfers point out that striped bass are the only Commission managed fishery with state-by-state commercial quotas that does not allow for the voluntary transfer of commercial quota or quota reconciliation. There is no quota transfer permitted because the Board has twice decided that this management tool didn't fit this fishery. The importance of striped bass to recreational and for-hire anglers and associated businesses all along the East Coast make this fishery unique and it should continue to be managed on it's own merits.

Multiple members of the Striped Bass Board have acknowledged significant concerns regarding the credibility of the board over the past couple of years. We believe the Board has made tangible progress with Amendment 7 but that process is ongoing and far from complete. The Board has established a history of making the prudent decision on Ocean Quota Transfers and should do so again.

Some of Mike Armstrong's comments at the fall Board meeting provide critical context to the current state of this fishery, which should be considered in making the decision about this addendum.

- We're talking about a multi-billion dollar fishery.
- MRIP Landings were up significantly this year.
- Stocks don't collapse overnight but with 4 years of low recruitment we're close to that point.

Allowing Ocean Quota Transfers is an admitted attempt to avoid the more difficult debate regarding quota reallocation. Given the importance of this fishery, its current status, and recent recruitment trends, we can't afford to take shortcuts with striped bass. The Board has previously made responsible, appropriate decisions about Ocean Quota Transfers under both Amendment 5 and 6. We urge the Board to make the same decision as we begin to rebuild this fishery under Amendment 7.

Thank you again for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Capt. Peter Fallon

President, Maine Association of Charterboat Captains  
207-522-9900  
pfallon@mainestipers.com



**Native Fish Coalition**

NativeFishCoalition.org

CT@NativeFishCoalition.org

January 2023

Sent via electronic mail

RE: Striped Bass Addendum I

I am writing on behalf of the Connecticut Chapter of Native Fish Coalition to comment on Striped Bass Draft Addendum I.

Native Fish Coalition (NFC) is a nonpartisan, grassroots, donor-funded, all volunteer, 501(c)(3) national non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation, preservation, and restoration of wild native fish. We currently have state chapters in Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia representing members, partners, volunteers, supporters and followers.

The Connecticut Chapter of Native Fish Coalition is concerned that any potential increases in mortality will have negative impacts on the current striped bass stock rebuilding process. As such, we express our support of Option A in Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. Commercial transfers would unquestionably increase mortality, something that should be avoided during the rebuilding period. These quotas should remain unchanged as a conservation measure.

Sincerely,

Rowan Lytle, Chair, Connecticut Chapter of Native Fish Coalition

CC: NFC National Board  
NFC Connecticut Board





**Native Fish Coalition**

NativeFishCoalition.org  
MA@NativeFishCoalition.org

January 2023

Sent via electronic mail

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Subject: On Addendum I, NFC supports Option A

Dear Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Massachusetts Chapter of Native Fish Coalition to express our support for continuing to prohibit the transfer of striped bass commercial quotas, relative to Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan. NFC supports "Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted," because we believe it is inappropriate to maximize commercial striped bass harvest while the population is still deemed overfished.

Native Fish Coalition (NFC) is a nonpartisan, grassroots, donor-funded, all volunteer, 501(c)(3) national non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation, preservation, and restoration of wild native fish. We currently have state chapters in Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia representing members, partners, volunteers, supporters and followers.

While the November 2022 Striped Bass Stock Assessment showed that recent regulations have helped reduce overfishing, the stock is still vulnerable and continues to be overfished, as evidenced by the Female Spawning Stock biomass (SSB) remaining below target thresholds. Compared to recreational harvest, commercial harvest disproportionately affects these larger, spawning age fish. Now is not the time to maximize commercial harvest by allowing the transfer of commercial quotas.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has never historically permitted the transfer of commercial quotas between jurisdictions. Transfer of commercial quotas would increase the harvest of spawning age females, putting future stock recruitment at risk. The Board should continue to proceed cautiously with managing the Atlantic striped bass fishery at time when it remains overfished and vulnerable to future decline.

Sincerely,

Robert Dalton Jr., Chair, Massachusetts Chapter of Native Fish Coalition

CC: NFC National Board  
NFC Massachusetts Board



**Native Fish Coalition**

NativeFishCoalition.org

ME@NativeFishCoalition.org

January 9, 2023

Sent via electronic mail

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Subject: On Addendum I, NFC supports Option A

Dear Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Maine Chapter of Native Fish Coalition to support prohibiting the transfer of striped bass commercial quotas, relative to Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan. The Maine chapter of Native Fish Coalition supports Option A, transfers are not permitted, because maximizing commercial harvest is harmful to the population while it is overfished.

While the November 2022 Striped Bass Stock Assessment shows recent regulations helped reduce overfishing, the stock continues to be overfished, as evidenced by the Female Spawning Stock biomass (SSB) remaining below target thresholds. Compared to recreational harvest, commercial harvest disproportionately affects these larger, spawning age fish. Now is not the time to maximize commercial harvest by allowing the transfer of commercial quotas.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has never historically permitted the transfer of commercial quotas between jurisdictions. Transfer of commercial quotas would increase harvest of spawning age females, putting future stock recruitment at risk. The Board should continue to proceed cautiously with managing the Atlantic striped bass fishery at time when it remains vulnerable to future decline.

Native Fish Coalition (NFC) is a nonpartisan, non-profit organization dedicated to conservation, preservation, and restoration of wild native fish. We currently have state chapters in Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia. All our chapters are very concerned with native species recovery and advocate for science-based decisions to support natural resources restoration efforts.

Sincerely,

Tom Johnson, Chair, Maine Chapter of Native Fish Coalition

CC: NFC National Board  
NFC Maine Board



**Native Fish Coalition**

NativeFishCoalition.org

NH@NativeFishCoalition.org

1/4/2023

Sent via electronic mail

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Subject: On Addendum I, NFC supports Option A

Dear Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the New Hampshire Chapter of Native Fish Coalition to express our support for continuing to prohibit the transfer of striped bass commercial quotas, relative to Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan. NFC supports "Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted," because we believe it is inappropriate to maximize commercial striped bass harvest while the population is still deemed overfished.

Native Fish Coalition (NFC) is a nonpartisan, grassroots, donor-funded, all volunteer, 501(c)(3) national non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation, preservation, and restoration of wild native fish. We currently have state chapters in Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia representing members, partners, volunteers, supporters and followers.

While the November 2022 Striped Bass Stock Assessment showed that recent regulations have helped reduce overfishing, the stock is still vulnerable and continues to be overfished, as evidenced by the Female Spawning Stock biomass (SSB) remaining below target thresholds. Compared to recreational harvest, commercial harvest disproportionately affects these larger, spawning age fish. Now is not the time to maximize commercial harvest by allowing the transfer of commercial quotas.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has never historically permitted the transfer of commercial quotas between jurisdictions. Transfer of commercial quotas would increase the harvest of spawning age females, putting future stock recruitment at risk. The Board should continue to proceed cautiously with managing the Atlantic striped bass fishery at time when it remains overfished and vulnerable to future decline.

Sincerely,

Nick Martin, Chair, New Hampshire Chapter of Native Fish Coalition

CC: NFC National Board  
NFC New Hampshire Board



**Native Fish Coalition**

NativeFishCoalition.org

NY@NativeFishCoalition.org

January 6, 2023

Sent via electronic mail

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Subject: On Addendum I, NFC supports Option A

Dear Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the NY Chapter of Native Fish Coalition to express our support for continuing to prohibit the transfer of striped bass commercial quotas, relative to Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan. NFC supports "Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted," because we believe it is inappropriate to maximize commercial striped bass harvest while the population is still deemed overfished.

Native Fish Coalition (NFC) is a nonpartisan, grassroots, donor-funded, all volunteer, 501(c)(3) national non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation, preservation, and restoration of wild native fish. We currently have state chapters in Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia representing members, partners, volunteers, supporters and followers.

While the November 2022 Striped Bass Stock Assessment showed that recent regulations have helped reduce overfishing, the stock is still vulnerable and continues to be overfished, as evidenced by the Female Spawning Stock biomass (SSB) remaining below target thresholds. Compared to recreational harvest, commercial harvest disproportionately affects these larger, spawning age fish. Now is not the time to maximize commercial harvest by allowing the transfer of commercial quotas.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has never historically permitted the transfer of commercial quotas between jurisdictions. Transfer of commercial quotas would increase the harvest of spawning age females, putting future stock recruitment at risk. The Board should continue to proceed cautiously with managing the Atlantic striped bass fishery at time when it remains overfished and vulnerable to future decline.

Sincerely,

Scott Daskiewich, Chair, NY Chapter of Native Fish Coalition

CC: NFC National Board  
NFC NY Board



**NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF  
DIVERS AND CLUBS**  
526 S. Riverside Drive  
Neptune, NJ 07753  
www.scubanj.org

RECEIVED JAN 06 2006

**Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 To the Striped  
Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan - Comments**

12/30/22

Emilie Franke, FMP Coordinator  
1050 N. Highland St, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Ms. Franks,

The NJ Council of Divers and Clubs (NJCD&C), previously the NJ Council of Diving Clubs, is currently an organization of 14 sport diving clubs and a number of individual member divers. Although only a tiny percent of Striped Bass are taken by spear compared to hook and line or commercial fishermen, Sport divers and spearfishermen have a keen interest in the proper management and conservation of this apex sport fish.

It is my understanding that Striped Bass are under a 10-year rebuilding program that still has a number of years before the stock is considered rebuilt in the ocean region. As stated in the proposal, "Allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reduction taken under Addendum VI in 2020 (p. 11)". The NJCD&C feels it would not be prudent to allow the commercial fishery to expand its take of striped bass in nearby states by taking advantage of unused quota in those states. This would slow the rebuilding effort and defeat the goal of rebuilding the stock as quickly as possible.

Although the Addendum states that it applies only to the commercial quota in the ocean region, it would definitely impact the recreational fishery. On page 11 of the Addendum, the statement is made "when developing CE proposals to reallocate to a state recreational fishery, states can specify reallocation of all or part of commercial quota not sent to recreational fishery may be used for commercial quota transfers; any portion of the state's commercial quota that is not reallocated to the recreational fishery may be used for commercial quota transfers" In other words, for those states that reallocated to the recreational fishery (sport fish only), states are being encouraged to reallocate only a portion of the commercial quota so excess or unused quota could be grabbed back by the commercial fishery in nearby states.

Quite truthfully, I have reservations about allowing commercial vessels from another state to enter NJ waters and scoop up Striped Bass, since Striped Bass tend to swim close to the surf and jetties, and enter estuaries, bays, and rivers. The definition of the ocean area in the Addendum 1 includes these areas. Although the Addendum states the commissioner of the donor state must approve, I'm concerned some of the implications of this may not be understood. It is not appropriate for the ASMFC to try and undo a state's decision to treat Striped Bass as a sport fish only. Therefore, the NJCD&C selects Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

jf2983182@msn.com

Respectfully

Jack Fullmer

Legislative Committee Chairman

## Emilie Franke

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**From:** Rich Strzepek <basshook@optonline.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:29 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7: Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Categories:** Auto Replied

Dear Commission:

Since striped bass stock is overfished: I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

I am the Secretary of the 47 member North Fork Anglers Fishing Club and submit this comment letter on behalf of myself and all members of the Club.

Please consider this comment email as 47 votes for option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Richard E Strzepek, Secretary – North Fork Anglers Fishing Club  
Southold Town, NY

December 4, 2022



Ms. Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington VA. 22201

Dear Emile,

I am writing on behalf of the New York Coalition for Recreational Fishing (NYCRF), a non-profit organization representing over 2,000 anglers. After reviewing Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan we are concerned that the Board is considering an amendment that would result in the increased harvesting of striped bass at a time when the fishery is:

- still in a rebuilding phase
- still classified as overfished
- experiencing historically low recruitment.

According to the current management rebuilding plan, fishing mortality must remain at or below  $F=0.17$ . The NYCRF has concerns that Addendum I could jeopardize the 2029 rebuilding plan which is already operating under a small margin of error. The Draft Addendum and the ASMFC recognize this fact when it states on page 10 **“Allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum VI in 2020.”**

Addendum I is being introduced at the wrong time. The NYCRF would be open to considering such a proposal at a time when the 2029 rebuilding plan has proven successful but not now. As a result we select **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

If the Board determines that commercial quota transfers must be permitted, of the remaining options the only option that should be considered is Option E: Limited Board discretion commercial quota transfer provision based on stock status.

The public comments during consideration of Amendment 7 were overwhelming clear in recommending conservative fisheries management measures. Until the striped bass fishery is successfully rebuilt by 2029 and is not overfished, the transfer of commercial quota transfers between states should not be permitted.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ross Squire  
President, NY Coalition for Recreational Fishing



# PLUM ISLAND SURFCASTERS

*Established 1957*

Emilie Franke

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N

Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Emilie,

Please find the following comments representing the membership of the Plum Island Surfcasters (PISC), a 560 member North Shore Massachusetts fishing club, input on Amendment 7 Addendum 1. The PISC is a non-profit sportfishing club committed to developing best practices in good sportsmanship, education, techniques and conservation for future generations.

The Plum Island Surfcasters membership support **Option A: Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

This option was selected because addendum 1 adds more complications and unknowns to the management of striped bass. The complications we see relate to the differences in commercial size limits, changing status of spawning stock biomass, and unseen effects of allowing increased targeting of schooling large breeders through transfer to states when these schools are located.

Sincerely

Michael Toole

[toolem@hotmai.com](mailto:toolem@hotmai.com)

Legislation Representative

Plum Island Surfcasters

P.O. Box 1585

Newburyport, MA 01950



January 13, 2023

Emilie Franke  
ASMFC Fishery Management Plan Coordinator  
1050 North Highland Street, Suite 200A-N  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Ms. Franke,

On behalf of the members of the Virginia Anglers Club (VAC), thank you for the opportunity to provide comments to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission regarding the Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 of the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan. Many of our members are passionate striper anglers, as are the majority of the 7.5 million striped bass anglers nationwide. We, along with scores of sportfishing groups and a large percentage of the recreational fishing industry stand united in strongly opposing the plan to allow commercial quota transfers. We urge the ASMFC's Striper Board to support Option A (*status quo*).

In the past few years, there has been encouraging progress to rebuild the striper population. In fact, the 2022 Atlantic Striped Bass Stock Assessment update released last fall concluded that while the striper population remains overfished it is not experiencing overfishing. That could mean we could achieve our rebuilding goals within the estimated timeline *if* fishing mortality remains at its current level. Changes to the commercial quota, however, would jeopardize the rebuilding effort.

Moreover, the Atlantic Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan (FMP) has never allowed commercial quota transfers between jurisdictions. Expert biologists and recreational anglers are concerned that commercial quota transfers could potentially increase removals at a time when the striper population needs more conservation, not less. Now is not the time to let up on conservation efforts that are working.

Stripers are the Chesapeake's most popular sport fish, and the recreational fishing community writ large has made many sacrifices in recent years to try and stem the decline of stripers. Some might say this is a difficult management decision – our opinion, however, is that the only choice is to do what is right to ensure the health and abundance of this very popular and valuable gamefish. That is why we do not support allowing commercial quota transfers.

Respectfully,

Captain Mike Ostrander  
President  
Virginia Anglers Club

Captain Chris D. Dollar  
Conservation Director  
Virginia Anglers Club

# Virginia Saltwater Sportfishing Association, Inc (VSSA)

3419 Virginia Beach Blvd #5029

Virginia Beach, VA 23452

www.ifishva.org



Steve Atkinson  
President

David Tobey  
Vice President

John Powers  
Secretary - Treasurer

January 6, 2023

Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street,  
Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington VA. 22201

## Board of Directors

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Re: Subject: Striped Bass Draft Addendum I

The Virginia Saltwater Sportfishing Association (VSSA) opposes four of the five options contained in Draft Addendum I. Striped bass are overfished and in a rebuilding period. Maintaining Fishing Mortality at the current, or lower level, is paramount to returning striped bass to healthy levels in the timeline required.

It simply doesn't make sense to provide a mechanism that would allow any increase in the Striped Bass harvest as long as this fishery remains overfished or overfishing is occurring.

Accordingly, of the five options presented in Draft Amendment I, the only Option VSSA could support is Option E that would allow the board limited discretion on transfers of Ocean quota "*except transfers would not be permitted when the stock is overfished (i.e., below the SSB threshold).*"

Respectfully,

John Bello

Chair – Government Relations Committee

Cc: Patrick Gear - VMRC

# ASA Form Letter submitted by 1,054 individuals

**Emilie Franke**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:26 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Categories:** Auto Replied

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

## CCA Form Letter submitted by 44 individuals

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:01:40 PM

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Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

Sen from [Mail](#) for Windows

## Form Letter 1 submitted by 49 recreational anglers

**Emilie Franke**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 9:07 AM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Subject: Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Categories:** Auto Replied

Striped Bass Draft Addendum I

I am a recreational angler from the state of <INSERT STATE HERE>. I'm writing to express my preference for the options being proposed in Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. I prefer option A - status quo, no commercial transfers. Any of the other options are likely to increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

RECEIVED JAN 10

04 January 2023

Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Ms. Franke,

Thank you for considering my public comment about **Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan.**

I support **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted** in Draft Amendment I to Amendment 7.

I support rebuilding the Atlantic Striped Bass stock **as quickly as possible** and not later than 2029. Quota transfers have the potential to increase the withdrawals and impair rebuilding because the Striped Bass Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) is below target and experiencing historically low recruitment. I am not in favor of action that increase removals or reduce the chances for the quickest possible recovery.

Thank you again for your kind consideration.



## Form Letter 3 submitted by 3 individuals

Emilie Franke

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 8:28 AM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Amendment 1

**Categories:** Auto Replied

Dear ASMFC,

I am a saltwater fishing guide and angler living in and operating from [REDACTED].

I have been following the activities of the ASMFC with particular interest in the amendments and proposals that relate to Striped Bass management. I am VERY concerned by the data suggesting that in many recent years Striped Bass have not been reproducing in sustainable numbers, as well as the determination that Striped Bass stocks are currently overfished.

Anglers, both recreational and commercial, and the ASMFC have a responsibility to ensure that Striped Bass populations are abundant now and in years to come. Future generations have the right to expect that Striped Bass populations are being managed responsibly now.

I am writing this note in **OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSAL TO ALLOW THE TRANSFER OF UNUSED COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS QUOTAS BETWEEN STATES.**

The Striped Bass populations need to be rebuilt to sustainable levels and providing ways to increase the taking of fish is illogical. The ASMFC should establish fair and responsible commercial quotas and not alter them unless science suggests they should be changed. *Adding complexity to the management of the commercial quotas will make a complicated situation more complicated. Do it right and keep it simple so everyone can easily understand the issues and the impacts of the quotas.*

**THE STRIPED BASS STOCK IS STILL OVERFISHED AND REBUILDING SUCCESS HINGES ON MAINTAINING LOW FISHING MORTALITY RATES WHILE POOR RECRUITMENT PERSISTS, PURPOSEFULLY INCREASING COMMERCIAL LANDINGS IS NOT RATIONAL AND THE BOARD SHOULD OPPOSE THIS ACTION.**

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



## Form Letter 4 submitted by 3 individuals

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [Comments](#)  
Subject: [External] Addendum I  
Date: Friday, January 13, 2023 2:24:54 PM

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***To whom it may concern,***

***I, [REDACTED], am a resident of [REDACTED]. I am emailing you in regards to the public comment for Striped Bass Addendum I due tonight, Jan 13, 2023, at 11:59 PM. I support Option A (no commercial quota transfers).***

***Respectfully,*** [REDACTED]



Christfried Arfsten  
44 Clubhouse Drive  
Rocky Point, NY 11778-9585

Ms. Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington VA. 22201  
Dear Emile,

Subject; Addendum 1 of Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan

1/2/2023

Dear Ms. Franke:

I am responding to Addendum 1 of Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan to allow the transfer of unused or unneeded commercial striped bass quota to other states that wish to land more fish that would otherwise not be allowed under the current management plan.

The current state of the fishery shows that striped bass are overfished, Addendum 1 would allow transfers among any costal state which could lead to a meaningful increase in fishing mortality. This idea of transfers between states is counter intuitive to the current state of the fishery. I'm opposed to any potential increase in fishing mortality. The target date of 2029 to have the fishery rebuilt will be jeopardized and the continuation of the low recruitment raises serious concerns about potentially increasing striped bass harvest at this time.

After the long and arduous process of putting together Amendment 7 to improve the regulatory process of conserving the fishery and restoring it to a rebuilt status, at this time I can only support Option A: No commercial transfers permitted.

If the Commission decides that a quota transfer should be permitted, only Option E allowing the management board broad discretion to permit or prohibit interstate quota transfers.

In summary my option is that Option A, the status quo of no transfers be permitted. If that is not what the board wants the Option E is the only other alternative that I can support. Thank you for your time and consideration of my thoughts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christfried Arfsten". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christfried Arfsten

We now face another attempt by a small group of part time commercial Striped Bass fisherman to manipulate the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Council for a short-term economic benefit of a few commercial fisherman. Transfer of quotas to the commercial sector must not be allowed.

- Most of our NH fish were reared and will spawn (if we let them...) in states with significant commercial fishing. This includes Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and New York. We want these fish spawning and returning year after year, not killed for \$2 a pound.
- Our NH visiting Striped Bass pass through Massachusetts waters to get here. The Massachusetts commercial fishery specifically targets the large breeding females (over 35"). Striped Bass are tagged after they are brought to the dealer. There is no way to be certain that these were ocean caught or harvested in rivers and bays such as the Merrimack, Annisquam, or the bays and rivers along Vineyard Sound.
- Very few fishermen make their full time living from harvesting Striped Bass commercially. The over slot fish we release in NH and Maine are directly targeted by the Massachusetts commercial fishery. There are several other states doing the same thing. The slot limit is not universal
  - The practice of 'high grading' causes excessive mortality and waste.
  - A recreational bass generates far more economic value than a dead commercial bass. The Southwick Study if interested in details.
  - The greater question is that jurisdictions like DC and NY have done exhaustive testing on the contaminants in striped bass. NY has a maximum commercial size of 38" based on science that says fish larger than that are loaded with PCB's. NY is now conducting further testing on striped bass to include PFAS contamination. Those results should be shocking. DC has put a total consumption ban on eating any size striped bass. Correct me if I am wrong here but striped bass migrate, right? How do the fish in Massachusetts magically avoid PCB's found in the Hudson and Potomac? These contaminants build up over time. Our bet is that a fish over 40" is probably not safe for anyone to eat. So, why is this still being done? Will we ever have a real slot limit?

- We have experienced 'local abundance' for Striper Bass and forage such as Menhaden which gives the false impression of overall health of the Striped Bass population on the east Coast.
- I join my colleagues in the ASGA in requesting that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission take no action which will increase the quota for any sector, especially the commercial sector.
- Thank You, Captain Robin Calitri, Seacoast Fly Fishing

Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington VA. 22201

To whom it may concern,

In response to the proposed addendum to Amendment 7 of the Atlantic Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan, I—a concerned citizen of Rhode Island and recreational angler—vehemently urge the ASMFC to maintain the status quo and choose Option A, barring the interstate transfer of commercial quotas. Frankly, considering the 2022 stock assessment, dwindling recruitment numbers, and the species' migratory nature, I cannot fathom the transfer of commercial quota having any effect other than increasing the overall mortality rate. Like Option A, other choices recognize that the Atlantic Striped Bass fishery remains subject to overfishing; however, only Option A appears to prevent a seemingly impending moratorium on the species. In its own words, the ASMFC echoes this, providing that "[a]llowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken...in 2020."

Despite being commercial, these quotas aren't like those in sales or other forms of business. As opposed to a goal expected to be met or exceeded, these quotas are akin to a cap, implemented to conserve the existence of a wavering species. We should strive to underutilize the total allocation and have consistently done so in recent years, resulting in tangible change in the state of the species. Considering this progress, it appears diametrically opposed to the underlying purpose of such conservation efforts to permit a state that consistently fails to utilize its entire allotment to transfer the remaining quota to regions that use theirs in its entirety yearly. Were commercial allocations fully utilized, the ASMFC recognizes that "commercial harvest would be

higher than estimated...and states may not maintain the desired commercial reduction [sought]."  
In no way is this conservation.

Regarding the alternatives to Option A, it is evident that none of them provide sufficient safeguards against stock depletion. Option B comes the closest, providing a state can transfer its unused quota subject to an overfishing tax; however, in the same breath, it permits such a transfer without limitations and to be made under the parties' terms. Such unfettered, unregulated transactions run afoul of the goals of more than three decades of conservation efforts. Similarly, the ASMFC recognizes that Option C, which places minimal limitations on transferring commercial quotas when the stock is overfished, will not "provide near-term relief to states seeking additional quota." Options D and E place the oversight of such quota transfers in the hands of a board; however, both fail to address the fact that any quota transfer to a state that consistently fulfills its allotment will increase overall mortality. Accordingly, because any transfer of commercial quota in our overburdened fishery will defeat almost forty years of conservation efforts, I urge the ASMFC to adopt Option A and prohibit the transfer of commercial harvest quotas for the sake of the species' survival. We must hold our commercial fishing industries to as high of a standard as we do recreational anglers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Colton', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrew Blackstone Colton

Emilie Franke, FMP Coordinator  
1050 Highland Street, Suite 200-A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

December 14, 2022

RECEIVED DEC 20 2022

To the Striped Bass Management Board

Re: Striped Bass Draft Addendum I

I am a 79 year old Coast Guard licensed captain with residences in Washington, DC and Westerly, RI. I have been fishing and spearfishing for striped bass since the 1950s. I am an active member of CCA and RISAA, and a long time supporter of Save the (Narragansett) Bay and the Chesapeake Bay foundation. I care deeply about the quality of our coastal waters and just as deeply about the health and fecundity of our striped bass.

I write to urge adoption of the proposed Option A, status quo, no commercial transfers. In my considered judgment, any of the other options is likely to increase striped bass mortality at a time when the stock is supposed to be rebuilding.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Captain Ken Cooper  
6306 30<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20015

19 Rock Ridge Road  
Westerly, RI 02891

I, Lawrence H Voss Sr, endorse

Option B Transfers permitted (with overfished conservation tax) of the Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1.

I, James W. Ryan J, endorse

Option B Transfers permitted (with overfished conservation tax) of the Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1.





Date: 20230113

Re: Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1

Ms. Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Ms. Franke,

I am writing in **strong support** of **Option A: (Status Quo) Commercial quota transfers are not permitted** - as part of the proposed Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan.

To meet the goals of the current rebuilding plan, mortality must remain at or below  $F=0.17$ . A quota transfer system is likely to increase mortality, doubtless add uncertainty to the fishery management plan, and quite probably lengthen the rebuilding process – if not render the plan moot.

To be clear:

**I support Option A: Status Quo.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Eustis". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large initial "M" and "E".

Mark Eustis  
Managing Partner

December 29, 2022

**Subject: Striped Bass Addendum I**

To whom it may concern,

My name is Johan Frenje and I am born and raised in Sweden, and fishing has been a big part of my life since I was 4 years old. I came to the Boston area in the late 90's for work and a couple of years later I discovered the incredible striped-bass fishery in New England. I am a passionate fly fisherman who cares deeply about our striped-bass fishery.

Regarding the Striped Bass Addendum I, I vote for 'Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted'. My motivation for this is the following. It seems to me the management of the striped-bass fishery is about maximizing short the term commercial harvest rather than the longevity of the fishery. In my opinion, the proposal of transferring commercial quotas between states is simply designed to increase harvest, which is not aligned with Amendment 7 that is about rebuilding the stock by 2029. Given the 79% chance of rebuilding the stock by 2029, which is clearly a highly uncertain number that is based on a limited data set, it makes no sense to me to push through this addendum of quota transfers.



Johan Frenje  
Beverly, MA

# *Center for Ecological Economic and Ethical Education*

Post Office Box 946  
Ipswich, MA 01938

Phone: (978) 356-2188 (w) or 617-605-3150 (c)  
email: [ecologicaleconomics@yahoo.com](mailto:ecologicaleconomics@yahoo.com)

31 December 2022

## **RE: FBJ Comments on the Atlantic Striped Bass FMP Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7**

Emilie Franke  
Fishery Management Plan Coordinator  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 North Highland Street, Suite 200A-N  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Sent by email to: [comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org)  
(with subject line: **FBJ Comments on ASB FMP Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7**)

Dear Ms. Franke:

I am writing you today with my reactions to the Atlantic Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 of the Atlantic Striped Bass (ASB) Fisheries Management Plan (FMP).

This Atlantic Striped Bass fishery, by your own calculations, is currently overfished with an SSB that is below both its threshold and target levels. Furthermore, the commercial fishery for this species is specifically targeting only the largest female spawners that provide the greatest contribution to reproduction. This Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 of the ASB FMP, however, proposes an effective *increase* in the commercial harvest of this species.

I write to express my adamant opposition to allowing any interregional or interstate commercial quota transfers in the ASB fishery. Consequently, I ask you to support **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted** as the final recommendation on this matter by the ASMFC.

Please give us anglers a reason to restore the faith we've lost in the fisheries management system of this country, instead of continuing to undermine and thus erode this valuable and revered fishery by recommending, endorsing and accepting such measures as exemplified by this latest ASMFC proposal to serve commercial fishing interests!

Thank you for your attention.

Most sincerely and respectfully,



Frederic B. Jennings Jr., Ph.D.  
President, CEEEE

January 10, 2023

Emilie Franke  
Fishery Management Plan Coordinator  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 North Highland Street  
Suite 200A-N Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Ms. Franke,

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm going to start off by saying I'm going to be straight forward and try to make some points and give you a background of where I am coming from and what I have seen personally. My name is Mike Milillo; I am currently 30 years old. I was born and raised on long island and currently live on long island. I have been surf fishing for bass since I was about 8 years old, my father got me into the sport.

Now in these past 22 years I have seen the population of bass dramatically change before my eyes, and not for the good. When I was a kid to a young teen all I could think about is how I can't wait to have similar memories with future kids of mine like my father and myself have. Unfortunaley in my later teens and early twenties to now I have come the bleak realization that hopefully I'm going to be lucky enough to still be able to fish for bass when I'm in my 60's.

**In any event, I support the option A (status Quo)**

Sincerely,

Mike Milillo  
36 Vassar Street  
Garden City, NY 11530

**William A. Muller  
183 Oakside Drive  
Smithtown, N.Y. 11787**

**Subject:** Striped Bass Draft Addendum I.

Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland St, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington VA 22201

Dear Ms. Franke;

I'm writing to you to state my opinion on Draft Addendum I.

I was somewhat perplexed to learn that the commission decided to take no action at a recent meeting in spite of the fact that the striped bass fishery remains overfished. To me, the argument presented in the statement proffered circular reasoning. It seems to me, that logically, additional restrictions are warranted while the fishery remains overfished.

In this respect, there seems to be **no logic in allowing commercial quota transfers** since the fishery remains overfished. Perhaps the real problem resides with the size of the quotas in that they may simply be too high given the reality that the fishery remains overfished. Further, if the stated goal of the new amendment is to protect the occasional large year class, then quota transfers seem to undermine that goal. In my opinion we should take every opportunity to add to the population, rather than simply seek ways to achieve harvest goals.

I am also disappointed in the size of the slot (28-35 inches). This slot size does not seem to be consistent with the idea of protecting a large year class. In the management of species using slot sizes, both in salt and freshwater, the slot sizes generally cover a smaller percentage of a fish's life. If the commission really wants to protect the occasional large year class, then the slot should be four or five inches thus allowing a greater number of fish from a good year class to escape beyond the slot. Perhaps 32 to 36 inches would make more sense and protect more fish while at the same time be more appealing to for-hire users. Rather than be content that we are on target to hit a rebuilding target, we should use all opportunities to get there faster should those opportunities arise.

I support Option A Status Quo. Transfers **not** permitted

Yours truly

William A. Muller, Ph. D.

Arthur C. Romaine  
27 Audubon Avenue  
PO Box 862  
Bridgehampton NY 11932

Date: January 9, 2023  
TO: ASMFC Board  
Subject: Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1

I am writing to you regarding Addendum 1 to the Amendment 7 policy document on Atlantic striped bass and wish this letter be submitted into the record of public comment.

Amendment 7 represents a step forward for striped bass conservation, and sets a decent foundation for the upcoming rebuilding plan. It has started to address challenges with the management of Atlantic striped bass through a comprehensive update of the management strategy that had seriously failed to account for recent declines in stock abundance. In effect this amendment now instructs the ASMFC Board to take action to rebuild the stock to healthy sustainable levels as its top priority.

Conservation equivalency (CE) was and remains one of the most controversial aspects of striped bass management, and was certainly one of the most hotly debated topics in Amendment 7. The single most important reform was the ASMFC Board's decision to define "conservation equivalency" in Amendment 7 the same way that it is defined in your Charter: "Any conservation equivalency measures adopted by a state must have the same conservation impact, ***in that state***, as the standard, coastwide measures." While that result is seemingly mandated by the Charter, the ASMFC Board had previously chosen to ignore the Charter's language, and permitted states to adopt allegedly conservation equivalent measures which only achieved the coastwide, and not the state-specific, reduction.

The fact that Amendment 7 has been completed does not mean that the Atlantic striped bass debate is over. Some issues were likely to

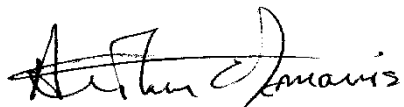
resurface and, despite the clear language of the management plan and before the ink was even dry, the ASMFC Board proposed a change to the rules for the benefit of special interests.

*Introducing intrastate commercial quota transfers will make it more difficult to successfully manage the Atlantic coast striped bass fishery.* What is the ASMFC's underlying motivation for such a motion? Is it in line with the board's charter and objectives? I have been unable to locate a single, clear, definable, and *enforceable*, answer to my question after considerable hours spent researching the question.

Clearly the ASMFC has deemed the Atlantic striped bass overfished, clearly reproduction is down, and clearly the ASMFC has a specific charter intended to guide their actions when a fishery is deemed overfished. **The only logical decision regarding Addendum 1 is Option A: maintain the status quo and not introduce any intrastate commercial quota transfers (while Striped Bass are deemed overfished or experiencing overfishing).**

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur C. Romaine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "A" and "R".

Arthur C. Romaine

I have fished from the shore and occasionally from boats in the northeast for fifty years, so I believe I have a fair benchmark from which to compare. I remember the Peconic weakfish tournament, not to mention catching all the weakfish you wanted at night from marina piers on the Connetquot River. I remember Quincy Massachusetts flounder fishing. On a good day you could almost sink the rental boats with flatties. And of course, not that long ago you could catch all the bluefish your arms and shoulders could handle from anywhere on Long Island. The bass fishing purists used to lament they couldn't get their lures through the blues down to the bass. They must have finally mastered that skill because I no longer hear that complaint.

But more than any of the above, I remember Montauk; the Surfcasting Capital of the World. I have home videos from the early nineties through early two thousands showing massive school after school of bass and blues, hundreds of boats chasing and casting into the boiling water, countless surf fisherman in an east to west skirmish line as far as the eye could see. Even cod, at one time were so thick they could be caught from the beach in the Winter. All of it, gone.

Admittedly any look back to me or my friends fishing youths, and at the quantity of fish we kept and the mishandling of those released, shows we were infected with the common ignorance towards any conservation appropriate to that time. Arrogant stupidity talked me into thinking the great fishing would last forever. After all, this is the ocean.

But how in the hell did you, the ASFMC, think that was sustainable?

The entire inshore fishery is now on life support and radical conservation, no make that radical last ditch rescue measures, are needed. Instead, the ASFMC is mulling whether to just pull the plug altogether with a vote on amendment #1 to addendum #7. A loophole, so a species not far from the point of no return can be further harvested, helping them reach that point where even with a moratorium, like the cod, there is no coming back.

Bravo

I don't believe the ASFMC has ever shown that they are capable of formulating plans for the sustainability of any of the inshore species, and the data going back decades confirms that. The American eel, cod, herring, shad, weakfish, bluefish, flounder, striped bass, and just about every inshore species the ASFMC so-called protected has tanked. Global warming? Habitat loss? Or the inarguable inability or unwillingness to keep up with the technological advances of both the commercial and recreational fishing communities and enact policies with the best interests of the particular species first, which is also in the best interests of both fishing groups and everyone else's in the long term.

If the inshore ocean, which greatly affects the offshore biosystem, and ultimately us, is to have any chance of averting the mass extinction event that is dead ahead, either the ASFMC present leadership must start to exhibit some serious leadership, or step down. Maybe NOAA, again based purely on ASFMC's track record and the cold hard numbers, should rethink this organizations usefulness and come up with (rather quickly) a new game plan. Maybe then, just maybe, whatever organization that might replace ASFMC will actually do what they are paid to do, which for starters is care.

But nothing will happen, and in roughly ten to twenty years all those species I've listed and many more will be gone, so shit, yeah I vote for option A, though doing so gives me no pleasure. It just makes me feel part of a bad joke.



# iFishMD.com

## Sport Fishing Charters

January 13, 2023

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 North Highland Street, Suite 200A-N  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

### **Re: Striped Bass Addendum 1**

Dear Striped Bass Board,

As a Maryland-based licensed professional fishing guide and sales representative for a recreational fishing boat manufacturer, I recognize that the economic value of sport fishing is derived from anglers taking trips and trips are driven by angler success and abundance. Given that striped bass are vastly the most desired fish in our natural resource that drives the sport fishing industries in our state, I offer OPPOSITION to the Striped Bass Addendum 1 for the following reasons:

1. Striped Bass remain overfished and are currently in a rebuilding phase
2. We do not need actions that would only ensure mortality levels are maximized under Amendment 7 until the stock is rebuilt
3. Should the striped bass board move forward with Addendum 1 would solidify the public perception that the ASMFC does not look after the resources entrusted to them to manage.

It is clear that the ASMFC striped bass board has continually failed to manage the resource in an efficient and effective way, which has resulted in reaching an overfished status despite a full recovery after the moratorium. The fact that quota transfers from state to state to ensure mortality remains at the highest levels allowed while the species is still classified as overfished only solidifies this perspective. The board would only continue to fail sport fishing industries by potentially hurting the rebuilding process that has been so fought for so hard.

Sincerely

Capt. Greg Shute,  
Maryland Fishing Guide FGR202  
Independent Sales Rep for Judge Yachts

Homeport: Annapolis Maryland  
[410-533-1435](tel:410-533-1435) | [ifishmd@gmail.com](mailto:ifishmd@gmail.com)

Carl Tiska  
24 Van Zandt Ave  
Newport RI 02840  
carl.tiska@gmail.com

December 4, 2022

Emilie Franke  
FMP Coordinator  
1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Members of the Atlantic Striped Bass Board,

I am a recreational kayak angler in Rhode Island with a focus on harvesting, cooking, and eating my catch. While I principally target demersal species, I enjoy fishing for striped bass as well.

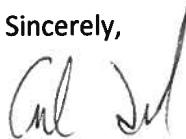
I strongly believe that striped bass should be managed for abundance, and I provided comments stating such through your public comment process for Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass earlier this year. I was very pleased with the approved Amendment Seven and look forward to the increased striped bass abundance as the new measures take effect.

I was disappointed to recently learn that conservation equivalency will be maintained while the striped bass stock remains overfished. I would strongly recommend that you submit addend Amendment 7 to prohibit conservation equivalency while the striped bass stock remains overfished.

Additionally, in the interest of increasing striped bass abundance, I strongly oppose the current draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 (Commercial Quota Transfers in the Ocean Region) and recommend that you select Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

I thank you for your work in managing striped bass and for the opportunity to provide feedback through your public comment process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Tiska', written in a cursive style.

Carl Tiska

To: Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

[comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org)

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to support the status quo with regards to striped bass- **Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

My family and friends have been fishing the waters of the Great Bay Estuary since the mid-nineties, and SO appreciate the recreational value of the Striped Bass. The fact that it can be caught from a boat or the shore makes it accessible to everyone. It's really the fish that has kept my kids interested in the sport- it's just so much fun to catch!

I've read the Southwick Study and believe it's conclusions, including the statement:

If the striped bass fishery were so managed, any future harvest levels would produce greater returns for coastal economies and the national economy, because as this report explains, fish captured by the recreational sector are far more valuable on a per pound basis than when harvested commercially.

See [https://www.southwickassociates.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Striped\\_Bass.pdf](https://www.southwickassociates.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Striped_Bass.pdf)

Our 3 sons and daughter (now 15 years old) grew up on the water and learned the importance of conserving our natural resources. They understood that releasing a breeder would allow it to spawn and produce more fish for future seasons, like an investment. How disappointing it would be for them to learn that their investment was allowed to be harvested for short-term gain on a dinner plate.

Please take action to reduce commercial striper fishing, not increase it. Don't give in to pressure from commercial fishing business interests. Today's recreational fishers as well as future generations will appreciate that you did the right thing.

Sincerely,

Steve Weglarz, Jr.

19 Cedar Point Rd.

Durham, NH 03824



1075 Tooker Avenue  
West Babylon, NY 11704  
December 7, 2022

Emile Franke, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Ms. Franke:

Below find my comments on the *Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan* ("Addendum I").

Addendum I, if adopted in any of its proposed forms, would inevitably increase striped bass fishing mortality. Such increase is inappropriate at a time when the striped bass stock is overfished, would make it more difficult to rebuild the female spawning stock biomass by the 2029 deadline, and could threaten the striped bass recovery.

***I ask that the Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board (Management Board) select Option A, status quo.***

Support for my position is provided below.

I

**Allowing interstate transfers of commercial quota will increase fishing mortality at a time when the striped bass stock is struggling to rebuild by the 2029 deadline.**

Commercial striped bass landings are constrained by both the overall annual commercial allocation and by individual state allocations. Because states may not transfer unused striped bass quota to another state, and because a number of states with striped bass quota have had no commercial striped bass landings over the past decade, commercial striped bass landings have fallen far short of the coastwide commercial striped bass quota. For the ten years between 2012 and 2021, commercial fishermen have, on average, landed only 66.6% of their coastwide quota; the 76% landed in 2021 represented the highest percentage of quota landed in the 10-year time series.<sup>1</sup>

Information provided in Addendum I makes it clear that the states holding commercial striped bass quota fall into two general categories, one being the active harvesters (Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia), which typically catch over 80%, and quite often well over 90%, of their annual state quotas, and the non-harvesters which, either because they have outlawed commercial striped bass harvest (Maine, New Hampshire, and Connecticut) or because striped bass are legally out of the reach of their commercial striped bass fishermen (North Carolina), have no commercial

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<sup>1</sup> See Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, *Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan*, November 2022, p. 10

landings at all. New Jersey, which has reallocated commercial quota to its recreational sector, stands some between those two groups, having no commercial landings, but nonetheless using commercial quota in a way that would render it unavailable for transfer.<sup>2</sup>

Should any of Addendum I's options B through E be adopted, and states that currently have no commercial landings transfer their entire quotas to other states, annual commercial striped bass landings could increase by anywhere between 30% (if the 76% of quota landed by the harvesting states in 2021 is representative of future fishery performance) to 50% (if the 66.6% ten-year average of quota landed is a more accurate representation of what would, otherwise occur).

Any such increase would raise the overall fishing mortality rate and reduce the likelihood that the spawning stock biomass will be fully restored by 2029.

That is not an acceptable outcome.

It is particularly troubling that the Management Board knows that the current prohibition on interstate transfers of commercial quota arose out of concerns that such transfers could hamper rebuilding, yet nonetheless decided to move forward with Addendum I.

During the August 2021 Management Board meeting, after Patrick Geer, the Administrative Proxy for Virginia, asked why such transfers were prohibited, Robert Beal, Executive Director of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), responded that

my recollection is that they were not allowed while we were, even before my time the Board was trying to rebuild the striped bass stock. Then once it was rebuilt, the Board sort of felt comfortable with not allowing transfers. Part of it had to do with where those fish came from.

If you move fish from North Carolina to Maine, well North Carolina to Massachusetts, that's probably the farthest commercial quotas. You know with that impact differentially, where those fish came from and the spawning populations and that sort of thing. But again, most of it is a holdover from the rebuilding days of the early '90s.<sup>3</sup>

Mr. Beal's recollection was confirmed by Roy Miller, the Governor's Appointee from Delaware, who stated,

I just wanted to confirm what Bob [Beal] said regarding the history of the process. We were in a rebuilding mode from the 1980s until the mid-1990s. This is from someone who was there during that time. It carried over into the restoration of the coastwide stock, and even the Delaware stock in the mid-1990s. It's just something that we haven't dealt with since then, so those transfers when we were in a rebuilding mode no

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<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, *Proceedings of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board, August 3, 2021*, comments of Robert E. Beal, p. 43

one wanted to consider transfers. Once the stock was declared restored, the subject hadn't come up again until very recently.<sup>4</sup>

It is notable that both Mr. Beal and Mr. Miller explained that the Management Board found it inappropriate to permit interstate transfers of quota during a period when the stock was rebuilding, because *the stock is in a rebuilding period right now*. The ban on interstate transfers of commercial quota the last time that the stock was overfished is just as appropriate today.

Interstate transfers of commercial quota should not be allowed.

## II

**The concessions made in Options B through E, intended to address situations in which the stock is overfished, are largely illusory, and provide insufficient protection to the striped bass resource.**

Options B and D would allow interstate transfers of commercial quota even when the striped bass stock is overfished. The only concessions such options would make to the stock's overfished status is to impose a 5% "conservation tax" on the receiving state, so that such state might land only 95 pounds of striped bass for every 100 pounds of quota transferred. That is not a sufficient safeguard.

As Amendment I clearly states,

If quota transfers are permitted, quota would be transferred pound-for-pound from the donor state to the receiving state. There would be some inherent uncertainty associated with transfers occurring between states that harvest different size fish due to multiple factors, including variability in striped bass size distribution along the coast and state management programs (different size limits, gears, seasons)...Several adjustments have been made to commercial size limits over time resulting in changes commercial quota [sic]. Stated more simply, ***a pound of striped bass commercial quota is not equal across all states.***<sup>5</sup> [emphasis added]

Given that the biological impact of transferring a pound of striped bass commercial quota may differ depending upon the identity of the donor and receiving states, the "conservation tax" intended to address such uncertainty should not merely be levied when the striped bass stock is overfished; should the Management Board make the unfortunate decision to allow interstate transfers of commercial quota, the conservation tax should be applied to every such transfer.

However, ***when the stock is overfished, no transfers at all should be allowed.***

Yet even Options C and E, which would prohibit the interstate transfer of commercial quota, do not provide adequate safeguards. Both options would allow such transfers even if the female spawning stock biomass was badly depleted and continuing to decline, so long as the spawning stock biomass threshold hasn't been breached. By contributing to the fishing mortality rate, such transfers could increase the likelihood that an already depleted stock will slip below the biomass threshold. In that

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<sup>4</sup> ASMFC, Proceedings August 3, 2021, comments of Roy Miller, p. 44

<sup>5</sup> ASMFC, Draft Addendum I, pp. 11-12

respect, Option E appears to be the slightly preferable option, as it would provide the Management Board with the opportunity to prohibit transfers that Option C would allow as of right. Still, the fact that the Management Board could prohibit transfers in an effort to protect a badly stressed stock does not ensure that it would do so.

Because none of Options B, C, D, or E provide adequate safeguards to protect the striped bass stock, Option A remains the preferable option.

### III

**Options B through E would permit the coastal commercial fishery to escape its obligation to reduce fishing mortality, and instead permit overall commercial landings to increase substantially, and so transfer the burden of rebuilding and conserving the striped bass resource to other sectors.**

*Addendum IV to Amendment 6 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan* (Addendum IV), adopted in 2014, and *Addendum VI to Amendment 6 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan* (Addendum VI), both introduced management measures intended to reduce fishing mortality by 25% and 18%, respectively.

Recreational management measures were designed to reduce fishing mortality based on anglers' actual landings, as estimated by the Marine Recreational Information Program. However, the supposed reductions in commercial fishing mortality were applied not to commercial landings, but to commercial quota, and because actual landings were well below quota in both cases, did not successfully achieve the desired mortality reductions.

In 2015, the first year that the measures adopted pursuant to Addendum IV were in place, commercial landings were only reduced by 19%, not the hoped-for 25%,<sup>6</sup> and commercial striped bass landings for the years 2016-2018 exceeded the 2015 level.<sup>7</sup> Thus, throughout most of the years when the Addendum IV measures applied, the commercial fishery failed to achieve the target 25% reduction.

To date, the commercial striped bass fishery's performance pursuant to Addendum VI is arguably worse. While its 17% reduction in 2020<sup>8</sup>, the first year that Addendum VI's management measures applied, nearly achieved such addendum's 18% goal, such conservation gains were largely nullified in 2021, when commercial landings increased by 18%.<sup>9</sup>

The commercial fishery's performance under both Addendum IV and Addendum VI demonstrates that efforts to reduce commercial fishing mortality merely by reducing the quota, rather than by calculating a new quota based on actual commercial landings, are almost certain to fail. Permitting interstate

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<sup>6</sup> Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, *Review of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass (Morone saxatillis) 2015 Fishing Year*, August 2016, p. 6

<sup>7</sup> ASMFC, Addendum I, p. 10

<sup>8</sup> Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, *Review of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass (Morone saxatillis) 2020 Fishing Year*, August 8, 2021, p. 7

<sup>9</sup> Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, *Review of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass (Morone saxatillis) 2021 Fishing Year*, August 2, 2021, p. 8

transfers of commercial quota will only render such efforts even less effective, and lead to the very real possibility that, instead of seeing a decrease in commercial fishing mortality pursuant to the Addendum VI measures, such mortality will actually increase when compared to the 2019 baseline.

The Management Board was made aware of that fact as early as its October 2014 meeting, when it considered adding a provision that permitted interstate transfer of quota to Addendum IV. Charlton Godwin, then the Chair of the Atlantic Striped Bass Technical Committee, stated that

The technical committee recommends taking the harvest reductions from the 2013 total commercial harvest and let the board reallocate as they see fit. Relative to the relative to the [sic] commercial quota transfer, the technical committee is concerned that at a time when we're needing to take reductions, ***if the present reductions are taken from Amendment 6 quota instead of the 2013 level of harvest, allowing commercial transfers in conjunction with that could have to potential to increase harvest.*** The technical committee also wants to point out that if transfers are used, conservation equivalency would need to be maintained between states if they have different size limits.<sup>10</sup> [emphasis added]

While the Management Board failed to heed such advice with respect to taking the commercial harvest reductions from actual landings rather than from quota, it did demonstrate overwhelming opposition to a motion that would have allowed interstate transfers of commercial quota, voting it down with 1 jurisdiction in favor, 15 opposed.<sup>11</sup>

The same factors that came into play in 2014 still exist today, although today, the striped bass stock's condition is arguably worse. Allowing the interstate transfer of commercial quota, when needed reductions were taken from quota rather than from actual commercial landings, would again have the potential to increase harvest.

Since overall fishing mortality must be constrained to or below the fishing mortality target of  $F=0.17$  if the striped bass stock is to have at least a 50% probability of rebuilding by 2029,<sup>12</sup> any increase in fishing mortality attributable to the coastal commercial sector will have to be offset by further reductions in fishing mortality being imposed on other sectors of the fishery.

The burden of striped bass recovery should be equally shared by every sector of the fishery. Taking actions likely to result in one sector increasing its landings, and so forcing other sectors to shoulder additional restrictions to compensate for such increase, is clearly inequitable.

For this reason, too, the interstate transfer of commercial quota should not be allowed.

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<sup>10</sup> Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, *Proceedings of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board October 29, 2014*, comments of Charlton Godwin, p. 23

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 65-66

<sup>12</sup> Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, *2022 Atlantic Striped Bass Stock Assessment Update Report*, November 2022, p. 7



#### IV

**Permitting the interstate transfer of commercial quota is likely to lead to some state fishery managers liberalizing commercial striped bass regulations in order to take advantage of such newly available quota, another factor likely to lead to increased fishing mortality.**

Apart from their duties as administrative appointees to the Management Board, in which role they establish annual commercial quotas, state fisheries managers arguably have a responsibility to set regulations that allow their states' fishermen to catch whatever quota the Management Board has adopted.

We have seen fishery managers in the two states which have, by far, the largest coastal commercial quotas take such actions in the recent past.

Massachusetts' commercial striped bass fishermen receive more striped bass quota than do fishermen in any other coastal state. When it became clear that those fishermen were unlikely to fill their quota for the 2020 season, the state made a mid-season change to its commercial fishing regulations in an effort to increase quota utilization.<sup>13</sup>

New York receives the second-largest allocation of coastal quota, more than twice the fish awarded to any other coastal state. After its commercial fishermen landed a mere 45% of their striped bass quota in 2019,<sup>14</sup> New York expanded its commercial slot limit from 28 to 38 inches to 26 to 38 inches,<sup>15</sup> to provide such fishermen a better opportunity to utilize the available quota, in part by targeting fish in the 2015 year class that had not yet reached 28 inches in length. Such effort was successful, as New York's quota utilization increased to 83% in 2020 and 98% in 2021.<sup>16</sup>

Given such past actions, it is not unlikely that such states, along with other states that utilize substantially all of their coastal commercial striped bass quotas, will seek to benefit their local fishermen by seeking to obtain unutilized quota from other states, and adjusting state regulations to allow them to do so. Such efforts would sharply increase the likelihood that virtually all of the coastal commercial quota will be utilized, increasing fishing mortality while decreasing the likelihood that the striped bass stock will be rebuilt.

Prohibiting the interstate transfer of commercial quota will prevent such scenario from occurring.

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<sup>13</sup> Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, Press Release, "DMF to Make In-Season Adjustments to 2020 Commercial Striped Bass, Black Sea Bass and Summer Flounder Limits," August 24, 2020

<sup>14</sup> ASMFC, Addendum I, p. 10

<sup>15</sup> 6 NYCRR 40.1(i)

<sup>16</sup> ASMFC, Addendum I, p. 10

V

**Addendum I has morphed from a modest management measure intended to remedy an alleged inequity borne by a single state to a far broader document permitting the wholesale interstate transfer of commercial quota.**

Amendment I arose out of Delaware's contention that its current commercial striped bass quota was inequitable. After the Management Board rejected a motion that would have included a review of states' commercial quotas into *Draft Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass*, Delaware held additional conversations with ASMFC staff. As noted in a memorandum from Toni Kearns, ASMFC's Interstate Fishery Management Program Director, to the Management Board,

At the May 2021 Board meeting, the motion to include the commercial allocation issue in Draft Amendment 7 failed for lack of a majority. Many Board members recognized that Delaware has raised this issue for several years now and Delaware asserts their current allocation is not equitable...

The Board Chair requested staff from the Commission and the State of Delaware prepare options and timelines for how this issue could be addressed moving forward. In response to the request, Commission staff and Commissioners from the State of Delaware prepared this memorandum for Board discussion at the August meeting...<sup>17</sup>

Such memorandum went on to discuss four options to address Delaware's purportedly unfair allocation, only one of which contemplated the interstate transfer of commercial quota. Although the transfer option in the memorandum was arguably applicable to multiple states, the original intent was to effectively limit such transfers to Delaware, as evidenced by the comments of John Clark, Delaware's Administrative Proxy, who observed,

...thanks to Emilie and Toni for working with us to develop these options. Tried to keep it very simple, and tried to look for a option [sic], you know as Emilie pointed out, the first option there is voluntary transfers. We are not trying to do a full reallocation everywhere, because we know how fraught that process would be. Just looking to get more in the simplest way possible here.

We also understand that there might be some concern with just voluntary transfers, because it could end up with more questions of states asking for transfers that maybe they don't really need, or what have you. We added some criteria...I'm sure if anybody who has read through it saw that really ***the only state that would qualify under all three criteria would be Delaware.*** Some of the performance measures I put in there, or

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<sup>17</sup> Memorandum from Toni Kearns, ISFMP Director, to the Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board, dated July 26, 2021

***the criteria we put in there, also demonstrate just the small scale of the fishery in Delaware.***<sup>18</sup>

Mr. Clark's comments sum up Addendum I's biggest problem: The document has gone far beyond its original intent. The right way to address Delaware's concerns is with a reallocation of commercial quotas, that would grant that state's fishermen a larger share of the catch. Such allocation could be done most simply by figuring out how much additional poundage Delaware ought to receive, and then deducting such poundage from the commercial quotas of the other coastal states, in direct proportion to each state's share of the commercial quota.

However, that isn't a practical alternative, because it is too "fraught;" that is, no state wants to tell its commercial fishermen that it voluntarily ceded a share of their quota to fishermen in another state. So to avoid a drawn out allocation debate, Delaware suggested a voluntary interstate transfers of commercial quota but, recognizing that permitting unrestricted quota transfers would raise other issues, suggested criteria that, as a practical matter, rendered Delaware the only likely recipient of transfers, and also made it likely that any such transfers would be small, given the size of Delaware's fishery.

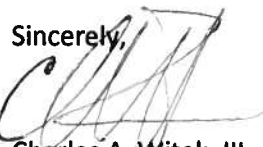
Unfortunately, the Management Board decided not to include such restrictive criteria in any of Addendum I's options, and thus created a likelihood that Addendum I, if adopted by the Management Board, could increase coastwide commercial landings by at least 30%.

The above-quoted documents make it clear that was not the original intent of Addendum I. Thus, the Management Board should reject Addendum I, and provide additional quota to Delaware by more appropriate means, if it believes that such action is needed.

## VI Summary

Addendum I would inevitably lead to a substantial increase in commercial striped bass fishing mortality. Any such increase is inappropriate at a time when the stock remains overfished and is struggling to rebuild by the 2029 deadline. For that reason, as explained in more detail above, selecting Option A, status quo, is the only acceptable course for the Management Board.

Thank you for considering my thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,  
  
Charles A. Witek, III

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<sup>18</sup> Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, *Proceedings of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board August 3, 2021*, comments of John Clark, p. 42

**From:** [dan feeneey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass amendment I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 24, 2022 9:50:51 AM

---

Consideration of allowing any increase in commercial striped bass harvest or transfer is insane. Closing commercial striped bass fisheries is what should happen.

You should be ashamed to call yourself fisheries managers.

You seem to bungle the management of every species you work on.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Nick Murray](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [James Gilmore](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 24, 2022 8:01:57 AM

---

Hello

I am a fisherman and a resident of New York. I want to voice my support for option A of striped bass addendum 1.

I do not support allowing state commercial quota transfers because it would lead to increased harvest at a critical time when the striped bass is overfished. Amendment 7 was a step in the right direction. Please keep the goal of rebuilding the stock in focus.

Thank you

Sincerely

Nick Murray

Sent from afield

**From:** [John Field](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 24, 2022 7:42:09 AM

---

Dear ASMFC board members,

Please vote for Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Best,

John Field  
Weston, CT

**From:** [Peter.robertson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 24, 2022 6:09:44 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option A for Addendum I, to keep the status quo for commercial striped bass harvest. The reason the commercial harvest do not reach their quota is because there isn't enough striped bass to harvest.

Thank you, Peter Robertson

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [doanbill \(null\)](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 7:31:17 PM

---

I support option A. There should be no commercial transfer of unused quota of striped bass. Striped bass are still being overfished both commercially and recreationally. The striped bass population needs to be allowed to grow substantially.

Sincerely,  
William Doan



**From:** [DOUG KISBY](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 6:30:03 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery. I oppose any increase for commercial fishing. We are just starting to get back to somewhat normal numbers, why the increase for commercial fishing? Does not make any sense.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

DOUG KISBY  
4 11th St  
Ocean City, NJ 08226  
Dougkisby@yahoo.com

**From:** [Edward DeLorenzo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] ort Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 4:30:09 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery. I oppose allowing commercial quota transfers because it will jeopardize rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery by the 2029 rebuilding deadline.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Edward DeLorenzo  
153 Brook Ave  
Staten Island, NY 10306  
[Eddelo@yahoo.com](mailto:Eddelo@yahoo.com)

**From:** [g.georgetthenrich@comcast.net](mailto:g.georgetthenrich@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 4:11:02 PM

---

Sirs and madams:

My name is Georgette Henrich and I am the president of the Plum Island Surfcasters, a recreational fishing club of over 500 members based on Plum Island, Newburyport, MA. For years we have seen the decline of striped bass as well as other species from local waters due to over fishing and mismanagement of the fisheries. I speak for myself that if quotas as allowed to be transferred through Striped Bass Addendum 1 there will be little chance if none that striped bass stocks will be revived. With overfishing and climate change, we need to conserve the species and allowed it to have time to recover if we are ever going to see a future in that fishery. Allowing states to transfer their quotas to other states so that their quotas can be exceeded only hurts the species from coming back in strong numbers. If states cannot reach their quotas, then that should be the end of it- they don't make their quotas.

In closing, I do not want to see the transfer of quotas. We must stay the course to see what will happen in the next few years before making any decisions that we will soon regret. No transfers-period.

Regards,

Georgette Y. E. Henrich  
President, Plum Island Surfcasters<sup>sm</sup>, Inc.  
Founded 1957



*"Plum Island Surfcasters<sup>sm</sup> will strive to be a highly respected leader in sportfishing, committed to developing best practices in good sportsmanship, education, techniques and conservation for future generations"*

65 years and going strong. Dedicated to preserving the tradition of sportfishing while practicing conservation. Check us out: [www.plumislandsurfcasters.org](http://www.plumislandsurfcasters.org)

**From:** [Daniel Umstead](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial transfer permit  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 1:55:07 PM

---

Hello,  
Out of State fisherman here from Butler, Pennsylvania and "I support Option A,  
No commercial transfer permitted. Love visiting the Jersey Shore and fishing for  
striped bass.  
Dan umstead, Butler Pa.

**From:** [Richard Fleming](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Amendment 1  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 1:44:27 PM

---

Dear ASMFC Members,

At a time when it's imperative to work to rebuild the striped bass population, it doesn't make sense to me to take broad steps to maximize the commercial harvest, especially before more stock assessment data become available. I feel equally as strongly about proactive management of the larger recreational harvest, but one crucial distinction is that the commercial harvest allows over-slot harvesting, which further reduces our breed stock. Both recreational and commercial segments need to work now toward building and sustaining our striped bass population.

I'm writing to support Option A on this amendment, "Commercial quota transfers are not permitted."

Best,  
Richard K. Fleming  
P.O. Box 515  
Freedom, NH 03836  
[Rfleming4@gmail.com](mailto:rfleming4@gmail.com)

R

**From:** [David Luongo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 1:20:09 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery. This is no time to be changing quotas and management plans. Recruitment is low and harvests are high. We had a good year in Massachusetts, why spoil the increased activity? This proposed increase and sharing of quotas is ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE. No angler would support these changes. I am appalled that this is even up for consideration. The proposed changes leave the fishery at risk for overfishing and increasing mortality. I see what impact commercial fishing has on the fishery every year. Violators abound, dead fish floating away from the hundreds of boats chasing a few fish as many boats high grade. We cannot increase this activity.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input. Feel free to call or email me if you would like more information. I am an avid angler out of Plymouth MA and have an educational background in marine biology. My occupation is a firefighter and EMT.

Sincerely,

David Luongo  
30 Brightside Ln  
Forestdale, MA 02644  
[unleashedff248@gmail.com](mailto:unleashedff248@gmail.com)

**From:** [Paul Sullivan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 1:18:22 PM

---

Hello,

This email provides my comments on Striped Bass Draft Addendum I.

The draft addendum, if implemented, would maximize striped bass harvest within conducted stock assessments. Given that the boom/bust striped bass stocks have negatively impacted both recreational and commercial interests over the last 50 years, the proposed addendum will continue the unacceptable boom/bust cycle. Given the unavoidable "rear view mirror" perspective of stock assessments, regulations should err on the side of protecting stocks and not promote maximum harvest. Given that commercial harvest has a significantly greater impact than recreational harvest on breeding populations and future stocks, maximizing commercial harvest as proposed in Addendum I will perpetuate the boom/bust cycle.

Striped Bass Addendum I is ill considered and should NOT be adopted.

Paul Sullivan  
603.325.0920 cell

**From:** [David Slater](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 11:57:14 AM

---

To Whom it Concern,

I am writing today to express my concern regarding commercial transfer of striped bass quotas. Allowing these transfers seems to be the opposite of what we must be doing. The value of these fish isn't limited to commercial harvest. Recreational anglers value these fish because generations of families fish together, fishing is a means to reduce stress and anxiety, and it creates substantial revenues for small businesses. Please stop the transfer of commercial quotes.

Warmest Regards,

David Slater



**From:** [Peter Laurelli](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 11:30:05 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler who has watched continuous degradation of a species under the "management" of the ASMFC, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery and for your commission to adhere to its mandate.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Peter Laurelli  
1 Morningside Pl  
Norwalk, CT 06854  
[peter.laurelli@gmail.com](mailto:peter.laurelli@gmail.com)

**From:** [Ken Thomas](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] STRIPED BASS DRAFT ADDENDUM I  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 10:27:34 AM

---

I SEE NO REASON NOT TO GIVE THE COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN THERE FAIR SHARE OF THE QUOTA. THE RESOURCE SHOULD BE USED FAIRLY BETWEEN ALL PARTY'S. THIS IN FIGHTING BETWEEN RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN NEEDS TO STOP. THERE NEEDS TO BE MIDDLE GROUND OTHERWISE WE ARE POLARIZING THE FISHING RULES JUST THE WAY THE POLITICS OF OUR COUNTRY ARE AND THAT HAS BEEN GETTING US NOWHERE. EVERYONE NEEDS TO LOOK AT BOTH SIDES OF THE COIN AND ADDRESS EACH OTHERS CONCERNS. DO WHAT'S FAIR FOR ALL!!

**From:** [Dave Flood](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External]  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 7:53:38 AM

---

Commercial quota transfers for Striped Bass should NOT be permitted.

David Flood  
13 Mirador Ct,  
Toms River, NJ 08757  
201-232-1982

**From:** [Ronald Meza](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2022 12:40:02 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input. Do the right thing for a change to restore this fishery. Commercial operations like Omega have no business operating in New York!

Sincerely,

Ronald Meza  
741 Stratmill Rd  
Binghamton, NY 13904  
ronaldmeza10@gmail.com

**From:** [Ron Shamaskin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 9:55:10 PM

---

I am OPPOSED to the proposal that allows increased commercial stripped bass fishing in the Chesapeake Bay. Allowing for more commercial fishing in an area that is stressed and beastly under serving recreational fishing is wrong. Please vote against this proposal. Thank you.

Ron Shamaskin

**From:** [John Connelly](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 8:20:08 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

Support Option A you asshole. Go an spend some more money on Venezuela's gay community. Or another museum project. But leave the fish alone.

Sincerely,

John Connelly  
25-5 Jacksonville Rd  
Towaco, NJ 07082  
[johnaconnelly3@gmail.com](mailto:johnaconnelly3@gmail.com)

**From:** [Wesley Esser](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 7:20:02 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest.

Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

I would also support a ban on commercial fishing for striped bass altogether as well as a catch and release policy for sport fishing,

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Wesley Esser  
8 Clipper Cir  
Sandwich, MA 02563  
[vpodha5@aol.com](mailto:vpodha5@aol.com)

**From:** [Al Williams](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Emilie Franke](#); [Michael Armstrong](#)  
**Subject:** [External] 'Striped Bass draft addendum 1'  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 6:21:22 PM

---

To: ASMFC Striped Bass board members and Mass DMF Director and advisory commission members.

From: Al Williams / Gloucester, Mass.

I fish for Striped Bass both commercially and recreationally in Massachusetts state waters. I have been actively involved in this fishery for many years.

I remotely attended the Massachusetts virtual public hearing held on 12/19/22 regarding the potential for transfers of striped bass quota.

I favor Option 'E' from the list presented during the public hearing.

Option 'E' would only allow a transfer at board discretion and with any attached criteria that they deemed appropriate. No transfers allowed if the stock is overfished.

I favor this option because it offers maximum oversight and control of all quota transfers. Quota transfers have offered opportunity with other species, and would clearly be a benefit when a state has exhausted its base quota early, as Massachusetts did in 2022. But there is continued need for prudent caution and scrutiny with all actions pertaining to Striped Bass if the rebuilding target of 2029 is to be met.

That you for consideration of my comments:

Al Williams  
Gloucester, Mass.



**From:** [John Walsh](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 6:20:09 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

It would be absolutely ridiculous to continue to monkey with these regulations at a time when evidence shows that are working to rebuild the stocks.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

John Walsh  
800 South Dr  
Brick, NJ 08724  
[ajwalsh53@hotmail.com](mailto:ajwalsh53@hotmail.com)

**From:** [Robert Donaldson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 3:30:54 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permittedby .

I am really disappointed in some of the decisions made the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the VMRC here in Virginia and their handling of the stocks. Please just leave it as it is for couple more years and then perform a re-assessment at that time.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Robert Donaldson  
6042 Old Hickory Fork Rd  
Hayes, VA 23072  
tarpon05@gmail.com

**From:** [Lance Lascari](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 8:42:44 AM

---

I want to go on the record in support of Option A, maintaining the status quo.

Regards,

Lance  
(Native Fish Coalition NY chapter member)

-----

Lance Lascari // RFdude.com LLC  
[lance@rfdude.com](mailto:lance@rfdude.com)  
271 Edgemoor road, Rochester, NY 14618 USA  
+1.585.857.9338

**From:** [Sean Hesse](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 8:40:09 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Once again the government is serving the interest of preferred industry while ignoring the needs of nature and the individual. This only leads me to believe there must be certain special interests involved here. You will be decimating the population of fish giving me less of an opportunity to catch them all so they can be sold to me by industry. Commercial fishing already has lower limit and is responsible for overfishing yet the little guy has to pay for it and has less of a chance to procure his own food for his family. Do the right thing for the fish and the people  
Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Sean Hesse  
124 Springtime Ln W  
Levittown, NY 11756  
[s.hesse0092@gmail.com](mailto:s.hesse0092@gmail.com)

**From:** [John Caccamese](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 6:30:04 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

None of the recent proposals or decisions around the management of menhaden or striped bass seem to be consistent with what science and nature are telling us. They seem to be driven more by market forces, which seems to be the surest way to help these co-dependent fisheries to crumble.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

John Caccamese  
8111 Ruxton Crossing Rd  
Towson, MD 21204  
[jcaccamese@ymail.com](mailto:jcaccamese@ymail.com)

**From:** [James Runfola](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 7:23:31 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is James Runfola and I am a resident of Moorestown, New Jersey. I support Option A, "no commercial transfer permitted."

Thank You,  
James Runfola

**From:** [joe franckowiak](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 4:47:37 PM

---

Hi. I support option A, No commercial transfer permitted. Thanks for your consideration.

Joe Franckowiak  
236 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Surf City, Nj 08008

**From:** [William Yingst](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial Quota Transfers for Striped Bass  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 3:48:36 PM

---

I am offering a comment for Option A of this Draft Document, stating that Commercial Quota transfers should NOT be permitted.

Thank you

William Yingst  
116 Cormorant Drive  
Swansboro, NC 29584  
(352)562-2934



**From:** [Michael Prestegord](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Fishery  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 1:45:09 PM

---

I support Option A, No commercial transfer permitted

**Michael Prestegord**



**OFFICE:** 215.441.4444 x112

**DIRECT:** 215.259.6334

**CELL:** 215.630.0440

[mprestegord@vizirocks.com](mailto:mprestegord@vizirocks.com)

Address: 882 Louis Drive

Warminster, Pa. 18974

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**From:** [Eric Moore](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped BAss Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 1:42:44 PM

---

I support Option A, No commercial transfer permitted.

Eric Moore  
Tabernacle NJ

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [cnastasi33](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass ocean commercial quota transfer between States  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 12:44:22 PM

---

I strongly oppose the transfer of any Striped Bass quotas between any States. States are separate from one another for many reasons including, but not limited to, Individuality and Geographic differences. Transferring of quotas is a money grab and a complete contradiction of why we have individual state quotas to begin with. Striped Bass stocks will also be further hampered from making a recovery.  
Thanks Chris Nastasi

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Joe Aletta](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 9:35:55 AM

---

ASMFC,

My name is Joseph Aletta and I live and fish in New Jersey. I support Option A, No commercial transfer permitted. Thank You.

Joe Aletta

**From:** [Tim Jones](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striper quota transfer  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 8:51:55 AM

---

Good morning I'm a recreational fisherman for striped bass on cape cod. And I've seen first hand what the destruction of the fishery looks like via commercial fishing especially. It makes absolutely no sense to kill big breeding fish to sell for Pennies. Plus it depletes the stock for future generations. They're much more valuable as a game fish honestly. Comm striper fishing should be banned honestly. And this transfer would make things a lot worse than it already is. Please do not pass this act it would be a disaster. Thanks for your time.

**From:** [James Suleski](#)  
**To:** [Comments: stripercomments@gmail.com](mailto:stripercomments@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 6:55:00 AM

---

Greetings,

I am writing to oppose the notion that now is the time to fully exploit commercial striped bass harvest. While recreational angling makes up most of the harvest, as I understand it there are a number of things in flux currently during this early fragile striped bass recovery. The majority of striped bass recruitment as I understand it comes from the Chesapeake bay. Here biological dead zones caused by the Susquehanna river pollution, high temperatures caused by climate change and competition for forage/predation with the proliferating threat of invasive blue catfish are wild cards. When you have most of your striped bass recruitment eggs in the Chesapeake basket and you don't yet fully understand the interplay between emerging threats it seems reckless to try to maximize any form of harvest.

Let's give these fish some cushion in case they need all of it. We all know how much financially, ecologically, and socially they mean to the entire east coast. Their in-shaky recovery and we should reflect that in our management.

-James Suleski  
6094051415

**From:** [Tim Scattergood](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 5:52:19 AM

---

Timothy D. Scattergood  
729Graisbury Ave. Haddonfield NJ 08033

I support Option A, No commercial transfer permitted.

Best,

Tim Scattergood

**From:** [Edward Borg](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 11:01:54 PM

---

To the Striped Bass Management Board,

I am a licensed commercial fisherman from New York State. In regard to Striped Bass Draft Addendum I, I am in favor of Option B: General commercial quota transfer provision (with overfished conservation tax). Option B with the 5% conservation tax upon transfer should address the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum VI in 2020, and will keep fishing mortality low enough to have the stock rebuilt by 2029. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward Borg



**From:** [Chris Kiss](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 9:20:08 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

Fish for sea robins and dog fish. Leave the striped bass alone and don't fuck everything up for everyone. Shit is finally getting better for them so don't ruin it now

Sincerely,

Chris Kiss  
2 Higby Dr  
Meriden, CT 06450  
[kissch44@gmail.com](mailto:kissch44@gmail.com)

**From:** [Bill LeConey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 7:48:34 PM

---

Option A - no commercial transfer of unused quota

Bill LeConey

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Pasquale Nicolia](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 7:20:03 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Striped bass fishing is a pastime that has been enjoyed for generations and should be for generations more. We need to help rebuild the striped bass population, not destroy it.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Pasquale Nicolia  
118 Old Pine Rd  
Narragansett, RI 02882  
[pnicolia@gmail.com](mailto:pnicolia@gmail.com)

**From:** [Anthony Stradone](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 5:50:09 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Size limits and catch limits should be consistent along the Atlantic seaboard.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Anthony Stradone  
31 Courtland Dr  
Narragansett, RI 02882  
[anthonystradonejr@cox.net](mailto:anthonystradonejr@cox.net)

**From:** [Paul Kameen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 5:40:02 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass researcher, and angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery. I am currently writing my bachelors thesis on stripped bass and I believe the data does not indicate that populations are stable enough commercial quota transfers of striped bass.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Paul Kameen  
107 Sproul Rd  
Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328  
kameeb@icloud.com

**From:** [Coleman Komishane](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 4:10:09 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

To whom it may concern,

The increase of viable/fertile spawning Striped Bass is necessary to promote sustained health of the North Atlantic fishery. The present law proposes to decimate this fraction of Striped Bass, which would have an outsized effect in lowering spawning Striped Bass numbers. Taken together, this effect compounds and accelerates the demise of this loved/commercially important species.

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Coleman Komishane  
5 Eaglehead Rd  
Manchester, MA 01944  
[colemankomi@gmail.com](mailto:colemankomi@gmail.com)

**From:** [Spencer Bode](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option B on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 3:50:03 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support using out allocated quota efficiently for maximum capital gain.

The Striped Bass Fishery Managements plan sets the quota thus we should allow the properly permitted individuals harvest it and not leave any uncaught fish.

As a result, it is time to make management changes that expand harvest due to 400,000 lbs being leftover in ocean quota. Representing 2 million dollars as dock prices avg 5\$. Therefore, I support option B. Allowing states to transfer unused quota.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Spencer Bode  
20 Prospect Ave  
North Kingstown, RI 02852  
[spencerbode17@gmail.com](mailto:spencerbode17@gmail.com)

**From:** [Tom Bilodeau](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 3:30:02 PM

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Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

My family and many others in MA have always fished for Bass. We have seen the populations change rapidly over 5 to 10 year periods. It is frustrating to follow the recreational restrictions that are so strict and watch the commercial guys kill so many more fish.

The recreational side is a huge economic boost in terms of bait shops, hotel rentals, and general tourist money. I feel like politicians overlook how expensive a hobby striped bass fishing can be, we don't need more commercial fishing when it risks the populations we have and makes it so that we need these very strict recreational limits with size caps.

Sincerely,

Tom Bilodeau  
320 Powder Mill Rd  
Concord, MA 01742  
bilodeau50@aol.com



**From:** [Alex Dee](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 2:50:03 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan is currently doing wonders for our community. I commercial bass myself to pay for my college costs and other expenses/bills. This past season I have never seen so many giant bass in schools of near tens of thousands every single day of the season. Off the cape, south shore, boston, and even the north shore was exceptional. Keep doing what you guys are doing because it is obviously working. The people crying to oppose commercial striped bass don't know what's actually going on out on the water. I have been doing this commercial bass fishery since 2017, it quite literally has improved each year. One thing we should do is only give permits to people with a certain amount of pounds sold per season. Make it 2,000 pounds a season to keep a license. There is way too many boats fishing every single day. The recreational fleet is also extremely out of control on closed days killing fish with gut hooked trebles. This fishery is a staple in our state and its a freedom we need to fight for.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Alex Dee  
30 Arborway Dr  
Scituate, MA 02066  
[alexdl2@icloud.com](mailto:alexdl2@icloud.com)

**From:** [Alex Puskar](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 1:50:08 PM

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Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler in RI, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery. The results are just starting to show in block island sound. But it's wayyyy to soon.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are

Sincerely,

Alex Puskar  
221 3rd St  
Newport, RI 02840  
[a.puskar@icloud.com](mailto:a.puskar@icloud.com)

**From:** [Kevin Granfield](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 1:40:04 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted. These fish have taken so much abuse over the years, and it hurts me to see the commercial fishing industry try to pressure them and find loopholes at every turn to make a profit. We need to be mature and think about the long game here.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Kevin Granfield  
40 Bayview Rd  
Mashpee, MA 02649  
[kwgranfield@comcast.net](mailto:kwgranfield@comcast.net)

**From:** [Noah Lamperti](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 1:30:11 PM

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Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As an avid striped bass surfcaster and tackle shop employee, I support the conservation of striped bass and the end of commercial fishing for this species.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Noah Lamperti  
1 Main St  
Harwich, MA 02645  
nlamperti16@gmail.com

**From:** [michaelhaugheywoolston@gmail.com](mailto:michaelhaugheywoolston@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 1:15:38 PM

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Dear Commission,

It appears that new rules are being considered that will allow sharing of the quota for striped bass. It would seem that this rule change will benefit certain multi-state commercial fishing enterprises, by maximizing the catch across multiple states. However, according to most objective marine scientists, the current bass stocks are already substantially overfished. Why would the ASMFC, which represents the best interests for all users of the fishery, even consider increasing the yield, when the best way to rebuild the fishery is to allow it to rebound? Isn't the healthy rebuilding of the fishery stocks important to all users? This addendum seems to be driven by short sighted greed. The fact that the commission would even consider this revision and its disregard for fisheries science, smacks of conflict of interest and kowtowing to commercial short sighted profit motives. I speak for many, when I say that this addendum strives boldly in exactly the wrong direction, and we are left to wonder why? It seems like we can be so shortsighted in managing these resources. In decades past, we decimated the stock through a long series of poor management decisions. This resulted in a broad moratorium on the striped bass fishery, which severely impacted both commercial and recreational interests. Once the stocks rebounded, however, the shortsighted management resumed, and we are headed the wrong way yet again! There is a great deal more at stake here than maximizing this year's tonnages, and the price of fish. Please reject this initiative.

Respectfully,

Michael Haughey  
Concerned Fisherman

**From:** [philip](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 1:14:32 PM

---

I do not support allowing voluntary transfer of striped bass ocean commercial quota transfers between states.

I do support Status Quo.

Thank you,

Philip Welsh  
240 117th St  
Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

**From:** [Anthony Baratta](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 1:10:09 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Frankly, I was appalled at the suggestion of transferring rights when we in MD are under strict conservation restrict. I urge you not to adopt the transfer approach.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Anthony Baratta  
377 Deer Dr  
Lusby, MD 20657  
[ab2@psu.edu](mailto:ab2@psu.edu)

**From:** [Will Clark](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 12:40:02 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

It is time to stop viewing the great American gamefish from the lens of a dollar sign. They are worth far more to the culture of New England alive than they are dead. Let's keep this stock of fish healthy enough to pass the sport on for generations to come.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Will Clark  
3 Lake Rd  
Gloucester, MA 01930  
wcclark710@gmail.com



**From:** [Evan Belanger](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 12:00:09 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a long time striped bass angler who has seen the population decline over the many years, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Evan Belanger  
5 Pine Tree Rd Apt B  
Nantucket, MA 02554  
[evanbelangerr@gmail.com](mailto:evanbelangerr@gmail.com)

**From:** [Kenneth Vera](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 12:00:05 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Personally, I believe commercial harvesting should be stopped and recreational fishing for striped bass should be limited to catch and release only. We need to give this fishery time to rebuild and grow before chipping away more at these stocks. Party boats and charters are also a big part of the diminish of striped bass population. Here in NJ we have tons of party boats leaded with 40-50 guys keeping one to two fish each, twice a day per boat.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Vera  
968 Linden Ave  
Brick, NJ 08723  
kenvera92@gmail.com

**From:** [Ted Laquidara](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 12:00:03 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

I work at a bait and tackle shop as well as operate a charter business in Rhode Island. The striped bass alone plays a huge role in the tackle industry as well as Northeast charter captains.  
Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Ted Laquidara  
37 Hoxsie Ave  
Charlestown, RI 02813  
[basketman237@aol.com](mailto:basketman237@aol.com)

**From:** [Nicholas Favata](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 11:50:05 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

Without this fish the northeast fishery as we know it today would be a unrecognizable shell of what it used to be. As a 4th generation striper fisherman in the state of NJ, we need to do more to ensure the protection and preservation of this fish.

The striped bass is a staple and frankly it fuels the economy along the coast here in NJ as thousands flock to our beaches each year to pursue this fish.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Favata  
21 N 9th St  
Kenilworth, NJ 07033  
[nfavata@live.com](mailto:nfavata@live.com)

**From:** [Benjamin Masse](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 11:30:09 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

Of all the times to start trying to further overfish the striped bass population you've chosen the worst possible time. Population is at a critical mass and there are strict rebuilding plans already in place. How can you possibly in good conscious consider instituting a sneaky policy that will increase harvest size.

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Masse  
16 Reservoir Ave  
Rehoboth, MA 02769  
bmasse10@gmail.com

**From:** [Jeffrey Boswell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 11:30:09 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

The striped bass fishery is overfished yet we continue to face illogical and detrimental propositions such as transferring quota. Enough with this!!

In Massachusetts our commercial anglers were not able to catch their quota in past seasons so what did we do... give them more days to catch them!! If they couldn't catch the fish, that should have been a clear signal of an issue, but instead we go the other direction. Please put the resource first for once, and stop taken action that will further harm it.

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Boswell  
12 Winter St  
Plymouth, MA 02360  
[Boswell204@gmail.com](mailto:Boswell204@gmail.com)

**From:** [Brad Valalik](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 11:10:07 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

There are too many regulations on the rod and reel fisherman and not enough on the commercial harvest.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Brad Valalik  
24 Queach Rd  
Branford, CT 06405  
[bradvalalik@gmail.com](mailto:bradvalalik@gmail.com)

**From:** [David Kennedy](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2022 7:40:03 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

It is important the ASMFC recognize economic benefit of supporting a healthy recreational fishery in your management decisions. This is a shared resource and commercial fishing operations benefit at a cost to all of us.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

David Kennedy  
3101 Ulster Ct  
Annapolis, MD 21403  
kennedy.david1@att.net



**From:** [Antoni Athanasopoulos](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 9:47:37 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

**I am Antoni Athanasopoulos, writing on behalf of the New York Coalition for Recreational Fishing (NYCRF), a non-profit organization representing over 2,000 anglers. I have been a recreational striped bass fisherman for as long as I can remember. I fish often out of Beverly, MA**

After reviewing Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan we are concerned that the Board is considering an amendment that would result in the increased harvesting of striped bass at a time when the fishery is:

still in a rebuilding phase

still classified as overfished

experiencing historically low recruitment.

According to the current management rebuilding plan, fishing mortality must remain at or below  $F=0.17$ . I have concerns that Addendum I could jeopardize the 2029 rebuilding plan which is already operating under a small margin of error. The Draft Addendum and the ASMFC recognize this fact when it states “Allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum VI in 2020.”

Addendum I is being introduced at the wrong time. I would be open to considering such a proposal at a time when the 2029 rebuilding plan has proven successful but not now. As a result we select Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

If the Board determines that commercial quota transfers must be permitted, of the remaining options the only option that should be considered is Option E: Limited Board discretion commercial quota transfer provision based on stock status.

The public comments during consideration of Amendment 7 were overwhelming clear in recommending conservative fisheries management measures. Until the striped bass fishery is successfully rebuilt by 2029 and is not overfished, the transfer of commercial quota transfers between states should not be permitted.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Antoni

--

Antoni Athanasopoulos  
Boston, MA | T. (978) 578-2005

**From:** [Jacob Fetterman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 5:53:40 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regard to Addendum I. There should be only 1 option:

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

To do anything else would be nonsensical when striped bass stock is in severe need of recovery, and it would result in increased harvest of breeder fish in states where there is no commercial slot.

Please do better.

Best,  
Jacob A. Fetterman

**From:** [Christopher Kline](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] My support for Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 5:20:08 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

With regards to the recent proposal to allow commercial quota transfers for striped bass, please register my firm disagreement with this proposal, because I believe it would significantly harm our ability to rebuild the striped bass population along the entire east coast of the United States.

Instead, I support option A (status quo) and DO NOT support commercial quota transfers.

Thank you for your time and for registering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Christopher Kline  
44 Forbes Hill Rd  
Quincy, MA 02170  
[kline.christopher@gmail.com](mailto:kline.christopher@gmail.com)

**From:** [Jack Kingston](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 3:55:58 PM

---

Hi,

If we allow states to transfer unused commercial quotas then more pressure will be on the highest concentration of large fish. This is not a sustainable strategy for management of a population.

We shouldn't be making people feel entitled to income from fish they don't have. That is a slippery slope.

There should be no change to the commercial quota transfer rules.

Option A (no change - commercial quota transfers not be permitted)

Let's try to be sensible about this and maybe the bass won't die off again.

Thanks,

Jack Kingston  
Boston MA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Emilie Franke](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Re: Thank you for attending Striped Bass Draft Addendum I Webinar Public Hearings  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 2:08:04 PM

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**From:** Greg F Vespe <[vespe.risaa@gmail.com](mailto:vespe.risaa@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 16, 2022 7:26 AM  
**To:** G2W  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Thank you for attending Striped Bass Draft Addendum I Webinar Public Hearings

Thank you for holding the hearing and allowing comment. In addition to my comments made on behalf of the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers at the RI hearing regarding the proposal to allow Commercial Striped Bass quota transfer among states, I would also like to add that on a personal level I agreed with the comments made during the hearing about the slide showing NJ as 0% use of commercial allocation and then factoring in that 0% into the overall equation for % commercial catch utilized as being poorly constructed.

While it may be factually correct - it feels an awful lot like the slide was put together based on a leading agenda and comes across a "lawyer speak" type written verbiage. Its misleading at best.

I am not advocating for it to be factored in at 100% even if the quota is fully utilized by the rec side, but rather it (NJ) simply shouldn't be factored in at all into the math period. If you want to portray to the public a accurate vision that actually represents what's happening. Intentional or not, slides like that that are part of the reason for distrust and hesitancy on the public to participate in the process so I would ask you to please be more vigilant about not only of being "factually correct" slides but also as to whether something is designed to clearly favor a position and might be better represented in a more neutral way.

With all respect,

Greg Vespe  
Executive Director  
RISAA

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**From:** [Timothy Begin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 1:59:14 PM

---

Hello, I am email with comments regarding the Striped Bass Management Plan, Amendment 7, addendum 1.

My comments are below:

1.) I do not support commercial quota transfers of any kind and therefore I support Option A in addendum 1, which would not permit commercial quota transfers.

2.) This is a general comment that I hope the AMFC board will read and perhaps think about as they move forward with regards to striped bass. For most of the time that I've followed and participated in the fisheries management process, I've given the AMFC board the benefit of the doubt. This is because I understand that being a public servant is a thankless Job that most of the time requires people make tough decisions with little resources and little thanks. But the actions the board has taken following the approval of Amendment 7 have really disappointed me and have caused me to loose all faith that the board is looking out for the public interest and for the good of the striped bass fishery. Following the approval of Amendment 7, drafts of the striped bass stock assessment were released, and when the final assessment was released it turned out that the model indicated that stripers were no longer over fished and that no regulatory changes were needed. This should have a been a happy finding for all anglers but what that actually meant was that current conservation equivalency (CE) measures could be left in place. Now CE was a hot button topic during the amendment process and there was overwhelming public support to put strict guard rails on CE. When it was brought to the attention of the board during a recent meeting that due to the lack of regulatory changes, many very unpopular CE measures would remain in place the board stated, they had no interest in an addendum to Amendment 7. Cut scene to a few weeks later, the board has proposed addendum 1, which will help maximize the commercial quota, kill more striped bass and is extremely unpopular with the public. So apparently the board does in fact have an interest in an addendum but it just so happens that it's extremely unpopular with the general public and seems to be in service of special interest groups, not the good of the fishery. The board's recent actions are the proverbial straw that broke the camels back for me. The lack of respect they have shown the public and anglers like me since Amendment 7, is not far and not excusable. As I stated above, up until this point I was one of the reasonable people, who respected the board members as public servants stuck between a rock and a hard place, but I no longer believe the board to be participating in these management processes in good faith. I do hope some of the board members read this statement and take it into account as they make future decision.

Thanks for your time.  
Tim Begin

781-635-8430



**From:** [Lenny Rudow](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] In Support Option A Comment  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 1:20:09 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

Supporting quota transfer essentially amounts to saying "Oops we didn't harvest enough, we'd better let someone else kill and sell those fish." Fish that didn't get caught didn't survive due to any lack of fishing effort, and handing them over to people in other areas could also have significant localized adverse affects.

This is not a good time consider management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo), commercial quota transfers not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Lenny Rudow  
4101 Shoreham Beach Rd  
Edgewater, MD 21037  
[lenny@fishtalkmag.com](mailto:lenny@fishtalkmag.com)

**From:** [William Dunnavant](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 11:30:07 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels. Have we not learned anything from our history of mismanaging this valuable resource?

As a result, it is NOT the time to be considering management changes that expand commercial harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

William Dunnavant  
129 Sound Dr  
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512  
[rustyd01@gmail.com](mailto:rustyd01@gmail.com)

**From:** [Emilie Franke](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Striped Bass Management  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 11:09:46 AM

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Emilie Franke | Fishery Management Plan Coordinator  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201  
Phone: 703.842.0716 | Fax: 703.842.0741  
[efranke@asmfc.org](mailto:efranke@asmfc.org) | [www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org)

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**From:** Robert Beal <[Rbeal@asmfc.org](mailto:Rbeal@asmfc.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** 'Thomas Trickett' <[ttrickett751@gmail.com](mailto:ttrickett751@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Emilie Franke <[EFranke@asmfc.org](mailto:EFranke@asmfc.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [External] Striped Bass Management

Good Morning Mr. Trickett,

Thanks for taking the time to send your comments on Striped Bass Addendum I. We will provide your comments to the Striped Bass Management Board as they consider approval of the Addendum early next year.

Regards,  
Bob Beal

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**From:** Thomas Trickett <[ttrickett751@gmail.com](mailto:ttrickett751@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2022 10:15 AM  
**To:** Robert Beal <[Rbeal@asmfc.org](mailto:Rbeal@asmfc.org)>  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Management

It's hard for me to understand why the commission would even consider allowing states to share Striped Bass allocations. If a state didn't get their quota, it was probably because the fish were not there. Sharing the quota with another state could jeopardize the rebuilding process that the fishery is in. Don't bow to the big dollar lobbies. Don't interfere with the Striped Bass 2029 rebuilding deadline.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. Trickett

**From:** [Daniel Cataldo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 10:30:03 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

Increasing the potential take by commercial anglers is not the right thing to do while trying to replenish stocks. The commercial fishermen are already decimating the breeding stock and this will only worsen the problem.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Daniel Cataldo  
53 Fearing Rd  
Hingham, MA 02043  
[dcataldo@eatonvance.com](mailto:dcataldo@eatonvance.com)

**From:** [Edward Knight](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 10:20:04 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

Having spent years fishing the Chesapeake Bay for the species, I can attest that the stock of the fishery is in a dismal shape. The fish that I do see are skinny, small and not in a healthy shape. The commercial quota should be reduced, per the reduction in the angler quota.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Edward Knight  
2211 Oak Water Ct  
North Chesterfield, VA 23235  
[fishedsart@gmail.com](mailto:fishedsart@gmail.com)

**From:** [James Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 10:10:09 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery. This year for the first time in 20 years I experienced two trips with a Rick Hall charter boat where we caught no stripers. Even the Captain said that that was a first for him.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

James Johnson  
14 Dempsey Dr  
Newark, DE 19713  
[jimj24@gmail.com](mailto:jimj24@gmail.com)

**From:** [Sean McNamee](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2022 9:10:08 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

PERSONALLY, IF YOU WANT MORE CAUGHT, LET THE SPORTSMAN KEEP 2 INSTEAD OF ONE

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Sean McNamee  
15 S Elm St  
Wallingford, CT 06492  
[seancpa@iconn.net](mailto:seancpa@iconn.net)



**From:** [Christopher Thompson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
**Date:** Sunday, December 18, 2022 12:25:58 AM

---

Please advocate for option A, Status Quo- No commercial Transfers.

Chris Thompson  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Frank Ciccone](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.  
**Date:** Saturday, December 17, 2022 8:20:16 PM

---

I am advocating for Option A: no quota transfers. Thank you

Frank

Mobile: 617-849-0365

**From:** [W. Brice Contessa](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Saturday, December 17, 2022 6:39:59 PM

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Good Day...

I'm writing to voice my concern about Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1. Interstate quota transfer flies in the face of public sentiment coast wide regarding Striped bass management strategy. We need to manage for lower mortality at this time and all this addendum will do is increase it. Please adopt option A, status quo and do not allow commercial transfers. We're running out of time to act to preserve this most vital fishery. I'm hopeful the council will make the right decision. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully...

Brice Contessa  
[www.marthasvineyardoutfitters.com](http://www.marthasvineyardoutfitters.com)  
(508)962-7959

**From:** [Tom Routliffe](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
**Date:** Saturday, December 17, 2022 10:48:02 AM

---

Dear Emilie Franke,

I myself, along with numerous fellow salt water anglers, totally oppose allowing states to transfer unused ocean commercial quotas of striped bass. QUOTA TRANSFERS MUST NOT BE PERMITTED!!!

Thank you.

Tom Routliffe  
90 Little Comfort Way  
Wakefield, RI 02879

**From:** [Matthew DiPentima](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I--Option A  
**Date:** Friday, December 16, 2022 12:19:58 PM

---

Dear Striped Bass Management Board,

I am a recreational angler from New York. I'm writing to express my support for Option A (no commercial transfers) for the Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. The other options will increase Striped Bass mortality at a time when the stock is in desperate need of rebuilding.

Sincerely,

Matthew DiPentima

**From:** [George Sylvestre](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 2:13:18 PM

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Dear Sir or Ma'am,

The currently proposed Addendum I to Amendment 7 of the Striped Bass Management Plan makes absolutely no sense to me and I am at a loss as to why this being raised and why its being raised now. I realize I'm just a lowly fly fishing guide, but based on my understanding the addendum not only goes against the available science, it goes against common sense as well. Can't we just let the fishery recover to full health before we take actions that compromise the recovery? I'll be attending the Massachusetts public hearing on 19DEC22 and voicing my opinion that commercial quota transfers not be permitted.

You've (mostly) listened and heard comments from the public in the past, for that you deserve credit. Please listen again on Addendum I and avoid making what could be a very costly error for the fishery.

Thank you,  
Captain George Sylvestre, CCI  
<https://sylvestreoutdoors.com/>  
7814888642 



*Sylvestre Outdoors is a veteran owned, family operated fly casting instruction and guided fly fishing service. We encourage catch and release fishing (our striped bass trips are catch and release only)* 

**From:** [bill\\_oconnor@mediacombb.net](mailto:bill_oconnor@mediacombb.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 9:43:04 AM

---

In my view, this flies in the face of conservation of a species that is already in trouble.

I do not want to see this quota sharing adopted.

Bill O'Connor  
31238 Mohican Dr.  
Dagsboro, DE 19939

**From:** [Keith Daniels](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 6:58:06 AM

---

To the Striped Bass Management Board,  
I am a recreational angler from Massachusetts. I'm writing today to express my preference for the options being proposed in Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. I prefer option A – status quo, no commercial transfers. If the professional fishermen can not harvest the quota in their state then the fishery can not support the quota as a whole. Any of the other options will obviously increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Keith Daniels  
redpuppis@aol.com



**From:** [Paul Spadavecchia](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 10:04:15 PM

---

I would like to choose option 1 status quo  
Thank you  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Frank Bryer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass conservation  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 6:14:54 PM

---

If the striped bass are overfished ,why would we want other states to come in and decimate them more. Again greed over common sense

**From:** [Irene Sabatelli](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Fw: Striped bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 4:06:40 PM

---

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

Begin forwarded message:

On Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 1:40 PM, Irene Sabatelli <telli1948@aol.com> wrote:

Dear Emilie,

I am writing to you today regarding the above Addendum.

As an avid sports fisherman for over seventy plus years, I am adamantly opposed to granting the states the ability to transfer quotas. This will ultimately result in the culling of more striped bass.

The striped bass population is dangerously low. Therefore, we should not be considering culling the striped bass. In my opinion this will make a bad situation worse.

We need to have sound management decisions so that we can continue to enjoy sports fishing while saving our striped bass population.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter,

Sincerely,

Paul Sabatelli  
Brooklyn, NY

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [Dean Pesante](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [jasson.mcnamee@dem.ri.gov](mailto:jasson.mcnamee@dem.ri.gov)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass Draft addendum  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 3:10:05 PM

---

To The ASFMC. I am writing to support option B for commercial striped bass transfer.

I am a commercial gill netter in Rhode Island. While fishing within our normal fisheries for Bluefish, Dogfish, Scup, Black Seabass and Bonito there is an unavoidable bycatch of striped bass. Current regulations and limits force us to discard these fish wasting the resource.

The transfer of commercial striped bass quota to Rhode Island could greatly help to prevent these regulatory discards allowing us to land these fish instead of wasting the resource.

This would be beneficial to the fishermen, the public making striped bass more available at a reasonable price. It would also give management a more realistic view of the number of fish being caught.

The striped bass stocks are very healthy and abundant here in Rhode Island waters. Please help us to utilize and not waste this valuable resource.

Thank You. Dean Pesante. F/V Oceana

**From:** [Dean Lamont](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass ademdem  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 3:10:04 PM

---

I am a fishing guide in nc and fish the Roanoke river for Stripers and Shad  
Our keeper season was reduced to 1-fish per day for four days last year .  
I agree with the need to reduce the morality numbers but do not agree that commercial fishermen be allowed to have a larger quota. More needs to be given to increase the bio mass of Stripers inside the ocean in nc.  
The Stripers in nc seem to grow to about 25" and then disappear. There are some breeders in the 20 to 30 lb range.  
But few  
My thought is that the smaller fish escape the nets down in the sound but the larger fish are harvested mostly shipped out of state.  
I also promote the idea of less time , if any to use bait only on circle hooks.  
It is very easy to catch Stripers on jigs and flies.  
There are some guides that only fish with artificials.  
I sincerely hope we reject the explanation of the commercial stripe bass season and Quoto.  
Capt Dean Lamont  
919-414-2452  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Thomas Cody](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 12:55:15 PM

---

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to comment on Striped Bass Addendum I. I support **Option A (not permitting commercial quota transfers)**. I hope that the council will honor the wishes of so many of its stakeholders and prioritize rebuilding the stock rather than rushing to exploit the resource before it is fully rebuilt. The stock is still being overfished and I am deeply concerned that the stock will not be rebuilt by 2029 if the council does not take more precautions. I love this fishery and hope to share it with my two young children. I was able to enjoy excellent striped bass fishing as a child because of the rebuilding efforts of the 1980s and 1990s and hope that the council will continue that legacy rather than allow all of its hard work to be erased in one generation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,  
Thomas Cody

**From:** [John](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 14, 2022 5:49:17 AM

---

To the Striped Bass Management Board,

I am a recreational angler from the United Kingdom. For the last 18 years my friends (usually 10 or so of us) and I have come to the USA to fish Cape Cod in June. We typically stay for 2 weeks or more and some return in late September for the fall run. Whilst we are not US citizens, we love the striper fishing and the Cape Cod area especially so feel very invested in the striped bass fishery. You are so fortunate to have this striped bass fishery on your doorstep. It is a precious resource and it would be a crime to over exploiting it (again) just so a few commercial fisherman can cash in.

I am therefore writing to express my preference for option **A - status quo, no commercial transfers** - in *Draft Addendum I* to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. The EU and UK have allowed the trading of quotas across numerous species and it has been a complete disaster for stocks. So I applore you not to make the same mistakes. This at a time when striped bass stocks are under severe pressure and stocks are a shadow of what they were.

Yours Sincerely,

John Taylor  
[Johrtaylor@ntlworld.com](mailto:Johrtaylor@ntlworld.com)

11 Hunnels Close,  
Fleet,  
Hampshire, GU526YR  
UK

**From:** [Davisturnitup](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Transfer of Striper Quota  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 5:24:36 PM

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Why is this even being brought up or considered with the state of the striped bass status being classified as overfished already and being overfished now. I cannot understand the reasoning why the ASMF would even ask something that would be detrimental to any overfished resource especially in North Carolina where striped bass has been closed for the last few years.

Fred Davis  
221 Normandy Drive  
Wilmington, N.C. 28412



**From:** [Ned Bean](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option AA for Striped Bass Addendum 1: Keep Status Quo (No commercial transfers)  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 4:02:25 PM

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Hello ASMFC.

John Bean, Edgartown, MA. I am a recreational fisherman, and I recommend that the ASMFC **adopt** Option A for Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1, which is to keep the status quo (no commercial quota transfers).

Sincerely,

John Bean  
Edgartown, MA

**From:** [Dennis Young](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 2:06:44 PM

---

Im an angler from Connecticut, im writing because i prefer the status quo, option A. I believe sharing quotas between states will increase mortality while the stock is trying to rebuild.

Dennis Young  
Dyoungct@yahoo.com

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [George Brencher](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Proposed Addendum to Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 1:01:37 PM

---

I am a recreational angler from Connecticut. I'm writing to express my preference for the options being proposed in Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan.

I prefer option A - status quo, no commercial transfers.

This feels like the best option for limiting mortality and allowing stocks to rebuild. If states have quotas available for transfer, it is probably because there weren't adequate stocks to fill their quota. Allowing another state to use that quota to further deplete the pressured stocks doesn't make sense to me under the circumstances.

Thank you for considering my input.

George Brencher  
Killingworth, CT

**From:** [Mark Brown](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 12:59:22 PM

---

Hello,

I'm a 68 year old recreational angler living in Massachusetts, and I would like to see you adopt Draft 1 that does not allow for commercial transfers of quota. I've lived thru the ups and downs of the fish's number, and we need to do everything we can to bring the numbers up.

Thanks for everything you do.

Regards

Mark Brown

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Todd Forrest](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Rep. Melissa Ziobron](#); [Justin Davis](#); [ROBERT LAFRANCE](#); [Sen. Craig A. Miner](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 12:23:05 PM

---

Dear Ms. Franke:

I am writing to comment on the proposed Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for the Atlantic Striped Bass. I am a recreational angler who lives in Connecticut and have a strong interest in the long-term health of this remarkable shared resource. I am strongly opposed to any addendum that would increase the harvest of striped bass. **Therefore, I am in favor of Option A: no commercial quota transfer.**

I find it remarkable that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission would even consider an increase to the harvest of striped bass given the history of striped bass management, the science that the Commission itself presented during the development of Amendment 7 (and in the Draft Document for Public Comment for Addendum I), and the unequivocal support of the vast majority of stakeholders for the implementation of measures that would increase the long-term abundance of striped bass.

The Draft Document states that the problem Addendum I is trying to solve is that some states are prevented from harvesting more striped bass because of an antiquated commercial quota system that was based on poor science. At the same time, the Draft Document indicates that only 2 states (Massachusetts and Maryland) filled their quota in 2021. The Draft Document does not even entertain that existing commercial quotas may be too high given the alarming reduction in striped bass populations since the stock was deemed rebuilt in 1995. Instead, it provides a mechanism to give fish that states voluntarily return to the coastwide fishery through the disuse of commercial quotas to states that do not seem interested in contributing to the long-term health of striped bass.

It is surprising that ASMRC would entertain an increase in commercial harvest given that the data on striped bass presented in the Draft Document do not support **any** increase in the harvest of striped bass. The document states that according to the most recent stock assessment, striped bass spawning stock biomass is below both the target and threshold, recruitment in 2020 and 2021 were below average, and the striped bass population has only a 78.6% chance of being rebuilt by 2029. At best, this modest improvement in the outlook for striped bass should be taken as an indication that recently strengthened regulations are beginning to work and should not be relaxed. At worst, this is a woeful number based on uncertain and imprecise data and should not be used to benefit the few at the expense of the many. Given climate change, pollution, disease, increased recreational fishing effort, and many other factors that impact striped bass health, it seems that we should gather a lot more data before we make any decision to increase the harvest of striped bass.

While I am grateful for the work that the ASMFC does on behalf of our shared resource, I am alarmed that the Commission would consider an addendum that is clearly in conflict with the position the majority of stakeholders expressed during the development of Amendment VII. An abundance of striped bass benefits us all.

Sincerely,

Todd Forrest  
Ridgefield, Connecticut

**From:** [peter.leary](mailto:peter.leary)  
**To:** [stripercomments@gmail.com](mailto:stripercomments@gmail.com); [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 12, 2022 6:57:01 PM

---

Hello ASMFC Striped Bass Board Members,

I choose option A

My name is Peter Leary, I am a 26 year old Striper surf/fly angler who primarily fishes around Western Long Island and NYC, but spend multiple days a year in Rhode Island, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Maine chasing these great fish. Striped bass are a huge part of my life as well as many others who dedicate so much time and effort (Money) into this pursuit.

Option A: No Transfers of Commercial quotas

CE has been a great tragedy in Striped Bass management. We need to protect these fish and hold all stake holders accountable. This fish is most economically viable as a game fish, me and many others spends loads of money pursuing these fish for recreation. If I want to eat fish I target other species. Commercial fishing needs to be better regulated across all states. Big breeders need to be protected every where across the coast for the slot to actually work. Anyway let's get our act together and act on behalf of the overwhelming majority of stakeholders that live and breath this fishery.

In sustainable abundance we trust,  
Peter Leary

**From:** [Dom Cuzzilla](#)  
**To:** [Comments: Dom CUZZILLA](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Sunday, December 11, 2022 7:04:10 PM

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To Whom it May Concern

Regarding this Addendum, I prefer Option 1. Status Quo.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dominick J. Cuzzilla  
1083 Hessian Avenue  
West Deptford NJ 08093



**From:** [Otto Munz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 5:49:07 PM

---

I choose option 1. I DO NOT AGREE with sharing quotas.

**From:** [HARVEY YENKINSON](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass amendment  
**Date:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 3:56:45 PM

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Option one, status quo, allowing no transfer is the only reasonable selection. With the stock still in need of rebuilding this option prevents adding additional harvest of fish beyond a state's allocated quota. States without commercial striped bass fisheries did so realizing the importance of conserving the species and its importance to the recreational sector. Allowing transfers would allow political pressure from the commercial sector to try to persuade the state's that do not allow a commercial harvest, to initiate a transfer. Fisheries are managed much better with science than politics

Dr Harvey Yenkinson  
AP member MAFMC  
Founder South Jersey Artificial Reef Association  
Chairman emeritus Pa chapter RFA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Dorothy Elliott](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 1:55:54 PM

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I oppose any increase in the commercial catch of stripped bass. This past year has been the lowest catch for myself and fellow recreational fisherman. This past summer and fall I caught no small stripped bass the the creeks of the eastern shore. This indicated the large numbers are not present additional the overfishing of menhaden reduces the forage of stripped bass and many other species for recreational anglers. When the stripped bass where abundant schools could be seen all over the bay with flocks of birds. Recreational anglers contribute much to the economy but seem to have not say in the limiting of commercial enterprise.

Dorothy Elliott.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Chris Vassallo](#)  
**To:** [Comments: stripercomments@gmail.com](#); [MICHAEL LUISI: robert.t.brown@shopcove.net](#); [LYNN FEGLEY: Russell Dize](#); [Del. Dana Stein: davidsikorski@ccamd.org](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 1:41:48 PM

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ASMFC Commissioners,

Please see my comments below in reference to the public comments for the Draft Addendum I (Commercial Quota Transfers in the Ocean Region) to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan:

I strongly encourage the ASMFC to select Option A (status quo): Commercial Transfers are not permitted. With the current low recruitment numbers in the Chesapeake Bay, there should not be an increase of any kind, in the regulations allowing the commercial fleet to harvest more striped bass. Reviewing the percentages of ocean commercial landings in 2020 and 2021, even with the reduction of commercial quotas, the ocean commercial landings increased. States allowing commercial harvest actually filled 78 percent of their quota in 2020 and 96 percent of their quota in 2021, when you remove the states who have chosen conservation. Allowing quota transfers from one state to another only encourages the harvesting states to harvest more striped bass. The increase is especially alarming, after the Technical Committee raised concern during the consideration of Draft Amendment IV to Amendment 6. This shows irresponsibility by the commercial industry and they should not be encouraged to harvest more striped bass.

As a layman, I read the information in Addendum I to show as an upward trend in ocean harvest, - of the fish that spawn in the Chesapeake Bay; and a three year decrease in recruitment (2020, 2021, 2022). It causes me to wonder if they are directly related. When I have observed the numbers of fish that I catch and release, in my local tributary to the Patuxent River, decrease over the last three years and my observations correlate with the stock assessments, it causes alarm. I understand that my observations are qualitative and are not science based. Regardless of my layman status and non-science based assessments, please consider my comments and observations, and select Option A (status quo): Commercial Transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for hearing my comments,

Chris Vassallo  
Saint Leonard, Maryland

**From:** [jps0886@gmail.com](mailto:jps0886@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 1:19:38 PM

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Dear Emilie,

Over the years I have written the ASMFC and in some years the governors of each of the states up and down the east coast in the hope that my 45 years of surf fishing experience and concerns are taken into consideration. Given this latest opportunity to express my concerns, I strongly opposed granting the states the ability transfer quotas which will result in the culling of more striped bass. Due to the current status of the fishery, we should not be looking for ways to cull more striped bass and instead should be doing quite the opposite.

This year my experience fishing for striped bass was certainly better than last year but that is not saying much. Last year was one of the worse seasons I could remember, and this dates back to the 80s. At least then we had plenty of large bluefish to keep us occupied. As we know, both the striped bass and bluefish have been overfished for years which as a result had equated into the abysmal fishing I have been experiencing for a number of years now. I'm sure some will say this is the best season they ever had. As a matter of fact, a few years ago I received a response from a fishery manager up north stating the same thing which was refuting the letter I had written to his governor. My reply was a healthy fishery is one that is spread up and down the east coast and not one that is confined to a few geographic locations or one that is an abbreviated season. A few months later the ASMFC released their findings which had coincided with mine. The striped bass were overfished and experiencing overfishing, hence more restrictive measures were adopted.

Another concern of mine is the very poor recruitment coming out of the Chesapeake. The past 4 years have been well below average. This hasn't happened since the 80s which ended up turning into much more restrictive measures for all to follow in order for the striped bass to come back. We should consider ourselves lucky they did. My greatest concern is that we hit a point of no return where there is no undoing the harm we have already done.

I knew years ago when they went to the 2 @ 28" that we would eventually find ourselves in the same predicament and sure enough, we did. My only surprise is that it didn't happen sooner. Since we cannot count every single striped bass in the ocean, nor is it needed to make sound management decisions, we should not be looking to cull more striped bass. For those that say otherwise, up until later this Fall my beaches on the south shore of Long Island and those in NJ, were void of life. When the numbers of striped bass rebounded in the 90s, I was literally catching striped bass in the bay nearly all summer long. Fishing in my local waters should pick up around Labor Day and right now that isn't happening until nearly November. That's a very strong indicator of the striped bass population challenges we are currently having.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thanks,  
James Sabatelli  
Massapequa Park, NY 11762.



**From:** [O Leyva](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#); [Emerson Hasbrouck](#); [Maureen Davidson](#); [James Gilmore](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 10:14:34 AM

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I am writing to comment on Draft Addendum to Amendment 7. I am writing in support of Option A Status Quo. I am extremely disappointed the ASMFC is even considering the idea of voluntary transfer quotas. If Option A is somehow unacceptable to the Board, I would reluctantly support Option E but do so with great hesitation. This is not the time to make changes that could potentially increase harvests. I appreciate the board's work on Amendment 7. Let's not weaken efforts to rebuild the stock, choose Option A.

Othon Leyva  
Brooklyn NY

**From:** [Timothy Reichheld](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Saturday, December 10, 2022 9:23:30 AM

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Dear ASMFC Commissioners,

First off, I want to thank you for the countless hours you have put into working to develop a rebuilding plan for striped bass. I know your time and effort has been substantial. That said, as a public shareholder I can't help but feel discouraged by the lack of willingness for the Board to listen to what the public is asking of them. This is especially in regard to Conservation Equivalency which we overwhelmingly asked to be repealed when the stock is deficient.

My only hope is that the public's comments on Addendum 1 will be better received and taken into consideration. Please consider *Option A* as the best course of action to protect our fisheries. Now is not the time to increase commercial harvest rate or transfers. Our focus needs to be on protecting this iconic fish for future generations instead of on short term monetary gains.

As an aside, the slot limit and commercial harvest discrepancy should be reviewed and amended. The whole point of the slot limit is to protect larger breeding fish which are now being killed by commercial harvest. The logic here is questionable.

Thanks again and please listen to what the majority of the public is desperately asking of you.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Timothy Reichheld



**From:** [willyv62@gmail.com](mailto:willyv62@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, December 9, 2022 6:44:36 PM

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I write in opposition of the plan to distribute infilled commercial striped bass quotas to other states. Current striped bass population reports suggest this is not a good idea. If anything commercial and recreational harvests should be less

William Vranos

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Fred Everett](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 9, 2022 6:43:11 PM

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Dear ASMFC (Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board),

I was shocked when I discovered Draft Addendum I is being reviewed by the Board. This was a terrible idea when first proposed in 2014.....when the striped bass population was in a far better shape than today. The Board rejected this Addendum in 2014 and I certainly expect it to do the same in 2023 when the Atlantic Striped Bass population is currently in trouble with low replenishment/stock numbers.

My feelings regarding this Addendum below:

1. Option A: Leave as is: Continue prohibition of interstate commercial quota transfers. Since the Atlantic Striped Bass population is deemed overfished, this is the **ONLY** a reasonable decision any Board Member should support.

2. Option E: The best, bad choice: Prohibit quota transfers when stock deemed overfished. This option should not be acceptable to anyone who cares about Atlantic Striped Bass, but provides leeway in the future if the striped bass population is no longer overfished....if that ever happens again.

Options B, D, and C are frankly appalling to me. Why would anyone on the board ever be okay with **TRADING** this amazing resource on the open market.....I write that as a statement, or a rhetorical quest if you will.

Atlantic Striped Bass should be respected. I am an angler/resident of a beach community. Fishing for these amazing fish is a lifestyle for me, I expect the board to share in my respect for the Atlantic Striped Bass ...by **NOT** approving any of these options.

Regards,  
Fred Everett

**From:** [Scott Hood](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 9, 2022 4:00:42 PM

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Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I.

Let's all use some common sense ... PLEASE ... Striped bass remain overfished and this in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires REDUCING or at least maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

This is where common sense needs to be used and acted upon. Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

Thank you.

Scott Hood

Oklahoma IGFA representative

**From:** [jeff.brown](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Regulations/Comments  
**Date:** Friday, December 9, 2022 11:11:31 AM

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Good morning,

I am writing in regards to both current and potential future striped bass regulations as the NJ fall migration winds down.

This season, as most have witnessed, has produced some spectacular striped bass action. It is my hope that more strict regulations are added, such as COMPLETELY closing down fishing on known striped bass spawning grounds, to preserve this fishery for generations to come.

What legally happens along the Chesapeake, Delaware and Hudson River spawning grounds, Spring after spring can be seen as nothing but detrimental to a successful future of the striped bass stocks. How can stocks be rebuilt AND protected if we allow the slaughter of the most prime breeders year after year. Understanding that fish greater than 38" must be released, the stress that is put on these larger bass during the spawn cannot be overlooked.

The slot fish makes the most sense to protect the species, but more needs to be done preserve the species we all know and love.

Hopefully this brief email is received and read.

This is a fish I hope to see rebuilt to what it was 20years ago.

Thank you,  
Jeff Brown

**From:** [Richard Bertoli](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 9, 2022 8:59:58 AM

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**Emilie Franke**  
**FMP Coordinator**  
1050 N. Highland Street  
Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Ms. Franke,

I would like the committee to strongly consider shutting down the commercial fishery for striped bass and making this treasured recreational resource a game fish. The economic value of striped bass as a sportfish so far outweighs its commercial value that allowing the non-fishing public access to this food source via commercial sales should be prohibited.

Thank you.

--

**Rich Bertoli**  
**(646) 284 5568**

**From:** [Ben Whalley](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I Comments  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 11:47:42 PM

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Hello--

My name is Ben Whalley, I am a full-time fly fishing guide in Maine. As you know Maine sits on the northern fringe of the striper migration, and from my viewpoint any negative shifts in the population Maine is amplified. This past year we saw a fair share of slot limit fish but much less in the younger year classes. This is concerning to me since good spawns are few and far between due to low biomass and more importantly the uncontrollable variables as a result of nature (such as salinity and temperature). Since we cant control those we should try to control the variables we can.

**For that reason, I am in support of Option A (status quo - no commercial transfer of striped bass permitted)** because allowing commercial quota transfers would increase mortality at a time when we are focused on rebuilding the stock by 2029. Allowing commercial quota transfers between states to me would do the exact opposite of what is needed at this point and not what the overwhelming majority of the public want. We need to manage for abundance and with the population still overfished we need to take the precautionary approach.

Thank you for allowing the public to comment both at the hearings/written and for taking them into consideration when deciding on the path forward.

Thank you for your time.

Captain Ben Whalley  
[www.benwhalleyfishing.com](http://www.benwhalleyfishing.com)  
207-274-8782  
@benwhalleyfishing

**From:** [Bill Henault](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] commercial quota  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 7:37:31 PM

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This is absolutely the dumbest thing u can do to a struggling fishery..pretty much only thing needed to be said

**From:** [Michael Brangwynne](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 6:42:31 PM

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Hello,

I am a Massachusetts resident and recreational striped bass fisherman. I am in favor of Option A. I do not think commercial quota transfers should be permitted.

I do not support measures that would increase commercial harvest during a time when the stock is rebuilding.  
Thank you.

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Mike Brangwynne



**From:** [William Ford](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 5:01:19 PM

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Obviously it will create over fishing in certain areas

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ron Shamaskin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 4:25:35 PM

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I strongly oppose the non-action the VMRC has taken, and urge you to reconsider your position. Decreasing adult mortality in Virginia waters will aide in getting the stripped bass population back to sustainable levels for both commercial and recreational use.

Thank you.

Ron Shamaskin  
124 Finial Ave  
Richmond, Va. 23226

**From:** [Capt. Lindsay Fuller](#)  
**To:** [Capt. Lindsay Fuller: Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Comments on Striped Bass Draft Addendum #1  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 4:00:54 PM

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Please be advised that I have operated charter and private recreational fishing boats from Beach Haven, NJ, and Long Beach Island since 1955.

At this time, the quantity of fish catchable within New Jersey State Limits barely supports the local charter fishing industry and its accompanying recreational fishing activities here on Long Beach Island.

Even a minor transfer of quota to the commercial sector would wipe out the charter and recreational industries immediately following approval of such quota transfers!

I recommend that no Striped Bass transfer to Striped Bass commercial quota be permitted whatsoever!

Perhaps your organization should focus more on rebuilding the forage fish populations available that would support both the Striped Bass and Bluefish populations to rebuild to support those non-commercial industries.

Capt. Lindsay Fuller  
F/V June Bug  
Beach Haven, NJ  
609-685-2839

**From:** [Joey Adams](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 3:19:26 PM

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Hello,

I am an angler from Massachusetts. I'm writing to express that I **STRONGLY** prefer **Option A - STATUS QUO, NO COMMERCIAL TRANSFERS** in the Draft Addendum I to Striped Bass Fishery Mgmt Plan.

The stock is rebuilding upon the success of the current policies. We cannot rob Peter to pay Paul -- any other option is likely to increase mortality.

Thank you,  
Joey Adams  
Boston, MA

**From:** [James Jewkes](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota addendum  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 12:30:50 PM

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I am a recreational striped bass fisherman from Massachusetts and I'll make this short after seeing our commercial striped bass quota go unfilled for three years straight. This year the quota gets filled because of extra days added only tells me the fish are in big trouble not to mention you say we have a slot limit NO we don't, recreational fishermen have a slot limit but then the commercial guys strip fish away from the mature spawning stocks. It is wrong that the ink wasn't even dry before trying to shove more crap down our throats.

I'm a huge no for commercial quota transfers

James Jewkes  
430 Salem st  
Woburn Ma 01801

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [John Papciak](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Draft Addendum 1 Comments on Transfer of Striped Bass Commercial Quota  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 9:11:11 AM

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Dear ASMFC Associate,

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

From all the communication and evidence I've seen, public comments overwhelmingly favored an approach leading to the quickest recovery of striped bass.

Carve outs for conservation equivalences of schemes to transfer quotas will just frustrate and slow the process. I find it highly unusual that the Commission would even consider such a measure as we still need to restore the stock.

Thanks, John  
516.647.0032

**From:** [Ken Webber](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 8:55:11 AM

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I encourage ASMFC to reject this proposed amendment.

This amendment is akin to conservation equivalency which allowed states to violate the spirit of ASMFC stock management recommendations.

We are already seeing the adverse impact that conservation equivalency had in past years. The stock continues to be declining with low recruitment indicating that the decline will continue.

Much of the decline is due to commercial harvesting of large breeding fish.

Allowing states to transfer their unused commercial quota to other states would increase the harvest of breeding fish and contribute to further declines in recruitment.

The accelerated stock decline due to increased commercial fishing will eventually require drastic action to support stock recovery.

I encourage ASMFC to adopt policies that will lead to a sustainable striped bass fishery.

Sincerely,

Ken Webber  
Attleboro, MA

**From:** [Michael Carr](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 7:54:49 PM

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To the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission:

To put it simply and directly, I am very troubled by the continued cycle of progress then regression that this committee continues to undertake. You are the keepers of the public trust, and it has become very clear that many of you do not seem to have the public's interest at heart in your decision-making.

**Option A is the only answer! COMMERCIAL QUOTA TRANSFERS SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED.**

It seems ludicrous that we even have to type these words out. It is beyond my comprehension why we continue to have to convince you that the striped bass are in trouble. Scientists say it. We, the people actually fishing say it. And your own stock assessments say it! Why then would you ever consider the notion that we should kill more fish?

While many of you may think that you are acting in the best interests of the commercial industry and creating or sustaining jobs and profits, the truth of the matter, backed by every worthwhile scientific study in the field, is that striped bass are on the precipice of overfishing to the point of annihilation. We are not going to get a second bite at this apple. With the effects of climate change and the intense pressure on the breeding stock, we may be looking at a future without striped bass all up and down the eastern coast. Think about that. Think about every beach town, shanty bar, oyster shack, pier tackle shop, and sunset restaurant on the east coast then think about how those towns were built. People came there to fish. People came there to commune recreationally with the sea. If we wipe out striped bass, we endanger communities that were built on recreational angling and boating. This would be a catastrophic economic decision. In the name of profits now, you're jeopardizing the futures of societies built by and for recreational fishing and boating. The commercial fisherman will have a pretty hard time selling their fish to empty communities despite the machinations and false promises of the corporate fishing interests.

The other striking point to keep in mind is that striped bass over 30 inches are so riddled with parasites and PCBs in most areas that most of these fish are unfit for human consumption. Commercial interests don't like to talk about it, but it is absolutely the case proven time and time again by the scientific community. Maine and New York have major advisories against consumption. Other states have similar measures in place. So, who then can and should be eating this fish? The answer really is no one.

Keep your promises. Do the work that you're paid to do. Striped bass are the most important resource to Northeast fishing. Killing more fish is criminal. Do the right thing. Keep corporate interests out of your work and listen to science.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Carr  
New Jersey



**From:** [Dominick Pucci](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Megan Ware](#); [Emilie Franke](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 6:01:08 PM

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To the ASMFC Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board:

I find myself at a loss for words when I discovered that Draft Addendum I is being reviewed by the Board. This was a horrible idea when it was first proposed in 2014, at a time when the striped bass population was in a far better situation than it is today. The Board had the good sense to reject this Addendum in 2014 and I expect them to do the same in 2023, especially in light of the precarious position of the Atlantic Striped Bass population is currently in.

Here are my feelings regarding this Addendum, prioritized.

1. Option A - *Status quo* which will continue to prohibit interstate commercial quota transfers. For Atlantic Striped Bass, an OVERFISHED population, this is the ONLY decision that a reasonable Board Member can support..
2. Option E - is the "Best, Bad Choice", that prohibits quota transfer when the stock is overfished. This option should not be at all acceptable to anyone who truly cares about Atlantic Striped Bass, but can give the Board a little leeway in the future IF the striped bass population is no longer being overfished.

I will not comment regarding Options B, D, and C as they are odious abominations, turning this noble fish to chattel being traded in a Third World Bazaar. This fish deserves far more respect than that and expect the Board to respect it by not approving any of these unacceptable options.

Yours truly,  
Dominick L Pucci, Ph.D.  
Pemaquid, Maine

**From:** [Jesse Gordon](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 5:19:49 PM

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Hello,

My name is Jesse Gordon and I am a recreational fisherman from NY.

I would like to take this opportunity to state that I wholeheartedly object to any and all portions of Addendum 1 that would allow the transfer of unused quota between States.

Simply put, such a practice will increase overall striped bass mortality. Given the fact that the stock is overfished and at the beginning of its rebuilding period, more fishing mortality is the last thing that the striped bass population needs!

Assuming that the goal of amendment 7 is to rebuild the stock from an overfished condition, I am shocked that the ASMFC would even consider addendum that increases mortality. Such an addendum is counterintuitive to the amendment it appends.

This is not the first time that such a plan has been contemplated by the ASMFC and Bob Beal, the ASMFC's Executive Director has noted, it is a practice that has historically been rejected during stock rebuilding periods. I encourage the ASMFC to adhere to this precedent.

Inasmuch as it is a generally accepted principal that in quota managed species, that regulations should be designed so that the quota is met but not exceeded, I would propose that in lieu of allowing states to transfer unused quota, that the quotas simply be lowered to figures that will allow for sustainability and rebuilding of the fishery.

Thank you,  
Jesse Gordon

Jesse Gordon  
Gordon & Petkos LLP  
5 Columbus Circle  
Suite 710  
New York, NY 10019

Telephone: (212) 765-8600  
Facsimile (212) 765-7887

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This e-mail is sent by a law firm and contains information that may be  
privileged and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, please  
delete the e-mail and any attachments and notify us immediately.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** [Matthew Robertson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 1:54:11 PM

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Dear ASMFC Board,

On the issue of Striped Bass Addendum I, I believe that Option A is our best option to continue to meet the objectives of rebuilding the stock by 2029 and for the longer term future of striped bass.

In previous reviews on the status of the commercial allocation, as noted in 2.2.1.2., no changes were made when the stock was considered "overfished" and I believe we should maintain the current allocation until we see what the regional distribution of striped bass will look like when the stock is rebuilt. While other options under Addendum I would allow the transfer when the stock is not overfished, the other options do not address the varying size limits in each state. The disparity in harvests reduces the effectiveness of the slot limits and their intended goal to protect breeding females across the coast. With the recent years of below average recruitment, we need to protect the larger females that will drive the rebuilding we need by 2029.

Thanks,

Matt Robertson

**From:** [Timothy Donnelly](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 11:48:12 AM

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Dear Ms. Franke:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments to the Striped Bass Draft Addendum I

I strongly support Option A (status quo) to Striped Bass Draft Addendum I.

I am a recreational angler on Cape Cod and have been an active striped bass fisherman by shore, kayak and boat for almost 10 years, all of those years with primarily artificial lures. Except for one or two bass a year, I am a C&R fisherman. I have improved my C&R practices as more information was available to me online and in various publications.

Over that time period I have watched the striper stocks decline and I believe Amendment 7 should help restore the fishery. While not perfect, from my perspective it balances many competing interests.

The transfer of commercial striped bass quota can only result in more dead "high quality breeder" fish at a time we need to achieve the exact opposite. I empathize with commercial fishermen trying to make some portion of their living harvesting stripers. However, no one wins if the fishery is under a moratorium and I personally believe we are inching (or perhaps yarding?) in that direction.

Thank you for your time and efforts on this matter.

Sincerely,

Tim Donnelly  
West Dennis, MA

**From:** [dennis mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I preference  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 9:57:12 AM

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I'm an avid catch and release striped bass fisherman from Pennsylvania who primarily fishes in New Jersey. Regarding Draft Addendum 1 to the FMP I prefer option A, status quo with no commercial transfers allowed. With the stock currently rebuilding it would be irresponsible to select another option as it would increase mortality. Thank you.

Dennis Mitchell  
d.r.mitchell@comcast.net

**From:** [Manly Parks](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 9:41:10 AM

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> I am a recreational Angler from Pennsylvania who regularly fishes the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean. I practice careful catch-and-release of striped bass, taking perhaps one or two fish a year for table fare. I strongly support option A (status quo—no commercial transfers) among the options currently under consideration for the Draft Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. None of the other options provide the necessary protection to critical striped bass stocks.

>

> The adoption of a commercial transfer plan for striped bass quotas is madness. As someone who grew up on Maryland's Eastern Shore in the 1970s and early 1980s, I have lived through the near total collapse of the core striped bass stocks in the Atlantic once. Only a total moratorium saved these iconic fish.

>

> We are currently facing another critical moment for striped bass stocks. Let's learn our lesson from the near-disaster of my childhood. We don't need to—and should not—have a system that is designed to exploit striped bass stocks to the absolute maximum degree.

>

> Manly Parks  
> Wallingford PA

**From:** [Pat Myers](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Management Plan  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 8:34:27 AM

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I'm a recreational angler in Maryland and i STRONGLY call on the commission to adopt Option A of the proposed Striped Bass Managment Plan. Quota's are quota's for a reason. I don't wasn't slow fishing in Virginia or Delaware waters to mean commercial operations can take more bass from the Chesapeake waters in MD. That makes no sense at all and will completely decimate the stock of fish on the east coast.

Thank you.

Pat Myers  
Pasadena MD  
Magothy River Boater and fisherman



**From:** [Frank Muher](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 7:57:20 AM

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I am a recreational angler from Maryland. I'm writing to let you know that I prefer Option A - status quo, no commercial transfers.

The other options will likely increase mortality.

Thank you,

Frank Muher

**From:** [Jared Makowski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 comments  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 6:41:39 AM

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Dear Emilie and friends, I am writing because the transfer of commercial permits should not be allowed between states as proposed in addendum 1. Frankly I'm concerned that your group would even propose something as ridiculous as this when we are trying to rebuild stocks. It makes your group look like they have no backbone and no idea how to stand up for a species that needs your help. I also feel like you need to list your qualifications next to your profiles on your web site. I think the public should be able to see who has any environmental or conservation backgrounds on the board or who got the job because their dad had a friend. Also the whole commercial fishing for striped bass is a joke. We should give the striped bass gamefish status. The commercial guys can get real jobs like every other hardworking fisherman out there. It's abusive and corrupt to deplete natural resources for profit. Don't allow your organization to be part of this vicious cycle.

Thanks for your time

God bless

Jared Makowski

**From:** [Noah Bressman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 8:35:21 PM

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Dear ASMFC,

I am a recreational and competitive angler from the state of Maryland, as well as a fish biology professor at Salisbury University. I am writing to express my preference for the options being proposed in Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. I prefer option A - status quo, no commercial transfers. Any of the other options are likely to increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding, leading to further depletion, as well as a reduction in the predators that feed on menhaden like striped bass, osprey, and dolphins. This decline would then lead to a decline in recreational fishery and tourism quality, leading to a decline in revenue for these industries, which would then likely lead to the loss of many Marylanders' income and jobs, all to benefit one foreign company at the expense of millions of folks like me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Noah Bressman, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Physiology  
Salisbury University  
Fish Biology, Biomechanics, Functional Morphology, and Behavior  
[Noahbressman.wixsite.com/noah](http://Noahbressman.wixsite.com/noah)  
He/him/his

**From:** [Mark Switlick](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 7:29:40 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I am a life long Marylander of 56 years and remember the stories of the abundant fish population. I also I remember as a kid the time when the striped bass season was closed. I recently took up recreational striper fishing on the Chesapeake.

I am writing to express my preference for the options being proposed in Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. I prefer option A - status quo, no commercial transfers. Any of the other options are likely to increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.

Please do not open this delicate fishery to those that may have over fished theirs and possibly damage the Rockfish population of the Chesapeake Bay. As we know it is by far the most important in allowing this species to survive.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Mark Switlick  
[mdswitlick@gmail.com](mailto:mdswitlick@gmail.com)

**From:** [Home Appeal Remodeling](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial fishing  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 7:20:29 PM

---

I Am a recreational angler from Maryland. I'm referencing the proposed addendum to the striped bass management plan. Please choose option A. No commercial transfer of quotas. The striped bass population is already at 50%. Thank you,

Aaron Lamoureux  
[Homeappealremodeling1@gmail.com](mailto:Homeappealremodeling1@gmail.com)

**From:** [Gindy Feeser](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Rockfish Draft Addendum Input  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 7:13:02 PM

---

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a recreational angler from Virginia. I'm emailing to express my recommendation regarding the options being proposed in Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan.

As a conscientious angler, my recommendation is option A - status quo, enabling no commercial transfers. Any of the other options are likely to increase mortality at a time when the stock, which is in a vulnerable state, is rebuilding.

Thank you for allowing the public to comment on this important matter.

Regards,  
Gindy Feeser

--

Gindy Feeser  
[gindy.feeser@gmail.com](mailto:gindy.feeser@gmail.com)  
571-228-9161

**From:** [Nick Verducci](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Draft Addendum 1 transfer  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 6:57:55 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I will be brief on my opinion on this matter. The notion that sharing the commercial quota between states as a way to preserve the striped bass fishery is absurd. Do not approve this measure.

Thank you  
Nick Verducci  
Marmora, NJ

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [steven.hasselbacher](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 6:22:50 PM

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My name is Steven hasselbacher, an avid recreational angler. I am in support of option A. Status quo. I do not believe states should be allowed to transfer quotas.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Christian Moscicki](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A for Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 2:27:46 PM

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To Whom it may Concern: My name is Christian Moscicki and I am a surfcaster from New York's Suffolk County.

As it pertains to the proposed Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan: I would like to indicate my STRONG support for option A (no commercial transfers; status quo).

Respectfully, I thought the goal of the CE measure was to avoid this sort of subjective application of rules and quotas? Why does the committee continue to entertain and explore loopholes aimed at taking **more** striped bass from the population when, by your own guidelines, we should be in a period of rebuilding the stock? I do not understand how/any scenario through which Delaware (or any other state) taking bass that other states did not is a good thing for the fishery.

Sincerely,  
Christian Moscicki

**From:** [Koch, Gregory E](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:49:46 AM

---

Public

Dear ASMFC folks,  
Addendum I is an attempt to maximize the COMMERCIAL HARVEST OF STRIPED BASS by allowing states to transfer unused commercial quota. I am not in favor of this addendum when we are trying to rebuild the fishing stocks.

Kind regards,  
Greg Koch  
Westfield, NJ

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**From:** [Steve Culton](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Monday, December 5, 2022 6:01:58 PM

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To The Striped Bass Management Board:

My name is Steve Culton and I am both a recreational angler and guide from the State of Connecticut. In regards to Draft Addendum 1 to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan, my vote is for Option A (status quo, no commercial transfers). I cannot fathom why, when we are trying to rebuild a stock, we would ever consider an option geared toward harvesting more striped bass.

Thank you,

Steve Culton  
271 Congdon Street  
Middletown, CT 06457

**From:** [Robin Mueller](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [stripercomments@gmail.com](mailto:stripercomments@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Monday, December 5, 2022 1:36:51 PM

---

Re: Striped Bass Addendum 1

To Whom it May Concern,

As a resident of New York State - I do not support Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7. While I strongly support commercial fishing, but I strongly oppose increasing the total harvest of striped bass from commercial fisherman. We have seen data that shows evidence of three (3) consecutive poor spawning seasons in the Chesapeake.

In this year alone, I have seen dozens and dozens of dead striped bass washed ashore that are a direct result of poor fishing and conversation efforts, as well as other marine life such as seals, and Atlantic Sturgeon that I attribute to the gil netting, a “tradition” that should be outlawed given the state of our current fisheries.

Increasing their quota - and the quota of other commercial fisherman via Addendum I, would only have a negative impact on the striped bass stock replenishment.

It does not require an expert to see that this is not the time to increase potential harvest. I am ambitious about the plan to rebuild the stock by 2029 - now is not the time to deviate until future data suggests otherwise.

Robin Mueller, Suffolk County, NY

---

Robin L. Mueller  
Director of Photography  
FAA Certified Drone Pilot  
[+1/917.907.1187](tel:+19179071187)  
Instagram: robinlmuller  
[www.robinmueller.Com](http://www.robinmueller.Com)

**From:** [Michael Melford](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 5, 2022 10:41:44 AM

---

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write in as a recreational striped bass angler very concerned that you are considering commercial transfers of striped bass at a time when you should be applying all your efforts to rebuild the SSB by 2029.

Many of us question what numbers (F) you feel it will take to rebuild! What guardrails are in place after four very poor YOY indexes from Maryland? Catch and Release is not merely a game we are playing with striped bass! We are doing it for a reason and promoting safe release practices until this stock is rebuilt.

The economic benefit to each state recreationally is much more important than the ASMFC tends to think. Why would a management team be more concerned with commercial consumption of a species that is still over fished?

I choose Option A in Addendum I. No transfers. It's bad enough that CE is still on the table. That idea has been an utter failure. Please stop kicking the can do and what you were hired to do.

Thanks,

Michael

Michael Melford  
5510 Heather Dr. SW  
Rochester, MN  
55902

(860) 303-8221

[www.michaelmelford.com](http://www.michaelmelford.com)  
@michaelmelford

**From:** [Andrew Ciok](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 5, 2022 10:29:20 AM

---

Gentlemen:

After almost 60 years of saltwater fishing from boat and shore, amendment to allow transfer of striped numbers from State to State is the most ridiculous proposal I have ever heard. Well, maybe next to having a fluke slot from 17" to 17.99" and one over 18" which ranks a close second.

Why not just throw out all regs across the board and let everyone do what they want!  
Andrew Ciok

**From:** [Phillip Sheffield](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 5, 2022 9:38:30 AM

---

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write in as a recreational striped bass angler very concerned that you are considering commercial transfers of striped bass at a time when you should be applying all your efforts to rebuild the SSB by 2029. Many of us question what numbers (F) you feel it will take to rebuild! What guardrails are in place after four very poor YOY indexes from Maryland? Catch and Release is not merely a game we are playing with striped bass! We are doing it for a reason and promoting safe release practices until this stock is rebuilt. The economic benefit to each state recreationally is much more important than the ASMFC tends to think. Why would a management team be more concerned with commercial consumption of a species that is still over fished?

I choose Option A in Addendum I. No transfers. It's bad enough that CE is still on the table. That idea has been an utter failure. Please stop kicking the can do and what you were hired to do.

Best regards,

Phillip F. Sheffield  
12 Nauyaug Point Road  
Mystic, CT. 06355

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [paulh7891@gmail.com](mailto:paulh7891@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 comment - no commercial quota transfers!  
**Date:** Sunday, December 4, 2022 11:06:01 AM

---

Commissioners,

Addendum 1's proposal to allow commercial quota transfers is a terrible idea at a time when we all are in agreement that the stock needs rebuilding. No commercial quota transfers should be allowed.

I have fished recreationally for stripers since the mid 1990s. While I have always been predominantly a catch and release fisherman, I respect commercial fishermen. However, expanding striper harvest is the wrong thing to do at this time.

Allowing transfer of commercial catch quota will shift even more commercial fishing into the stripers' spawning grounds and spawning season. Exactly the wrong move after years of bad to marginal spawns.

This is especially important in light of the fact that Amendment 7 - which looked like a big step in the right direction- actually contains escape clause language that allows states to continue conservation equivalency. That's a travesty. I missed that issue and the final comments period. I don't intend to let that happen again.

Finally, pushing a comment period for a significant addendum like Addendum 1 between Thanksgiving and Christmas is not in the public interest, to put it as charitably as possible. I'm sure you and your staffs work hard and are trying to do the right things under difficult, competing pressures. This move does yourselves a disservice, as it is potentially damaging to the Commission's credibility as an objective body.

No commercial quota transfers!

Respectfully,

Paul Heinold  
Alexandria, Virginia  
(703)585-9885

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Captain J Moore](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 2, 2022 10:12:31 PM

---

**Dear ASMFC,**

**This correspondence is to request your consideration to NOT permit transfers of commercial quotas for striped bass.**

**Much can be, and has been said regarding the striped bass, and I pray that the day will come when this commission recognizes the true value of the striped bass to coastal communities (constituents) and embraces the philosophy of conservation and stock rebuilding.**

**The value of maintaining a healthy fish population needs little detail to highlight the direct value, but also, a healthy fishing environment draws tourism and an increase in visitors is beneficial to all businesses (as evidenced with a history of tarpon in the southeast).**

**A vibrant, coastal environment, demonstrates both a direct and indirect value to coastal communities, and there is little doubt that a swimming bass carries more longitudinal value than a harvested fish.**

**My hope is that this commission will embrace a broader longitudinal perspective with conservation in mind regarding the striped bass population in the Northeast.**

**Let's collectively find a way to put the health of our marine environment in parallel with the economic success of our coastal communities and benefit both through a strong stance on conservation.**

**Thank you for your consideration in this matter and feel free to reach out at any time.**

**Capt. Jason Moore, PhD**

**Island Fly**

**<https://www.islandfly.net>**

**979-471-5803**

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Thanks,

Capt. J. Moore PhD

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**From:** [Justin Friedman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, December 2, 2022 2:25:36 PM

---

Hello,

As a lifetime resident of New York state — I do not support Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7. While I do support commercial fishing, I do not believe it to be fair to increase the total harvest of striped bass from commercial fisherman. We have seen data that shows evidence of 3 consecutive poor spawning seasons in the Chesapeake. In the last few years, I have bore witness to the gill net boats that populate my local beaches in Suffolk County. In this year alone, I have seen dozens and dozens of dead striped bass washed ashore, as well as other marine life such as seals, and Atlantic Sturgeon that I attribute to the gil net fisherman. Increasing their quota — and the quota of other commercial fisherman via Addendum I would only have a negative impact on the striped bass stock replenishment.

This is not the time to increase potential harvest. I am ambitious about the plan to rebuild the stock by 2029 — now is not the time to deviate until future data suggests otherwise.

Thank you.

--

**Justin Friedman**

*Director, Artist Relations & Marketing*



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[www.suprousa.com](http://www.suprousa.com) | @suprousa  
[www.pigtronix.com](http://www.pigtronix.com) | @pigtronix

**From:** [Craig Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 2, 2022 1:37:45 PM

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Transferring the commercial quota to states is a terrible idea. Can the ASMFC, for once, put the health of this fishery at the forefront of their agenda? Why must we always fight you guys to not make decisions that further imperil this fishery?

Preserve this fishery. Do not transfer the commercial quota.

Craig Jordan  
New Jersey

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Joel Stoehr](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 2, 2022 12:03:04 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

thank you for taking the time to review my comments:

Regarding the Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan.

Under section 3.1 Option for Allowing the Voluntary Transfer of Ocean Commercial Quota:

I wish to make it very clear that I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

In my opinion, allowing commercial transfers undermines any progress we can make towards rebuilding the spawning stock biomass of striped bass.

I'm not a scientist, I'm just a passionate striper fisherman and I would love to see this fishery managed for abundance.

Please take my comments into consideration,  
thank you for your time.

Joel Stoehr

--

Joel Stoehr  
*Director BFA Product Design*  
*Assistant Professor of Design*  
School of Constructed Environments  
Parsons School of Design  
<http://www.joelstoehr.art>

**From:** [John Tighe](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 2, 2022 11:49:21 AM

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Dear Commission members,

Any plans to allow the transfer commercial quotas will be extremely detrimental to the striped bass fishery.

It is the job of commission to be the protectors of this fish and not to cede to the efforts of special interests or big business.

Please realize that the striped bass fishery is in danger and needs your help. Your decisions will either help it recover and thrive or will seriously endanger it. Allowing commercial quota transfers would, without question, endanger this prize fishery!

Commercial quota transfers should NOT be permitted!

Please choose: **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

Thank you.

John Tighe  
Ioswich, MA.

--

Regards,

John

[JFTighe2@gmail.com](mailto:JFTighe2@gmail.com)

**From:** [Peter robertson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, December 2, 2022 7:59:16 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I am a recreational striped bass fisherman and we need to do everything we can to save this fishery. Please do not increase the commercial quota, that would be devastating to the striped bass population. The fishery has been in decline for well over 10 years, the time for corrective action is now.

Thank you,

Peter Robertson

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Tom Fuda](#)  
**To:** [Comments: Justin Davis](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 2, 2022 7:11:53 AM

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To: Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission - Striped Bass Management Board

I am writing to express my preference for the options being proposed by Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 of the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. I am a recreational angler from the state of Connecticut. My preference is **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted**. I feel that Options B, C, and D would be extremely detrimental to the ongoing effort to rebuild Striped Bass stocks to target levels by 2029. In Figure 4 of the Draft Addendum, we can see there has been a significant underage between commercial quota and commercial landings (anywhere from 50 to 24 percent under quota). I feel that this underage has had the beneficial side-effect of serving as a buffer against management uncertainty. Any option that allows transfers is likely to shrink this gap between quota and harvest. More complete utilization of quota means more dead fish and higher mortality at a time when any increase in mortality puts the rebuilding plan in jeopardy. The only other option I can support would be Option E, because it prohibits transfers while the SSB is below the threshold (overfished). Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas Fuda  
Shelton, CT



**From:** [Harry Burton](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 1, 2022 10:11:16 PM

---

I am very much opposed to the above addendum.

Sincerely,  
Harry Burton

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Vin Bresnaider](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 1, 2022 7:03:33 PM

---

Ms. Franke:

I write to you today to voice my support for **Option A (status quo)** with regard to Striped Bass Draft Addendum I. As a recreational angler residing on Long Island, NY, striped bass have been my primary target species from both shore & boat for the past 30+ years. I have unfortunately witnessed firsthand the decline of the striped bass fishery in recent years & am hopeful that the measures included in Amendment 7 will help restore the striper stocks. However, allowing any transfer of commercial striped bass quota can only result in more dead striped bass at a time we're looking to achieve the exact opposite.

Thank you for your consideration!

Regards,  
Vin Bresnaider  
Merrick, NY

**From:** [john herrick](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass proposed addendum 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 30, 2022 10:47:11 AM

---

Emily,

Based on the information provided, I would vote to update policy from the 1970's data framework and allow transfers. Option B would be my vote with option D being a second choice. With both though I'm stuck on the wording of:

That is, the amount over the final quota (that state's quota plus any quota transferred to that state) for a state will be deducted from the corresponding state's quota the following fishing season.

Thank you for your time,

John Herrick

**From:** [Michael Poulopoulos](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2022 9:19:32 PM

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Hello.

As a member of the Public who commented on Draft Amendment VII, I'd like to offer comments on the Striped Bass Addendum I to the final Amendment VII.

Option A, which prohibits quota transfers, is the most preferable option, as it solidifies stock rebuilding efforts across all states.

The remaining four options, which allow quota transfers under varying circumstances, are not desirable, and may place the rebuilding efforts at risk.

It should be noted that if the Management Board finds Option A unacceptable, Option E is the possibly the least potentially damaging option.

Thank you very much for your time and efforts.

Stay well,

- Mike

Michael Poulopoulos  
332 Roaser Road  
Sand Lake, NY 12153

[poulopoulosmike@gmail.com](mailto:poulopoulosmike@gmail.com)

Instagram: @michaelrpoulopoulos

**From:** [Barry Woods](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2022 8:37:48 AM

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Dear Ms Franke and fellow ASMFC Commissioners-

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this proposed addendum allowing states to voluntarily shift their commercial quota to other states.

I strongly oppose this proposal in light of the findings the Commission has made that the stocks are overfished and urge the Commission to maintain the status quo under Option A..

Allowing shifting of quota will make assessing the status and furthering recovery of the stocks all the more difficult. The idea that a state that has been unable to reach its quota can shift its remaining quota to another state is a sleight of hand that does not take adequate account of the actual state of the fishery. The Commission has created an immensely complicated, politically fueled set of management tools and this is but another example of it evading responsibility for the stock's recovery. This language as a note to Option C is the closest expression of the truth I could easily find-*Given the current overfished status of the stock, this option would not provide near term relief to states seeking additional quota.* Stated alternatively, the intent behind Addendum 1 is only about providing certain states with relief from the quota they agreed upon and which was allocated according to this Commission's processes. If a state has excess quota because of an inability to satisfy it, wouldn't the Commission's efforts be better placed to assess why this happened and what it indicates about the health of the stock, rather than shift unmet quota?

This Commission's highest and best purpose should be to actually manage the fishery to ensure its sustainable population rather than add patchwork regulations to address individual state's needs for "relief". Five years of poor YOY recruitment will make this truth self-evident over the next few years.

Sincerely,  
Barry Woods

**From:** [Peter Martinez](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Strip Bass Limits  
**Date:** Monday, November 28, 2022 12:07:52 PM

---

Lower the number of commercial licenses issued per state.

Add more law enforcement to monitor boat docks and recreational fishing.

I have been on a boat dock watching boats come in, unload, and go back out fishing, all commercial.

Adding a slot limit also should be applied to commercial fishing.

Recreational fishing is limited to one fish per day and a slot limit but commercial doesn't have the same rules.

Just my opinion

**From:** [Emilie Franke](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] DRAFT ADDENDUM I TO AMENDMENT 7 TO THE ATLANTIC STRIPED BASS  
**Date:** Monday, November 28, 2022 11:27:35 AM

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**From:** Jason MacLean <jmaclean13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** Emilie Franke <EFranke@asmfc.org>  
**Subject:** [External] DRAFT ADDENDUM I TO AMENDMENT 7 TO THE ATLANTIC STRIPED BASS

Hi

my name is Jason MacLean, I'm 37 years old and live in Taunton, Massachusetts and have been fishing falmouth, Tiverton, and fall river for ~12 years.

I'm against allowing the transfer of commercial fishing quotas to fisheries. Here are my justifications below.

1) I know allowing the transfer it's allowed with Bluefish and Black sea bass...in just 12 years I have seen my # of what is considered a trophy size fish decrease every year. ~10years ago i could catch approximately 2 trophy black sea bass per outing in falmouth and a handful of trophy blue fish in falmouth every year. Now I'm lucky to catch 1-2 trophy black sea bass a season or 1 trophy bluefish per season. We fish every weekend in Falmouth June-August. personally if we are having a hard time catching good fish, perhaps too many are being taken from the fishery.

The recreational limit of bluefish was dropped from 10 to 3 and the fishery still has not improved. Now we want to send our quotas for striped bass to other fisheries so more can be taken out... this does not make sense to me. if our fishery isn't getting better for bluefish and sea bass why would we want to implement the same policy for striped bass.

2) a few years ago MA dropped its striper catch limit from 2 fish to 1. The fishery got better...then the fishery implemented a size restriction from >28" to >28" & <35" and last year was the best striped bass fishing i have ever had. (the previous year the commercial stripers failed to meet its quota).

3) Our prized fishery needs to be protected for future generations. I would rather see striped bass farmed for food than more wild fish sold to fish markets. I believe the commercial striper fishermen should follow the same rules as the recreational folk for 10 years. Then reassess the fishing situation.

4) in falmouth alone where recreational anglers are struggling to catch fish that meet the minimum keep requirements. you can catch fluke, seabass, bluefish, all day long...most are too short to keep. We used to meet our 3 fishermen limit over a day of fishing...now with 3 fishermen actively fishing we struggle to get a 2 man limit. we haven't caught a 1 man limit of fluke in a long time.

I'm not sure what the answer is...but anything that allows for more migratory fish to be harvested

commercially seems wrong. if another state exceeds the limit in 2022, in my opinion their limit should be dropped in 2023 to allow the fishery to recover. if a state struggles to meet its limit in 2022 perhaps that's a sign something is not going well.

Thank you for reading my reply.

I hope we can find a solution that is better for commercial & recreational...if less fish are caught, the price will go up which should help the commercial guys in the long run. Rich folks dont care about the cost of a fish dinner.

cheers

-Jason MacLean



## Emilie Franke

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**From:** JACKSON, GREGORY D GS-12 USAF AMC 436 CES/CENMP <gregory.jackson.1@us.af.mil>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 3:25 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Cc:** Johnclark@delaware.gov  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1

I am a commercial hook & line (H&L) fisherman in Delaware and support Option B. It may be noted Delaware commercial H&L fisherman only received a quota of ~55 lbs/fisherman/year for the past 3 years, not the 200 lbs listed in one of the tables.

**From:** [Edward Purcell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 8:23:21 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing to plead with you to implement Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted in regard to Addendum 1. By your own research striped bass are being overfished and this past year was not a strong breeding year for striped bass. If the commercial quota is not being met, it would be irresponsible and reprehensible to transfer quotas and kill more breeder sized striped bass.

Please implement Option A (status quo) and do not transfer commercial quotas.

Sincerely,

Edward Purcell  
15 Sassawanna Road  
Rutland MA 01543

**From:** [G2W](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: [External] Commercial quotas  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 8:05:38 PM

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**From:** Peter Walsifer <peterjwalsifer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 8:32 PM  
**To:** G2W  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial quotas

Good Evening

My vote would be a, status quo and not allow for the transfer of quotas. The fact a state has hit their limit means these quotas are working as planned. Changing those limits to harvest more fish is backwards to the overall goal of stock rebuild. Thank you.

Peter Walsifer  
Neptune NJ

Sent from mobile

**From:** [G2W](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: [External] Striper and Winter flounder  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 8:05:27 PM

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**From:** steven haasz <upfrontbaitandtackle@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2022 8:29 AM  
**To:** G2W  
**Subject:** [External] Striper and Winter flounder

Raritan bay sandy hook area has been doing very well with stripers why can't we change rule to 1 fish 28 and above to allow people to keep there trophy fish

I under stand that the population of fish has declined but the amount of fish has been increasing

Some of the legal size fish are eating our other game fish from weakfish, snapper blues, fluke, flounder, and even baby striper

When is winter flounder webinar

We should be aloud more than 2 fish

4 or 5 people would fish for them again

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Kermit Barthol](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 3:09:30 PM

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Barrington Rod and Reel opposes the commercial transfer of striped bass quota

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Christian Martin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 2:08:07 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to express my opinion regarding Striped Bass Addendum. **I endorse Option A (status quo) which means that commercial quota transfers would not be permitted.** We cannot afford to increase commercial harvest at the same time as we attempt to rescue the striped bass population. It just doesn't make any sense. It also seems far too early to start messing with Amendment 7 which hasn't even had a chance to make an impact since being accepted last season. As I've said in earlier letters on this subject, if you are having more and more trouble catching the same amount of fish due to a dwindling population, the answer is NOT to find ways to kill more of them. That is how one would proceed if they were trying to eradicate a species, not maintain a cash crop like fish. It doesn't even make sense from a commercial point of view. Only people with a short-term, exploitative interest in striped bass could see a benefit to squeezing out more harvest. Who, interested in the conservation of stripers, would reply that the best way to respond to a drop in striper population is to kill more stripers? I believe the answer is clear in regard to Addendum I. Status quo is the only reasonable option.

Thank you for your time,  
Christian Martin

**From:** [Norm Staunton](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 12:52:25 PM

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To the esteemed Commissioners of the Striped Bass board-

Very simple, no long explanation in this letter. I am writing only to ask for your support for ONLY Option 1: Status Quo: PLEASE, do not allow commercial striped bass quota transfer.

Thank you for your time. Please, do what is right for the fish and the fishery and recreational fisherman and uphold your own decisions from the Amendment 7 process.

Sincerely,

Norm Staunton

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**Splash More. Bark Less.**

**From:** [Ronald Criel](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 12:51:12 PM

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Hello,

I oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota.

Thank you

Ron Criel

Point Pleasant Beach, NJ

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Dan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Stripers  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 9:58:27 AM

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I oppose the transfer of Stripers for commercial use!!!!!! Dan MCGIVNEY  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [John Spero](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 9:22:38 AM

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In the matter of:

Allowing the transfer of unused commercial quota from one state to another...

I oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota.

**From:** [freeportd](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023 8:28:36 AM

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Please please please do NOT go forward with Addendum I to Amendment 7. Commercial quota transfers will harm a species that has too many factors working against its recovery. Please don't do this.

Thank you  
Charles Soule (NH)

**From:** [Richard Grein](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] ASMFC addendum 1 comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2023 7:08:08 PM

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January 3, 2023  
Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington VA. 22201

Dear, Emilie Franke

I am a recreational fisherman on Long Island. I have raised my children to catch and respect our marine resources including the striped bass. I would love to see them grow to teach their kids the same.

Unfortunately I was unable to make the public meeting in Kings Park this past DEC 7th. It is my understanding that at this time the striped bass

- 1- Is still in a rebuilding phase
- 2- Still being over fished
- 3- Still at historically low recruitment levels.

With this being the case. I feel allowing the commercial quota to be transferred would jeopardize the current rebuilding plan. By adding a fourth obstacle to it, and increasing the harvest of striped bass. This addendum should be shelved until the current plan has completed in 2029 successfully.

Sincerely yours,  
Richard Grein

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Alex McCrickard](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2023 2:50:03 PM

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**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

I would like to see the ASMFC pursue a status quo approach and not allow commercial quota transfers across states. Allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum VI in 2020 in addition to the goals and objectives of rebuilding the fishery by 2029 per Amendment VII. The current status of the stock is "Overfished." I think we need to stay the course and proceed with caution while watching the stock and recruitment very carefully. The fact of the matter is we have had 4 years in a row of poor recruitment. Recruitment success is largely driven by environmental parameters which are out of our control. Why would we take a risk now and allow increased commercial harvest of fish when future recruitment success is unknown? In the past 5 years, the ocean quota for commercial striped bass harvest used about 65% of the 2.4 million pound quota. Allowing commercial quota transfers could bring us closer to a maximized quota, potentially adding over a half a million pounds or more to the commercial harvest. Let's not forget that the stock is "overfished." We should not allow an addendum that could increase harvest just because the fishery is not currently experiencing "overfishing." Lets put the fish first and stack the odds even higher in the favor of rebuilding the fishery by 2029!

Alex McCrickard  
410-905-0099

**From:** [Surdel, Dave](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2023 2:14:52 PM

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To the ASMFC:

After reviewing Draft Addendum 1, I am contacting you to support Option A (status quo):  
Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Addendum 1 is another attempted resource-grab by the commercial sector. The ASMFC should not continue to entertain such proposals that have the potential to further degrade the already over-fished striped bass stock. Thousands and thousands of recreational anglers like myself would like to see ASMFC take a conservation-minded approach to rebuilding the striped bass stock ASAP. Restoration deadlines have already been missed and it's unlikely the stock will be rebuilt by 2029 if you continue to entertain proposals that favor the commercial sector, such as Draft Addendum 1.

Please start managing the striped bass for the good of the general public. The focus needs to be on restoring an abundant fishery, not helping to maximize profits for a small group of commercial fishermen.

Thank you,

**Dave Surdel**  
**6 Bayberry Rd.**  
**Acton, MA 01720**

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**From:** [david bixby](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [david bixby](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2023 11:48:25 AM

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ASMFC:

Please support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

It is incomprehensible to me that we even allow commercial takings of striped bass. Any attempt to transfer commercial quotas should not be allowed.

Thank you.

David Bixby

Chatham, MA

Albany, NY

**From:** [paschwind@comcast.net](mailto:paschwind@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2023 9:57:36 AM

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Hi Emilie, Please note typo correction in the date. I am an old guy, but not quite that old. Peter

I am a commercial Stripe Bass fisherman from Massachusetts. I have been fishing for Striped Bass since the late 1940's. I attended the virtual meeting the other night. I am strongly in favor of option B.

Comments:

The trading of unused quota between States in other fisheries is common practice and it seems very reasonable that practice be allowed with Striped Bass.

Currently if we go over the quota in one year that gets subtracted from the next years quota, but if we are under we do not get to add that unused quota to the next years quota. Doesn't seem fair.

In good fishing years, we have around 20 commercial days. This is a very short season. Any increase in our States quota would be greatly appreciated.

I noticed a paranoia from the comments the other night by all the recreational interests. The commercial fisherman are blamed for the overfishing and the decline we saw in the 90's. However with the advent of better data (interviewing fisherman with salt water licenses) it is clear the recreational segment is responsible for the large majority of harvested/dead discards. According to the information provided @ 25% of the commercial quota is not used. If we could utilize 50% of that quota the net result would be a 1.5% increase in the total harvest. (commercial harvest 12% of the total, 12% increase in the commercial harvest would mean @ 1.5% increase in the total harvest { $12 \times .12 = 1.44\%$ }).

This increase in available quota would be of great help to the commercial fisherman with small impact to the fishery.



Current data indicates the fishery is improving and anecdotal testimony supports that. I have never seen the large number of schools of Bass as I saw this year. Fish ranging from 20 to 34.5 inches. One day I trolled for 5 miles in a straight line looking for commercial fish. Fishing two lines I had a fish on almost continuously. I believe that there were schools for another 2 or 3 miles (boats there were in solid fish)

Tight lines,

Capt. Pete Schwind

[paschwind@comcast.net](mailto:paschwind@comcast.net)

978-314-8988

**From:** [RomanAround5246](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Increase Striper Commercial Limit  
**Date:** Monday, January 2, 2023 5:18:53 PM

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Hi Emilie,

Is the council crazy? We are still in the rebuilding phase so why would we even consider this?? I say No!! Thank You.

Sincerely,

Roman Dudus

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Z Flip3 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

**From:** [Dean Clark](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Comments on ASB FMP Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7  
**Date:** Monday, January 2, 2023 4:22:30 PM

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Emilie Franke, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Subject: Comments on ASB FMP Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7

- 1) Under the present management model now in effect, ASMFC data shows the Atlantic stocks of striped bass only having a 79% chance of being “fully restored” by the ASMFC target date of 2029.
- 2) Knowing this fact - facing a 21% chance of failure - it is counter intuitive that the Board would even consider increasing F.
- 3) Allowing Q transfers puts an additional 345 thousand pounds of “currently protected” striped bass at risk of being harvested.
- 4) All transfers and all CEs should be eliminated in order to give the scientists any hope of controlling F.
- 5) These and many other realities make Option A the only quasi-responsible choice..... all other options lead to an even greater risk of failure.
- 6) Given the precarious status of the stocks any decision otherwise would be P.R. suicide for the Board and the ASMFC.
- 7) Voting against Option A would be another missed opportunity to save and conserve striped bass – the most popular and economically valuable east coast “game fish”.
- 8) Please do the right thing and support option A and the elimination of CEs.

Thank you,

Dean Clark, 596 Franklin St., Duxbury, MA 02332, 508 769-9765

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"The only gifts we can receive are the ones we give away"

**From:** [Nathan Hill](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Please Don't raise quotas on Striped bass!  
**Date:** Monday, January 2, 2023 6:25:41 AM

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To whom it may concern,

Striped bass are a highly valuable game fish, perhaps the most recreationally valuable gamefish in the Northeast. It has been proven that striped bass are more valuable when released to be caught again, than they are when caught once and sold at market. Please make the right economic and environmental choice in decreasing, not increasing the quota on striped bass!

Thank you for listening,

Nate Hill

**From:** [Joseph Puchalski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] I strongly object to the proposed Addendum 1 of Amendment 7.  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 5:11:05 PM

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I strongly object to the proposed Addendum 1 of Amendment 7.  
There should be no transfer of unused commercial quotas.  
This resource needs to be protected now. Expanded harvests are inappropriate and irresponsible.  
Thank you for your consideration,

Joseph Puchalski  
Easton, CT

**From:** [Michael](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 1:47:26 PM

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Hello all,

I am greatly concerned about the rebuilding of the stripe bass stocks in relation to addendum 1. I am against any ruling that will inhibit the rebuilding of stock. As seen in Asia, Japan and China have decimated there fishing stocks by over harvesting commercially and there nothing left for them to harvest on a sustainable level.

I do understand the need to make a living. However, I see what has happened with other commercial fisheries along the Atlantic coast and I see addendum 1 as a problem to rebuilding the stripe bass stock.

Regards,

Michael Sicilia

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Ronald Meza](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Quota transfers  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 1:27:24 PM

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If anyone can harvest fish over 35", we are not in a slot. Period...end of sentence. We are not protecting breeders because one sector can still harvest them.  
Allowing quota transfers is analogous to punching holes in a dam to hold back a disaster! It is a backdoor and backroom deal to get around holding EVERYONE accountable and to the same standards to achieve the recovery of this fishery.  
Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted!!!  
Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Ronald Meza

**From:** [fdefinis@verizon.net](mailto:fdefinis@verizon.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Proposed Addendum 1, to Amendment 7  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 1:09:25 PM

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I am strongly opposed to the proposed Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 to allow transferring unused quotas to other states. A state may fail to reach its quota for any number of reasons—weather, changing migratory patterns, changing bait profile, fuel prices, labor shortages or just plain bad luck to name a few. When this occurs, we should view it as a victory for the fish as there will be more fish to spawn and also to be caught in subsequent years by commercial and recreational fishermen alike. Addendum 1 seeks to maximize the total allowable catch (TAC), instead of accepting natural regional and yearly fluctuations in the harvest.

Addendum 1 does nothing to help the commercial fishermen who failed to reach their quota except for perhaps some tacit quid pro quo—e.g. *“You give us your striped bass this year and we’ll give you our bluefish next year”*. At the same time, it puts added pressure on the fish stocks. For a species such as striped bass that needs protection, this is the wrong approach. While the striped bass is not classified as “over fished” at this time, we know that the Young-of-Year index is less than a third of historical norms. When we consider all the scientific data, it makes no sense to go through gyrations that promote harvesting more striped bass.

This is not an issue of commercial vs. recreational fishing—it is a matter of using common sense to preserve this important species for the benefit of all. This species is too important and too fragile for this type of action at this time.

Fred DeFinis  
Middletown RI



**From:** [Andrew Tenney](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Public Comment addendum 1  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 12:30:46 PM

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Hello ASMFC,

As an avid surfcaster and lure builder I feel it is my duty to provide my comment on the current state of regulations. I have seen a large decline in the quantify of stripers catchable from shore. I support option A with no transfer of Quotas for commercial fishing. I strongly believe this fish is so much more valueable to the community as a whole when treated as a sport fish and not table fare. It's just too fun to catch and not good enough to eat. We should be reducing commercial Harvest by any means we can in my opinion to save the striped bass for the many decades to come!

Happy new year!

Andrew C Tenney  
18 Bogastow Brook rd.  
Sherborn, MA

**From:** [Brian Sittlow](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 12:16:09 PM

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ASMFC,

I am disappointed to hear that there is consideration of making Commercial Harvest Quotas transferable between jurisdictions. Striped bass are receiving too much pressure across all sectors to allow for more harvest - anywhere. Quotas should NOT be transferable.

**I support: Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

Please continue your efforts to IMPROVE the Striped Bass stock.

All the best,

Brian Sittlow

Westerly, RI

USA

**From:** [John](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [info@saltwaterguidesassociation.org](mailto:info@saltwaterguidesassociation.org)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Amendment 1  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 11:38:47 AM

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Ladies& Gentlemen,

I am in favor of Option A of the amendment to maintain the existing commercial quotas.

Thank you,

John Stanchfield

**From:** [Dave Prockop](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 11:06:43 AM

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Dear sir or madam,

Please take this note as a vote strongly in favor of Option A on Striped Bass Addendum I that is currently being considered.

Any other option - maximizing commercial harvest to take full advantage of quotas - would directly undermine all ongoing efforts to preserve the striped bass population. If commercial quota transfers were allowed, then the only way to preserve the population would be to lower the quotas. That would, no doubt, take years to do and during those years, the population could be dramatically reduced, in a way that would take many years (and more extreme measures) to recover from.

It would simply make no sense to say that we're trying to support the striped bass population and then pass a regulation that dramatically increases the annual commercial harvest. Please do not allow the transfer of commercial quotas.

With thanks for your consideration,

Dave Prockop  
Providence, RI

**From:** [Jim Zabilansky](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial Quota Transfer - Option A  
**Date:** Sunday, January 1, 2023 10:23:18 AM

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At a time when it's imperative to work to rebuild the striped bass population, it doesn't make sense to take broad steps to maximize the commercial harvest, especially before more stock assessment data become available. Proactive management of the larger recreational harvest is vital, but one crucial distinction is that the commercial harvest allows over-slot harvesting, which further reduces our breed stock. Both recreational and commercial segments need to work now toward building and sustaining our striped bass population.

I'm writing to support Option A on this amendment, "Commercial quota transfers are not permitted."

Regards,  
James Zabilansky

**From:** [Paul Spendley](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 to Amendment 7  
**Date:** Saturday, December 31, 2022 5:00:47 PM

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Commissioners,

With regard to the Subject Addendum, there is only one option to support - **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

The data you have provided in the November report indicates that while the Striper breeding biomass is trending positively, it has not yet reached proscribed thresholds and is a long way from achieving the published target. While the overfishing graph provided does reflect a positive trend, this is not a data point to be considered while the SBB is still so far from threshold and target. There is no reason to allow commercial quota transfers at this time. Your own study graphs indicate that premature changes before trends are consistently positive and goals targets are achieved will endanger the biomass and negatively impact all of the diligent management efforts taken thus far to achieve SBB targets.

Please do not allow commercial quota transfers at this time.

Paul Spendley  
NH Recreational Fishing Licence-holder

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [William Hoyerman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, December 31, 2022 2:51:10 PM

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**Hello**

**Please don't allow commercial quota transfers or continuation of CE. I beg that you vote for Option A: Commercial quota transfers are not permitted. Status Quo.**

Please this means very much to me.

Sincerely,

Bill

Bill Hoyerman LSP.

781/799-9506

Sent from my iPhone

*Senior Project Manager*

Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.

31 Bellows Road, Raynham, MA 02767

**direct [774.409.2711](tel:774.409.2711) office [774.501.2176](tel:774.501.2176) mobile [781.799.9506](tel:781.799.9506)**

[www.cecinc.com](http://www.cecinc.com)

**From:** [Robert Daly](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass  
**Date:** Saturday, December 31, 2022 5:32:16 AM

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I oppose states to share striped bass quotas with other states



**From:** [Matthew Fontaine](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, December 30, 2022 7:00:03 PM

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Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.  
After putting a slot limit in place you want to do this?

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Matthew Fontaine  
17 Amy Ln  
Uxbridge, MA 01569  
MATTFISHSMELL@GMAIL.COM

**From:** [Lou Raymond](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, December 30, 2022 2:12:02 PM

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I support option A { status quo } transfers are not permitted. We really need our breeders .

**From:** [James LAMPHEAR](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] commercial transfers  
**Date:** Friday, December 30, 2022 1:47:11 PM

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I am a tad bit confused, your board says that rebuilding the striper stocks are your most important job but at the same time you suggest allowing commercial fishermen to transfer their quotas. My understanding of this measure is it will allow said fishermen to take more of the large females IE: the breeders. So I guess my question is how do you achieve your objective when the commercial fishermen are the ones KILLING the striped bass population.

THANK YOU

James Lamphear

**From:** [William Rothermel](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped BAss Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 30, 2022 11:49:15 AM

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I support Option A, No commercial transfer permitted.

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William "Bill" Rothermel

Medford NJ 08055

**From:** [Harry Rothermel](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, December 30, 2022 11:47:55 AM

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I support Option A, No commercial transfer permitted.

Thank you

Harry Rothermel  
Medford, NJ

**From:** [Russ Kline](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, December 29, 2022 3:48:54 PM

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I prefer option A-no commercial transfer of unused quota

**From:** [John Swanson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Thursday, December 29, 2022 1:40:09 PM

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Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Recreational anglers were required this year to use circle hooks when bait fishing for Striped Bass to increase survival rates when fish are released that are above or below the slot limits. Now, AFMSC proposes to increase commercial harvest quota's, so once again, recreational fisherman are being targeted to save the bass so the commercial interests can kill them. Commercial netters are killing Striped Bass and all other by-catch by the millions of pounds. You can't sell or eat lobbyist dollars when the fish are gone again. Just because recreational anglers don't organize and contribute to political coffers like commercial guys do, we spend billions of recreational fishing dollars in these Atlantic states, and we care about the health of the fishery.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

John Swanson  
227 Dickens Ct  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034  
[jswanz@verizon.net](mailto:jswanz@verizon.net)

**From:** [Thomas Lee](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] No to commercial fishing  
**Date:** Thursday, December 29, 2022 8:27:55 AM

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I would like to say option A is the best choice! No commercial fishing it's going to wipe out a fraction of the population that took over 20 years to build. Don't let commercial fishing ruin the stocks just like everything else



**From:** [Tim Mughnerini](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 28, 2022 10:10:53 AM

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Dear Management Board

I am writing to you in a plea to not support quota transfers for commercial striped bass. I feel strongly that maximizing short term commercial harvest rather than the longevity of the fishery and industry is short sighted and absurd given the boards goal to rebuild by 2029.

Consequently, Option A (no change - commercial quota transfers not be permitted) is the only option that seems appropriate.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Tim Mughnerini  
Plymouth MA  
857-928-2428

--

Tim Mughnerini

**From:** [abe.pearson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 28, 2022 9:49:25 AM

---

As a recreational angler for striped bass I strongly support option A (status quo) to not permit transfers of commercial quotas.

The striped bass is the fish that got me into fishing! I have only been fishing for a few years now but I would like to fish for them for a long time to come and I believe that can't happen without strong regulations against their harvest.

I support option A and I would support further restrictions for commercial and recreational harvest so the population has a chance to rebound and ultimately sustain itself.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Abram Pearson

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kenshwartz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [stripercomments@gmail.com](mailto:stripercomments@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass regulations  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 28, 2022 9:32:37 AM

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TWIMC,

I am a recreational angler based in Massachusetts on Buzzards Bay. I striper fish around Cape Cod, the Islands, SE Mass and far eastern RI.

It seems to me, given the scientific data— being used somewhat to decide how to protect the species— cannot, for sure, be wholly reliable (and possibly indicate the species is in better shape , relatively, than it really is ) then in the face of the anecdotal evidence being overwhelmingly indicative of a vast reduction in shear numbers over the last few years or so, that the only prudent coa is to error on the side of conservation...no other strategy makes sense, long term, for either the commercial or recreational interests.

Consequently, whether deciding on methods such as commercial quota swapping or other methods, it seems to me, the only sensible action is the action that will best protect the stock for at least the next few years.

Best,

Ken S.

E - [kenshwartz@gmail.com](mailto:kenshwartz@gmail.com)

Sent Ken Shwartz iPad

**From:** [Joe Lentini](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 27, 2022 5:30:58 PM

---

As someone who has fished for striped bass on the coast of Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, for decades, I am appalled at your potential plan to increase the allowable commercial harvesting of striped bass.

I want to be clear that I support option A, (status quo): commercial quota transfers not permitted.

Many of us remember the last time striped bass were harvested almost to oblivion. Do not do that again.

Joe Lentini

Joe Lentini  
Lentini@roadrunner.com  
603-662-7024

**From:** [Marc Quenzer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 27, 2022 12:07:54 PM

---

Here are a few picture spanning from New Jersey to Maryland. This is against what I committed on and is not managing for abundance like 90 percent of the public comment you received in the new amendment. The southern states are still using CE. Which I thought would be eliminated? We have one good year class right now and you are dropping the ball with these new regulations. Get rid of CE. We be one coast wide regulation for one stock of fish that migrates up and down the north east.



**From:** [Martin Barth](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Oppose Increases to Striped Bass Commercial Harvest  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 27, 2022 8:30:09 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

I do not support allowing state commercial quota transfers because that will likely lead to an increase in harvest at a time when the striped bass population is overfished and in a strict rebuilding plan.

Sincerely,

Martin Barth  
10 Hellbrook Ln  
Ulster Park, NY 12487  
[martinbarth@ccimail.com](mailto:martinbarth@ccimail.com)

**From:** [Edward A DeSanto](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, December 26, 2022 3:50:10 PM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

It should actually be designated a sport fish with no commercial harvest

Sincerely,

Edward A DeSanto  
235 Tennyson Rd  
Warwick, RI 02888  
[desantoea@yahoo.com](mailto:desantoea@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Bob Olsen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Monday, December 26, 2022 9:32:26 AM

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Seriously? Recreational fishermen are releasing "over the slot fish" - as we should - while you want to allow commercial harvest of these same fish. You pretend to want to rebuild the stock. Show us you are serious.

**I support Option A on this amendment, "Commercial quota transfers are not permitted."**

Bob Olsen  
1612 Shaw Mansion Rd, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



**From:** [Steve Pitts](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 26, 2022 9:18:06 AM

---

Hi

I am a recreational angler from the UK and I travel to the US ( Mass & Maine) to fish for stripers with several friends.

We spend thousands of dollars in the state on accomodation, food, refreshments, fishing guides, fuel, car rental, fishing tackle etc. and at every opportunity tell other UK and EU anglers that they should visit to experience the striper fishing.

I am writing to ask you to accept option 1 as proposed in the Draft addendum to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan and decide against commercial transfers.

Here in the UK we are currently undergoing our own consultation for a Bass Fishery Management Plan and part of that will hopefully encourage our fishery managers to curb the commercial excesses which have lead to the depletion of our bass stocks.

If the striper stocks are allowed to go the same way, it will not be worth us coming to fish, so we hope that the status quo will prevail and the striper fishery continue to flourish.

Yours in hope  
Steve Pitts  
Life-long angler and striper fanatic

**From:** [Luke Kozak](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfers  
**Date:** Monday, December 26, 2022 9:13:31 AM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I am a recreational angler from the UK . I'm writing to express my preference for the options being proposed in Draft Addendum I to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. I prefer option A – status quo, no commercial transfers. Any of the other options are likely to increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.

If the US stocks are further depleted, it is unlikely that I will travel to the US to fish for this amazing species. This will mean a negative impact on the economy built around recreational angling for Striped Bass. Please don't go the way of the UK where we are fighting for the survival of our Sea Bass!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Luke Kozak - 07791 607969**

**From:** [Rui Coelho](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 26, 2022 8:48:13 AM

---

Dear ASMFC

Sending you my request to consider both as an individual and as president of GBTU. For the Striped Bass Addendum I, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted, because there is no place for such an addendum while the Striped Bass stock is recovering and rebuilding.

Sincerely,

**Rui Coelho**  
**President**  
**Greater Boston Chapter of TU**  
**617-285-1665**

**From:** [Eric](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, December 26, 2022 6:58:50 AM

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This should be really easy with everything that anglers have heard over the last five years of how the overall population has been down for striped bass and the stock needs to be rebuilt. I have fished the last 5 years for striped bass and caught numerous fish but have not kept a single fish that I was able to bring home for dinner. If the stock is so bad that we have a very slim chance of bringing anything home this is not the right time to be trying to increase commercial harvest on the stock. The potential of increased harvest on this stock at a time right after a 5-year reduction for recreational and commercial anglers is ridiculous. The only option that should be considered is option one. Bottom line is protecting the stock first

Thanks,

Eric Ludwig

**From:** [Charles Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Sunday, December 25, 2022 3:20:09 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

STOP THE GREEDY BASTARDS FROM DESTROYING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES AND THAT INCLUDES YOURSELVES AND THE PIECE OF SHIT POLITICIANS WHO GET LOBBIED WITH BRIBES TO SIGN THEIR REQUESTS THEY HAVE RAPED AND SOLD OFF EVERY EDIBLE OCEAN FISH AND MOLLUSK TO THE POINT WHERE IT WILL TAKE YEARS TO RETURN TO MAKE A COMEBACK TO SUSTAINABLE NUMBERS AND THATS NOT COUNTING THE OTHER SEA CREATURES KILLED BY THE NETS THEY USE OR THE CORAL REEFS THEY USE THEM NEAR I HAVE PERSONALLY WITNESSED MAJOR GROCERY STORES DISCARD VAST AMOUNTS OF UNSOLD SEAFOOD INTO THE TRASH STOP ALLOWING THESE CORPORATIONS FROM RECEIVING OUR FEDERAL TAXES AND INCENTIVES FOR THIS BARELY REGULATED MARKET AND REPLACE THE OFFICIALS IN OFFICE THAT HAVE STOOD BY IDLY AND WATCHED

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Charles Hughes  
3209 Baring St  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
[charleshughes284@gmail.com](mailto:charleshughes284@gmail.com)

**From:** [JOHN GIBBONS](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External]  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:49:14 PM

---

I oppose transferring recreational striped bass quota to commercial quota.  
John Gibbons

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Tony Moutinho](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Stripes bass  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:16:43 PM

---

To whom it may concern . I understand there is a vote pending on commercial striped bass quota.

I oppose transferring any unused quota or any quota changes between states.

This species needs to be protected from commercial over- fishing

Tony Moutinho

2

**From:** [Andrew Friedman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Andrew Friedman](#); [Tony Moutinho](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 10:14:23 PM

---

To whom it may concern  
I strongly oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota.

Dr Andrew Friedman



**From:** [Scott Brassard](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 9:10:47 PM

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Good Afternoon,

I just wanted to write an email and voice my support for Option A. I have fished for stripers in both NH and MA for the last 25 years and I now get to bring my son out enjoying an incredible resource. I want him to be able to enjoy the same experience when he has his own son. Striped bass have already been overfished and there is no reason to add additional pressure to an already reduced stock. Let's give them a chance to recover.

Thank you,  
Scott Brassard

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ervin Ray](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 8:57:47 PM

---

Hello,

I am reaching out as a recreational Striped Bass fisherman actively trying to contribute to rebuilding the stock.

I would like you to know myself and many other anglers OPPOSE THE COMMERCIAL TRANSFER OF STRIPED BASS QUOTA.

Best,

Ervin Ray

**From:** [Matt Jacobus](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 8:12:27 PM

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To the Advisors and Board members of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission,

My name is Matthew Jacobus and I am an avid Striped Bass fisherman living on the North Shore of Massachusetts. I last wrote during the Amendment 7 comment period, and I was very happy that many protective measures passed that will help protect this valuable natural resource. Despite the passing of this amendment, I remained dismayed at the state of the fishery and the prospects for the future, with four consecutive Chesapeake spawns among other factors, remain bleak. But, hey, at least some steps were being taken in a positive direction.

Late this fall, I was taken aback by word of an amendment that began to circulate that would permit Commercial quota transfers of Striped Bass. I cannot understand how this measure could even be considered given the uncertainty surrounding the ability of the Striped Bass stock to recover and rebuild; and, regardless of any uncertainty, harvesting more breeder size striped bass certainly cannot help the rebuilding effort, especially given the already poor recruitment in the Chesapeake bay. There is simply no place for an amendment like this in the current environment and I hope that this amendment is not seriously being considered.

With the possibility of amendments like this being passed now or in the future, I'm starting to think my boys (now 3 and 7) won't have a chance at Striped Bass fishing like it was in the heyday of the early 2000's. I implore you all to take this rebuilding project seriously so that recreation and commercial fisherman alike can stop focusing on rebuilding/recovery and the potential demise of the most important game fish on the East Coast.

**Support: Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

- Matthew Jacobus (Marblehead, MA)

**From:** [Matt Boutet](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 8:09:54 PM

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I'm writing today to voice support for Option A.

At a time where the situation for striped bass is as precarious as it is, it's alarming to me that the ASMFC is even considering a proposal to increase landings. I was disappointed in where things wound up with "conservation equivalences" and this is more of the same - attempts to increase the striper harvest at a time when the population is on the brink of disaster.

Please, for my kids' sake - stop trying to kill more bass and start working towards ensuring there will be something left to fish for in 10 years.

Matt Boutet  
Biddeford, ME

**From:** [Mark](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 8:01:52 PM

---

Hello,

My name is Mark Hoffman and I am a recreational striped bass angler. For Striped Bass Addendum 1, I would like to see you all choose Option A and not allow the transfer of commercial quotas between states.

Thank you for your time,

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Germain Cloutier](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 7:51:09 PM

---

Hello,

I support Option A. No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Due to the fact the striped bass is overfished, there have been several bad spawning years in a row and we will be heading in the wrong direction. This implementation could cause more harvest numbers and severely decrease the chances of reaching the rebuilding plan by 2029. I hope the ASMFC does what's right for the species and supports Option A.

Thank you,  
Germain Cloutier

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Brendan Richards](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Subject Line: Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 7:33:23 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I am writing you to voice my opinion for options regarding Addendum 1 to Amendment 7.

I am strongly in favor of:

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted**

F must stay below .17, and creating more opportunities to kill fish does not help reach this end.

Only leaving live fish in the ocean contributes to achieving this goal. Jury rigging the extant regulations in the name of killing more fish is therefore unconscionable.

The fact that certain geographical areas are struggling to meet their quota while others can is evidence of a depleted striper stock spread thin. By transferring quotas, what remains of the stock will get no respite from commercial fishing mortality.

As such, I say no to commercial quota transfers. I assure you that countless others agree, and I implore you to take our prudence to heart. It is your duty to rebuild the striped bass stock, placating to commercial special interest at the expense of conservation and common sense is an abdication on your part. Please do not falter.

Thank you and sincerely,

Brendan Richards

**From:** [Chris Roller](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 7:08:08 PM

---

Hello -

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted for the Striped Bass Addendum I. The fishery is in dramatic decline, and I believe that conservation actions should be taken to ensure the longevity of this beloved game species. I am a life-long angler, and have witnessed first-hand the species' decline - particularly over the past few years.

Best regards,

Chris

Chris Roller



**From:** [Matthew Risser](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I, Commercial Quota Transfers  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 6:17:48 PM

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To whom it may concern at the ASMFC,  
As an avid fisherman for striped bass in many of the states represented in ASMFC, I would like to voice my opposition to commercial quota transfers between states. I spend thousands of dollars in NJ, NY, MA and MD to enjoy the pursuit of these amazing fish, and they are worth far more to everyone as a source of recreation than as a commercial catch. I understand there is a commercial entity that has traditionally relied on striped bass as source of income, but everyone can reap the benefits of a striped bass population managed for abundance rather than for maximum kill.

So much has been done already to stop the downward trend in the striped bass population. I urge you to continue to choose caution in managing this wonderful fish.

Thank you,  
Matt Risser

129 Micklitz Dr  
Pottstown, PA 19464

Sent from [Outlook](#)

**From:** [Andrew Demopoulos](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] AGAINST commercial transfer of striped bass.  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 5:50:56 PM

---

I am against the commercial transfer of striped bass quota. During a time when we are trying to get the stock of fish back to where it was, practicing catch and release, this transfer of commercial quota seems unethical and unprofessional. These fish serve a purpose that is much greater than being a meal.

Regards.

**From:** [fmsprinkel@gmail.com](mailto:fmsprinkel@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 4:48:16 PM

---

I oppose any increases in striped bass harvest by both recreational and especially commercial fishermen

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Stephen D'Angelo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 4:02:53 PM

---

Hello,

My name is Stephen D'Angelo, and I am a recreational striped bass angler. For Striped Bass Addendum 1, I would like to see you all choose Option A and not allow the transfer of commercial quotas between states.

Thank you for your time,

Stephen

**From:** [Michael Mershack](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Amendment  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 3:58:03 PM

---

Hello, wanted to write voicing my support for Option A, and strongly in opposition to commercial quotas being transferred.

Thanks for your time,

Mike

**From:** [Matthew Mychack](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striper Amendment 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 3:55:29 PM

---

Hey, just writing to voice my support for Option A, and vehemently in opposition to the transfer of commercial quotas.

If you can pitch in a catch and release restriction starting tomorrow, that'd be good too :)

Thanks,

MM

**From:** [Ryan Gorman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 3:54:20 PM

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Good Afternoon,

My name is Ryan Gorman, I am a Registered Maine Guide and recreational striped bass angler. For Striped Bass Addendum 1, I would like to see you all choose Option A and not allow the transfer of commercial quotas between states.

These transfers would likely increase the commercial mortality for striped bass at a time when harvest reductions are needed to promote the rebuilding of the striped bass population.

Please choose Option A and do not allow the transfer of commercial quotas. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Ryan Gorman  
[Rgorman97@gmail.com](mailto:Rgorman97@gmail.com)

**From:** [Alan Lindberg](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 3:53:57 PM

---

Hello,

My name is Alan Lindberg and I am a recreational striped bass angler. For Striped Bass Addendum 1, I would like to see you all choose Option A and not allow the transfer of commercial quotas between states.

Thank you for your time,

Alan Lindberg  
Gray Maine



**From:** [Alec Salisbury](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 3:36:16 PM

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Hello,

My name is Alec and I am a recreational striped bass angler. For Striped Bass Addendum 1, I would like to see you all choose Option A and not allow the transfer of commercial quotas between states.

Thank you for your time,

--

**Alec Salisbury**  
Photographer/Video Content Creator

■ [2073738458](tel:2073738458)  
■ [alec@alecsalisbury.com](mailto:alec@alecsalisbury.com)  
■ [www.alecsalisbury.com](http://www.alecsalisbury.com)



**From:** [matt.c](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 3:18:52 PM

---

Hi,

I strongly oppose the transfer of striped bass quota. If the commercial quota is not met for one state, then that is a blessing. I would not then want another state fulfilling the rest of that quota. That would guarantee the quota is met every single year. That would be ridiculous.

Regards,

Matt C.

**From:** [Ben Freeman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 2:46:16 PM

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As a business that relies on striped bass, we want Option A

**R Benjamin Freeman**

Trident Fly Fishing

Main: (888) 413-5211



**From:** [levi.opsatnic](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 2:33:25 PM

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My name is Levi Opsatnic and I'm a recreational striped bass angler who fishes all over the Atlantic coast, but mostly in Maine, Massachusetts, and New York. I see incredible value in the striped bass fishery and find maintaining its health is paramount. As far as Draft Addendum 1 goes, I am urging you all to please do the right thing and choose Option A and not allow the transfer of commercial quotas between states.

Thank you for your time in reading my comments,

Levi Opsatnic

**From:** [David Butler](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 2:09:26 PM

---

Please make Rock fish a game fish and not commercial harvest

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Keyen Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] PLEASE REJECT Addendum 1 to Amendment 7  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:49:01 PM

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To whom it may concern:

The adoption of Amendment 7 gave me a glimmer of hope in the ASMFC's ability to put the interests of the majority above the interests of a few.

PLEASE, PLEASE do not embrace the status quo by adopting Addendum 1 to Amendment 7.

We are digging out from a hole we shouldn't have gotten into in the first place, and the same rationale used for no quota transfers when the stock was in rebuilding mode from the 1980s until the mid-1990s apply today.

I have great respect for those who make a living from the water and support sustainable quotas that are fully utilized. The bottom line is Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 will increase striped bass mortality, and the stock is nowhere near being able to sustain an increase in mortality. This addendum is totally at odds with the good common-sense measures adopted in the rebuilding plan under Amendment 7. No measure that increases fishing mortality should be considered before the stock is declared fully rebuilt. Only once the stock rebuilding plan has hopefully succeeded by the end of this decade should a new conversation be started about changes to commercial quotas that increase mortality.

Keyen Farrell  
Brooklyn, NY

**From:** [Derek Cummings](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 - Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:33:38 PM

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Hello, my name is Derek Cummings & I'm a resident & recreational fisherman in New Hampshire.

I am strongly opposed to any sort of commercial quota reallocations as proposed in Addendum 1. I am in favor of Option A, status quo. The ASMFC took 1 step forward in Amendment 7 in regards to the reduction of conservation equivalency, a few short months later.... The ASMFC took 2 steps back with this "Commercial Equivalency" proposal.

There is **no commercial quota reallocation** that results in an increase or abundance in striped bass stock, or a higher percentage of rebuilding the stock by 2029. The status of breeding biomass is still overfished & is directly & negatively impacted by commercial transfers. Especially by our neighbors in Massachusetts with 33% of coastwide commercial allocations.

The future of our fishery is at stake in the next decade. This is my retirement plan on the line. This addendum does not make sense for the fishery at this time & I am hopeful that ASMFC representatives will continue to advocate for conservation & manage this species for abundance. Thank you.

- Derek Cummings

**From:** [Joseph Mogavero](#)  
**To:** [Comments: Emilie Franke](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:28:41 PM

---

January 12th, 2023

Emilie Franke  
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington VA. 22201

Dear Emilie Franke,

I'm a recreational fisherman who has spent his entire adult life fishing from the Long Island shores and surrounding waters. Over the last decade or more, I've experienced a decline in the number of striped bass landed each season. As I'm sure you are aware, the 2022 Stock Assessment Update found that the Striped Bass stock remains overfished. It is for these reasons I support **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Best regards,  
Joe Mogavero  
Smithtown, NY



**From:** [Ron Jensen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass draft addendum 1 option A  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:10:37 PM

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Patrick Rudman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Megan Ware](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:00:04 PM

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To Whom it may concern,

My name is Patrick Rudman, owner of Old Maine Outfitters, and an avid recreational striped bass angler in Maine. I'm writing today to vote for "**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted**".

Honestly, I'm shocked and disappointed that this is even a question. The commission has acknowledged these transfers were not taken into consideration when developing the rebuilding plan for striped bass, and yet even with that unknown and that it could potentially make us fail at the already slim chance we rebuild the stock in 10 years, we are still having a vote on it? When the public demanded that CE be removed after we discovered the loophole, the board said no, but now that there is an opportunity for states to horsetrade and kill more bass the board says ok?? This is beyond disappointing.

The public was beyond clear during the public comment meetings that they do not want this. If the ASMFC approves this change, I'm pretty confident they will lose all credibility with the public, even after the big wins this year.

Please do not let this happen and convince other state representatives to do the same.

Thank you.

--

Patrick Rudman  
[www.oldmaineoutfitters.com](http://www.oldmaineoutfitters.com)

**From:** [Sammy Calagione](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Jason E. Mcnamee](#); [JOHN CLARK](#); [Mike Stangl](#); [meganware124@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I Comments \_ Calagione  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 12:53:56 PM

---

Good Afternoon ASMFC,

I am reaching out with my unique perspective on the striped bass fishery to comment in support of maintaining the status quo of not permitted commercial quota harvests.

I've been lucky enough to interact with the striped bass fishery in many different regions both as a recreational angler and for-hire captain. I grew up in Lewes, Delaware, fishing the Delaware bay and the New Jersey coastline. Attending college in Providence, I explored the Narragansett bay and south county beaches of Rhode Island in search of striped bass. My girlfriend lives in Scituate, Massachusetts, where I've spent time throwing flies around the south shore. Most recently, I've called mid-coast Maine home, guiding full time on the mud flats and salt rivers. In fishing these various points along the bass' migration route, I've been able to see how different regulations can impact the fishery in profound ways (the no-bait, no harvest regulations of the Kennebec river have made it one of the best spots in the world to striper fish), informing my desire to maintain the current regulations on quota-transfers.

Some states' have tried harder than other to conserve their resource and I do not think those who have driven the bass from their waters should be monetarily rewarded. Sure, striped bass stock assessments have shown the population is in good standing of late, but the recent recruitment is so bad (we must assume this until better data emerges from breeding sites outside the Chesapeake), our responsibility is to give these fish a chance, not maximize harvest for a few individual's profit. If anything, there should be a review of the quota numbers entirely.

Sincerely,

Sam Calagione

Sawyer Island Angling - Southport, ME

Fin and Feather Outfitters - North Kingstown, RI

**From:** [Ron Jensen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 12:43:18 PM

---

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Keep striped bass status quo no voluntary transfer

**From:** [bahaa.el.din](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 12:13:59 PM

---

I oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota and voting for option A

Bahaaeldin Ahmed  
100 W Elizabeth Ave, Linden, NJ 07036

**From:** [Rdputney](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:49:54 AM

---

Please accept my approval of the VA draft

**From:** [gliddonm@aol.com](mailto:gliddonm@aol.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft amendment 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:45:29 AM

---

I strongly oppose the commercial transfer of quota between states. We are trying to rebuild stocks and this will have a significant impact.

M. Gliddon, Lawrenceville, NJ

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [Austin Brice](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:34:21 AM

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***I am a recreational angler from New York, and I primarily fish the south shore of Long Island. The Atlantic striped bass fishery is a very important fishery. Given the history of the stock we need to take measures to insure its survival and sustainability.***

***With regard to the options being considered for Addendum 1, I am writing to express my support for Option A (status quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted. All other options would increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.***

***Sincerely,***

***Percy Brice III***



**From:** [Michael Griffith](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 11:18:26 AM

---

I'm a Commercial Fisherman and I oppose any actions by the ASMFC that would increase the Commercial or Recreational catch of Striped Bass.

Cap'n Mike  
Chic's Beach Rental & Fishing  
757-687-9093  
[www.chicsbeachrentalandfishing.com](http://www.chicsbeachrentalandfishing.com)

**From:** [John Parbst](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 10:49:41 AM

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Atlantic Marine States Fisheries Council:

I am a recreational angler from Long Island, New York, and an avid striped bass fly angler. While I travel and fish to some degree all over Long Island, my primary fishing and "home water" is the central north shore in the Stony Brook to Port Jefferson area.

During the striped bass season from spring to fall, I would estimate I am on the water with my fly rod a solid five days a week. I am lucky, I know, to have access to, and a quality fishery, a short walk from my home in addition to varied, quality water to fish all within a short bicycle ride or drive.

While I would call myself a serious and active striped bass angler, nearly 100% of my angling time is spent practicing catch-and-release fly fishing. In short, I do what I can to both enjoy and preserve this resource.

The Atlantic striped bass fishery is important to me for two primary reasons.

First, for me on a personal level having access to a quality and vibrant fishery gives me a healthy, outdoor activity to pursue on a nearly daily basis throughout the season. I do all of my fly fishing from shore, so chasing striped bass means walking long stretches of beach, interacting with fellow anglers, and enjoying the beauty of our coastline.

Keeping with this personal connection to the fishery, I spent years teamed up with my kids chasing these same fish. The good times and laughs we shared during that time are too many to count, but easy to remember. And both of my kids, now adults, still return home to fish for striped bass with me. This resource is a family tradition for us.

The second reason this fishery is important to me is I know, as an educator and long-time outdoor enthusiast, that a healthy striped bass fishery is critical to the well-being of the overall marine environment. I spend many hours on the water during the fishing season not fishing with my fly tethered tight to my rod, simply watching the water to see all that unfolds.

Many evenings this past season I sat on a beach and watched a striped bass blitz unfold right in front of me, with charging bass chasing bunker right up onto the sand. Down the way, horseshoe crabs dig holes for eggs while plovers pick along the shoreline. Offshore, sharks wait for a meal. All of this is connected and important, and a healthy striped bass population is a critical link in this chain.

From experience and observation, this is a critical time to make decisions about Atlantic striped bass populations.

With regard to the options being considered by your organization for Addendum 1, I

am writing to express my support for Option A (status quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted. All other options would increase striped bass mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.

Sincerely,

John Parbst

johnparbst@yahoo.com

**From:** [Freeman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 10:42:55 AM

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As a recreational fisherman, I am opposed to an increase in commercial harvest of stripe bass. This only makes sense.

In addition, it is irresponsible that charter boats can catch and keep more than a recreational fisherman—this leads to increased mortality.

Thank you,

Freeman Jones

**From:** [John Giannini](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Management  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 10:39:21 AM

---

Gentlemen:

I urge you to abandon plans to allow transfer of commercial striped bass quota between states. As you know striped bass stocks are under constant pressure from both commercial and recreational interests putting this great resource in ever-increasing peril. This past season (2022) has shown a glimmer of hope that stocks are recovering. Please don't allow exploitation of this great game fish by commercial interests to undo progress that has been made in the management of this fishery.

Respectfully,  
John P. Giannini, P.E. (Ret.)

[Sent from the all new AOL app for Android](#)

**From:** [Ron Hoff](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 10:23:13 AM

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I oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota. The striped Bass stocks are supposed to be rebuilt not harvested. Please do what's right for the Striped Bass.

Ronald Hoff  
806 E. Chester St  
Long Beach, NY 11561

**From:** [Bill Wainger](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 10:20:56 AM

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I am opposed to increasing the limits on commercial limits for stripped bass. I have fished the Bay for well over 50 years and the catch rate has decreased for the last 5 years or so. It is clear from my empirical observations that we currently are in a period of very significant decline. We need Striped bass to be placed in a meaningful rebuilding period.

Furthermore, the most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels. While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is terrible and well below the assumed average being used in the assessment. Per the stock assessment, recruitment in Maryland is the strongest driver of the coast wide population. Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

I want my grandchildren to enjoy fishing for rock fish as I have, my father did and my children do. Please do not continue to foster a program which will lead to the extinction of striped bass

William Wainger

**From:** [frybacki@outlook.com](mailto:frybacki@outlook.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 10:13:06 AM

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I oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota.

Francis Rybacki



**From:** [Flynn Willsea](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum 1  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 8:16:20 AM

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Flynn Willsea I'm a recreational fly angler from the coast of maine. Pursuing Striped bass is a passion of mine. I have an immense amount of respect for every fish I come in contact with because I know they had to run a gauntlet of rec and commercial anglers, seals, sharks ect... just to get to me. In the future (hopefully near future) I plant to start my own guide service targeting striped bass, but in order to do that there of course has to be fish to catch. For these reasons I am in favor of option A status quo, no transfers of commercial quotas. It makes absolutely no sense to me why this is even being entertained by a board who is supposed to be doing what they can to save the species from total collapse. We need to protect the large female breeders and their reproductive habitat. Recruitment is low, mortality high, allowing the option for states to give unused quota to another state is ridiculous and counterintuitive.

Please don't screw up my future career plan. Make stripers a game fish.

Cheers

**From:** [Timothy Petracca](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 11, 2023 4:22:45 PM

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Hello, I attended the MA open meeting. Thank you and it was informative. After considering all inputs, I oppose any state quota transfers... period.  
Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.  
Tim Petracca

--

Timothy J. Petracca, Sr.  
435-901-0831  
[tim.petracca@gmail.com](mailto:tim.petracca@gmail.com)

**From:** [Richard Kuhlman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum No I  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 10:30:37 PM

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As a recreational fisherman who is concerned about Striped Bass' recent past status of being overfished and current status of overfished, I completely disagree with the ability to transfer quota allocations. Especially at a time when it is extremely important to rebuild the stock of a highly migratory fish.

Recreational fisherman are doing their part by accepting shorter seasons, reduced creel limits and other limitations. It is not unreasonable to expect unused quota amounts to remain in the stock to rebuild an overfished fishery for future harvest.

Richard Kuhlman  
Annapolis, MD  
443-515-7217

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**From:** [Bob Preble](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 9:11:57 PM

---

## **I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted for Addendum 1.**

I am a recreational fisherman from NH who has been fishing for stripers in the Maine, NH and MA waters since the early 1990s. I've been through some very bad runs in the early years, some unbelievably great runs for a number of years, and now I've been seeing the decline in this fishery for a number of years. It's incredibly frustrating to see stock struggle after it took so long to rebuild it in the first place. I would really like to see my grandkids and their kids have some of the great fishing I've experienced in the future

I can't see how any option other than option A will support the goal of restoring the stock this decade. The stock is currently over-fished. The commercial segment targets larger fish (the breeding females), so more spawning aged fish will be removed from the population. The reallocation of commercial allotment will not add up to more fish, but rather less. We need to be as conservative as possible until the stock is recovered. Now is not the time to risk the progress that's been made.

Sincerely,  
Bob Preble  
Hampstead, NH

**From:** [Emilie Franke](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 7:54:40 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Richard Booth <reelhapy1@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2023 1:23 PM  
To: Emilie Franke <EFranke@asmfc.org>  
Subject: [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1

I am writing to support Addendum 1- Option A (status quo) so commercial transfers are not permitted.

At this I also feel it is important to support phew 10 yr. Building Plan adopted in 2021 for the future of striped bass.

Thank you Capt. Richard E, Booth of Reel Happy Fishing Charters on the Hudson River in New York. Address  
P.O. Box 932, Cairo, NY 12413

**From:** [Gray Lincoln](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum I in Support of Option A  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 7:30:49 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Gray Lincoln and I am an avid fisherman frequenting the waters between Portsmouth, NH and Kennebunkport, ME. I'm reaching out in regards to Addendum I to voice my support for Option A (maintaining status quo) to continue a ban of commercial transfers.

I was lucky to learn how to fish for stripers on Cape Cod with my late grandfather, and would like to be able to hand the same tradition down to my grandchildren when the time comes. Allowing a commercial harvest of breeding females to jeopardize the health of the stock for everyone else is unacceptable. I hope the right decision will be made to ensure a bright future for striped bass that we can all enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration,

Gray Lincoln  
30 Cate St. Unit 21  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

**From:** [Jules](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 7:09:29 PM

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Hello Commissioners,

I'm in favor of Option A (Status Quo) - Transfers Not Allowed.

As an avid recreational angler, primarily fishing the NYS marine coastal district, I have seen a troubling decline in the Striped Bass fishery. I don't believe now is the appropriate time to be advocating for, proposing, or implementing any measures that seek to maximize harvest - regardless of sector. I've participated in, and attended many Striped Bass public hearings over the past few years. Two main takeaways from my attendance at these Striped Bass management hearings: One, is that the public overwhelmingly wants this species managed for abundance and diversity of age class. Two, the public is overwhelmingly frustrated with the need to keep communicating the same message through an often overwhelmingly confusing process to combat what seems like a never-ending effort to kill more fish. One doesn't need to be clairvoyant to know that this request for comment will return results with over 90% in favor of Option A. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Julien Frank

**From:** [adam.mastrangelo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum I  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 2:03:15 PM

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My letter:

Dear Coordinator Franke:

Please accept this message in support of Option A “status quo” as outlined in proposed Addendum I to Atlantic Striped Bass Amendment 7.

Recently, multiple consecutive years of poor recruitment, well below one third of the historic average, should be seen as particularly concerning for the future of the striped bass population. The effects of these years of alarmingly low YOY data will certainly be observed in the spawning stock biomass within the next 3-4 years. The best thing we can do for the future of both the commercial and recreational industries is rebuild the stock. Any measures, like quota sharing, that will increase the number of fish harvested are counterproductive to the goal of rebuilt stock by 2029. If a state is not utilizing its allocated portion of the quota, it is, at least in major part, due to a lack of the availability of commercial sized fish. Following the schools of fish with donated quota will put undue stress on an already depleted spawning population. Commercial and recreational fishing can coexist with a healthy stock and a stable population. Extremely weak young of the year data for four consecutive years is not an indication of a stable population. The most recent 2022 stock assessment update predicts a 78.6% chance of our current regulations successfully rebuilding the stock by 2029. The Commission should first observe a rebuilt population before entertaining any new measures that would result in greater fish mortality in either the commercial or recreational fisheries.

Respectfully submitted,

Captain Adam Mastrangelo



**From:** [jmanteiga@aol.com](mailto:jmanteiga@aol.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan  
Commentary  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 1:33:24 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

In an effort to protect stripers, especially breeders that are currently overfished, I recommend Option A – Commercial Quota transfers are not permitted.

Thanks,  
John Manteiga

**From:** [Steve Huebner](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striper Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 12:51:26 PM

---

Greetings,

I am asking you to **keep Option A** for this addendum and DO NOT permit the transfer of commercial quotas on striped bass. This would be a disaster to the beloved resource.

Striped bass are again in serious trouble and are FAR more valuable as a recreational resource than as a food resource for commercial harvest.

Thank you,

Steve Huebner, Hampton, NH

**From:** [Joe Webster](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 11:28:52 AM

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Dear ASMFC,

I am writing to voice my opinion (and the opinion of anyone who wants to have a striped bass fishery in the future) that you should keep option A (status quo) and absolutely DO NOT permit the transfer of commercial quotas.

Joe Webster

**From:** [Rob Wofchuck](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass - I support Option A on Addendum 1 (Status Quo)  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 11:15:48 AM

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Dear ASMFC, thank you for all your efforts to protect the striped bass and other species. I appreciate all your efforts. I am a recreational fisherman in New Hampshire and the highlight of my summer is fishing for striped bass. I grew up in New Jersey with my dad taking me out for stripers and have been fishing for them ever since off the coasts of New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine. I recall the 1980s when we could not fish for them at all or at least not catch any if they were there. Please do not change anything that will lessen the success to rebuild the population.

The 78% probability of rebuilding the population by 2029 seems on the low side to me to begin with. While I understand the commercial part of the impact on the population is only 12% and the surplus quotas are small, it seems like the taking of any extra fish will have an impact on the success rate. Furthermore, since it appears that states like MA target the larger breeding fish, the impact does not seem like it will be linear but exponential. Every one large female fish taken could remove hundreds or thousands of fish over the next 5 to 10 years. I understand the current modeling to assume that the commercial quota is not fully used so certainly there will be a negative impact if quotas are transferred.

I urge you to keep the status quo and not allow quotas to be transferred. Please do everything to protect this magnificent species. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Wofchuck  
Brentwood, NH

**From:** [Brian Kendall](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A on Striped Bass  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 11:10:03 AM

---

Dear FMP Coordinator Franke,

As a striped bass angler, I support rebuilding the striped bass population and its iconic fishery.

As a recreational angler, I practice and advocate for the safe handling and care for these fish. I use single, barbless hooks, never bait, and I "keep 'em wet." Killing these fish only benefits a small number of well-leveraged people. We don't need these fish as a food source. Saving these fish is an economic benefit for many more people. The ecological benefit is obvious as well; these fish have a key position in the food chain.

The Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan has a strict 2029 rebuilding timeline, and the 2022 stock assessment showed the highest likelihood of rebuilding requires maintaining fishing mortality at current low levels.

As a result, it is not time to be considering management changes that expand harvest. Therefore, I support option A (status quo) commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Brian Kendall  
41 Lynch Rd  
Lebanon, CT 06249  
[ebrkrules@yahoo.com](mailto:ebrkrules@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Fred Kretchman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] potential changes to striper fishing regs...  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 8:35:16 AM

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I've been a striper fly fisher for over 30 yrs. in Maine and N.H. I've seen changes in the size and numbers of stripers returning to our local waters every year... They are smaller fish on average, and not nearly as plentiful as they were even 5-10 yrs. ago. Because the migrating fish we see each year come from the Chesapeake bay, (which is already being over-fished for bait fish as well as stripers), I believe it is wise to reduce the number of commercially caught fish- not allow increased harvesting. It is my understanding that commercially caught fish that are over 35" are over 80% females, and if so, why shouldn't we protect them with lower commercial quotas? With all the pressure on our existing fisheries, we should support efforts to improve the stripers habitat, protect their bait sources, and promote the catch-and-release policies to will ensure better populations of stripers for our future generations. It doesn't make sense to allow states to manipulate their commercial harvesting to increase the numbers of stripers (especially breeding females) taken.

I support REDUCING the commercial fishing limits along the Eastern Seaboard.

Thank you for reading this,

Fred Kretchman  
Kittery Point, Maine

**From:** [DAVID BEATTIE](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 6:20:17 AM

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Council members,  
Based on the current status of the spawning stock and the very low YOY numbers, I  
fell  
it would be beyond unacceptable to allow an increase in commercial harvest at this  
time, which  
in effect a transfer would allow. These great game fish are far too valuable as a public  
resource  
to be over harvested, when protection is available and currently underway.  
Thank you,  
Dave Beattie  
NH

**From:** [greg barnes](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Public comments on transfer of commercial quota for striped bass  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 9:27:38 PM

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With part of my livelihood based on the recreational fishery of striped bass, I would ask that you keep option A, please do not allow the transfer of commercial quotas.

Thank You  
Greg Barnes



**From:** [Gabriel Klaff](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support for Option A (Status Quo) on Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 9:21:02 PM

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Good Evening ASMFC,

I hope this finds you well. I am writing to express my support for Option A on Addendum I.

I started fishing for striped bass with my father at a very young age in the waters of Long Island Sound around Fairfield, CT. Although I moved around a great deal while serving in the Coast Guard, I settled on the Seacoast of New Hampshire where I have been ecstatic to be fishing for striped bass again from my kayak in the waters of Great Bay. Although my father passed at a young and untimely age, I carry those fishing memories with me throughout the year. They are as clear and impactful as the day they were made.

Seeing the data about dramatic shifts in the striped bass population over the 30-plus years in which I've known enough to pay attention tells me everything that I need to know about this issue. It is critical for us to work collectively to preserve this precious resource for future generations of recreational sport fishermen to enjoy and celebrate.

Please consider the significant, negative impacts that placing additional targets on the backs of striped bass by allowing commercial quota transfers could have on the experiences of future fishermen who haven't even had the chance to know the joy of this pursuit yet.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and stay well.

Respectfully,  
Gabriel Klaff  
Exeter, NH

**From:** [Benjamin Gallahue](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 8:17:59 PM

---

Hello,

I am writing to comment on Striped Bass Addendum I. I strongly support **Option A (Status Quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

As a deeply passionate recreational angler I have enjoyed devouring any and all material I find on striped bass fishing. This includes fishing spots, tactics, techniques, and increasingly over the past few years conservation.

The east coast's most beloved fish is in trouble, and it seems that the most important people put in place to protect these very fish are betting on its demise. Overwhelming support of scrapping CE was met with a clear effort to find and exploit loopholes while ASMFC turned a blind eye.

While this was a clear hit to those conservation minded fishermen & women, we took the hit and ran with the small wins we had in Amendment 7. Now, not even a year later, we are in the same spot with commercial fishing quotas.

This amendment should have been for the reevaluation of CE, not for another opportunity to lower the chance we have to rebuild the stock by 2029. It is insulting and simply disrespectful to those that have given so much time to attend and comment on these hearings.

Though we are upset that our voices were not heard clear enough, I do understand the pressures the ASMFC is under. Recreational fishermen, although they account for the vast majority of striped bass mortality, are not the end all be all of influence on fisheries management. All we ask is that ASMFC keeps the overwhelming support of Option A in mind when making their final decision on Addendum I.

Thank you for your time, and I appreciate all the work the ASMFC do to manage fisheries across the east coast.

Thank you,  
Ben Gallahue

**From:** [Eric Roach](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Comment: Striped Bass Draft Amendment 1  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 7:41:07 PM

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Preference: Option A (status quo)

To whom it may concern,

Due to the current, overfished state of the striped bass stock it would not make sense to allow ocean quota transfers.

I understand that the allowed ocean quota is not being fully realized (and has trended downwards), but I also understand that the 78.6% probability of the stock being recovered by 2029 is based on the fact that the commercial fishery quota is currently not being fully realized. I would not like to see any measures that allow the ocean quota to increase landings, less it negatively affect the estimated rate of the stock's recovery.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Eric Roach  
Seabrook, NH

**From:** [Ian Sawyer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A: commercial quotas  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 5:27:32 PM

---

I fully support option A: commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Commercial fishing for striped bass is an abomination. These fish need to be protected and I don't think they should be harvested at all until the fishery is back to healthy levels that would allow for a sustainable harvest.

Thank you,  
Ian Sawyer  
Registered Maine Tidewater Guide  
IG @allagashninja207

**From:** [Duncan Barnes](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Amendment 1  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 3:04:42 PM

---

As a longtime angler who supports conservative management of our striped bass resource, I support Option A (Status Quo) and oppose any commercial quota transfer.

Duncan Barnes  
[bardunc@gmail.com](mailto:bardunc@gmail.com)

**From:** [Rich Collins](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striper Regulations  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 2:07:17 PM

---

- On Addendum I, support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers should not be permitted.

Striped bass are in decline, a management plan is in place to work toward an increase in numbers by 2029 – why allow commercial fishermen more opportunities to erode the growth pattern even more just for more profit?

Please protect our striped bass populations as best as possible.



**Rich Collins**

Owner, Thirst Productions

(603) 799-2198

[Thirstproductions.com](http://Thirstproductions.com)

[rich@thirstproductions.com](mailto:rich@thirstproductions.com)

**From:** [jazz4brazo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 1:13:25 PM

---

**I am writing in support of Option A (status quo) w.r.t. commercial quota transfers NOT being permitted!!**

Supporting increased commercial fishing quotas targeting breeding sized Striped Bass while such stock is recovering and rebuilding is an unsound travesty not to mention the economic impact it would have the recreational sport fishery.

Respectfully,  
Pierre Brazeau  
Portsmouth NH

**From:** [Lani Hummel](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 12:55:12 PM

---

I oppose any increase in the commercial striped bass harvest -- including a proposed plan to allow the transfer of uncaught commercial quota among states which have an Atlantic ocean striped bass commercial fishery -- while the population remains overfished and in a rebuilding phase.

The best way to rebuild the Atlantic striped bass population is to maintain fishing mortality at current levels. Continuing this strategy is particularly important at this time given Maryland's current low recruitment trend which is the strongest driver of the coast-wide population.

I lived through the Atlantic striped bass moratorium. It was an awful experience. I loved it and suffered an ugly withdrawal. I don't ever want to experience that again!

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments,

Lani Hummel  
Annapolis, MD



**From:** [Chris Chan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 12:27:29 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I am an avid saltwater recreational angler and moor a boat on the Westport River in southeastern Massachusetts.

I am interested in Striped Bass and other recreational fish management. The data are highly supportive of the conclusion that in many recent years Striped Bass are not reproducing sustainably and that overfishing is both contributory and damaging.

The ASMFC needs to ensure that Striped Bass populations are abundant now and in years to come and all of us share in this responsibility. Managing Striped Bass populations responsibly now is a long-term necessity.

I am in ***STRONG AND DETERMINED OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSAL TO ALLOW THE TRANSFER OF UNUSED COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS QUOTAS BETWEEN STATES.***

The Striped Bass populations need to be restored to sustainable levels and providing ways to increase the taking of fish is counterproductive. In the long run it is also economically damaging to commercial fisherman as well as recreational as it is clear that global sustainability is the solution to economic success for all fisheries. The ASMFC should establish responsible commercial quotas, addressing both current needs as well as future sustainable economic and environmental needs and not alter them unless science suggests they should be changed. *Adding complexity to the management of the commercial quotas will make a complicated situation more complicated. Do it right and keep it simple so everyone can easily understand the issues and the impacts of the quotas.*

***The Board should oppose this action and ensure that it is acting on behalf of our commercial and recreational anglers and even more so on behalf of its responsibility to the fishery. They are charged with environmental optimization on behalf of their constituents which translates into economic protection, livelihood protection, and responsible ecosystem management.***

Very Truly Yours,

**Christopher Chan**  
AIA  
LEED AP  
Home Energy Rating System Associate

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**From:** [legmaker@gmail.com](mailto:legmaker@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [stripercomments@gmail.com](mailto:stripercomments@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Decrease commercial striped bass fishing  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 11:39:25 AM

---

We now face another attempt by a small group of part time commercial Striped Bass fisherman to manipulate the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Council for a short-term economic benefit of a few commercial fisherman. Transfer of quotas to the commercial sector must not be allowed.

- Most of our NH fish were reared and will spawn (if we let them...) in states with significant commercial fishing. This includes Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and New York. We want these fish spawning and returning year after year, not killed for \$2 a pound.
- Our NH visiting Striped Bass pass through Massachusetts waters to get here. The Massachusetts commercial fishery specifically targets the large breeding females (over 35"). Striped Bass are tagged after they are brought to the dealer. There is no way to be certain that these were ocean caught or harvested in rivers and bays such as the Merrimack, Annisquam, or the bays and rivers along Vineyard Sound.
- Very few fishermen make their full time living from harvesting Striped Bass commercially. The over slot fish we release in NH and Maine are directly targeted by the Massachusetts commercial fishery. There are several other states doing the same thing. The slot limit is not universal
- The practice of 'high grading' causes excessive mortality and waste.
- A recreational bass generates far more economic value than a dead commercial bass. The Southwick Study if interested in details.

• Im requesting that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission take no action which will increase the quota for any sector, especially the commercial sector.

• Thank You,  
Chris Phillips  
Durham, NH

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Wade Hinson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 10:50:26 AM

---

Dear Sirs,

I am the Chief of the Piscataquis, Wade Edward Hinson. I was wondering, how the panel envisions this affecting the rights of the Piscataquis under our treaty (an International, Federal and State but primarily a Defense Department Treaty)?

Thank you,  
Wade Edward Hinson

**From:** [INFO](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1, Option A  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 10:22:45 AM

---

Hi Folks,

I want to express my support for Option A on Addendum 1.

The science and previous asmfc discussions show that Striped Bass are being overfished.

I also believe that letting commercial fishers kill stripers over 35" is detrimental to the health of the striped bass population. The recreational fishers have agreed willingly to let these fish go so that they made continue to breed. It makes no sense that commercial fishers can kill them.

The health of the striped bass fishery is very important to our business. The Southwick Study showed that a healthy recreational striped bass fishery is far more profitable for many types of businesses than a commercial fishery could ever hope to be.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email.

Sincerely,

Jim Bernstein  
Eldredge Bros. Fly Shop  
PO Box 69  
1480 US Route 1  
Cape Neddick, ME 03902  
(207) 363-9269  
(877) 427-9345  
e-mail: [info@eldredgeflyshop.com](mailto:info@eldredgeflyshop.com)  
website: [WWW.eldredgeflyshop.com](http://WWW.eldredgeflyshop.com)

**From:** [Rick Drew](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] ASMFC - PUBLIC COMMENT - Addendum 1 to the Amendment 7 - Striped Bass  
**Date:** Monday, January 9, 2023 9:39:16 AM

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## **Dear ASMFC Board Members, January 9th , 2023**

I am writing you regarding addendum 1 to the Amendment 7 policy document on Atlantic Striped Bass. Please submit this letter into the record of public comment.

Recent stock assessment, detailed scientific research and abundant public comment have led your board to deem Atlantic Striped Bass stocks as overfished. My understanding is that this determination instructs your board to take action to rebuild the stock to healthy sustainable levels as its top priority.

In addition to the Striped Bass fishery being deemed overfished, recent young of year surveys have shown that reproduction of Striped Bass in the Chesapeake Bay region is under performing historic averages and current target goals. It is a dismal prognosis at best.

The combination of these two factors tells us that the Striped Bass fishery is in trouble. In order to craft a successful management strategy for future years we must focus on rebuilding breeding stocks and the abundance of Striped Bass.

Currently, conservancy equivalency guidance which varies from state to state and liberal take regulations for commercial fishermen in certain states like NY, make this process extremely difficult to accomplish. For example, if you are trying to protect a key year class of fish, why would you lower the minimum size limit for take? After lengthy conversations with NY State marine biologist whom clearly stated that protecting the 2015-year class of Striped Bass was a top priority. NY elected to lower the minimum size limit for commercial harvesting down to 26 inches, which as we all know, is before Striped Bass reach breeding maturity. How do you rebuild abundance when you reduce the stock of fish before they reach breeding maturity. Perhaps what was most troubling is the fact that the 2015 class of Striped Bass were reaching an approximate length of 26 inches when this change was made. Clearly, scientific guidance from the New York State Marine biology team was ignored during this process. We have developed extensive knowledge on striped bass biology

and it needs to be applied for the greater good of the public's trust. Special interest groups should not trump the charter of the ASMFC.

Currently, my home state of NY is struggling to fund and field adequate enforcement within its marine bureau. As a result, we do not have accurate field information on illegal take (ie. poaching, both rec and commercial) or mortality from aggressive commercial fishing activities like fixed position gill netting and trawling/dragging. I will say that from numerous first hand field accounts (observations), still photography and drone videos that I have catalogued, the visuals are horrifying. We are truly steering-managing the striped bass fishery in New York State from a series of assumptions and dated algorithms. While we have no credible field documentation on poaching or mortality in my home state of NY, accounts from my friends in neighboring states indicate that this situation may be worse for them.

I have participated in NYS DEC quota transfer meetings, which focused on moving quota around on a calendar basis rather than a geographic basis, and the driving force was maximizing take and price. While these are important to a fisherman's bottom line, they cannot be done at the expense of a given fisheries overall well-being. It is not a sustainable course of action for anyone, certainly not the current Striped Bass Fishery. You should not move quota to times of the year that would conflict with breeding activities within a given region particularly when a fishery is deemed overfished or experiencing overfishing. Moving quota around geographically can have a similar effect as breeding may take place at different times of year for a given species that is found across a broad geographic range. This happens to be the case with striped bass. The venerable potpourri of take regulations makes accurate measurement of take and management of the fishery extremely difficult. Introducing intrastate commercial quota transfers will make it more difficult to successfully manage our priceless Atlantic Coast Striped Bass Fishery.

Many marine biologists and other subject matter experts would consider three years of consistent data supporting a change in the designation of a fishery status change from overfished to an acceptable level of breeder biomass to be a minimal threshold. The aggressive and somewhat hurried introduction of addendum 1 has many people confused by the ASMFC actions and are questioning their objectives? What is the underlying motivation for such a motion? Is it in line with the board's charter and objectives?

Clearly Striped Bass are deemed overfished and reproduction is down, the ASMFC has a specific charter which is intended to guide their actions when a fishery is deemed overfished. Given these three key factors the only logical decision regarding Addendum 1 is to maintain the status quo and not introduce any intrastate commercial quota transfers at this time (I.e. while Striped Bass are deemed overfished or experiencing overfishing).

Please contact me at your convenience with any questions.

Sincerely,

Rick

Richard P. Drew II  
2 Powder Hill Lane  
East Hampton, NY. 11937  
Cell: 631-903-0951  
Email: [rpdrew@hotmail.com](mailto:rpdrew@hotmail.com)



**From:** [busk\\_prescott](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Amendment 7, Addendum 1 - Comment on Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 9:42:39 PM

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Hello,

The purpose of this communication is to express extreme opposition to the potential impact that allowance of Commercial Harvest Quota transfers between States as articulated in Addendum 1 to Amendment 7.

In order to meet the goal of rebuilding the Striped Bass Stock by 2029, it is essential that the harvest of Striped Bass up and down the Atlantic Coast be minimized by both Recreational and Commercial fishermen through the balance of this decade. The net effect of allowance of Commercial Harvest Quota transfers between States would maximize the Commercial harvest at precisely the wrong time. In order to protect the breeder stock, it is imperative that Commercial fishermen also be required to strictly adhere to the same 28" - 35" slot limit required of Recreational fishermen.

Bass fishermen alike must remain committed to continue rebuilding the fishery stock based upon guidelines outlined in Amendment 7 to preserve this species of fish for the current and future generations.

Please take this as my formal request to say NO to Commercial Harvest Quota transfers between States.

Thanks,  
Prescott Busk

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Donald Williams](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 7:36:00 PM

---

Dear Sir/Madam.

I have been fishing for striped bass for the last 62 years in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

As you well know, the data suggest that in many recent years Striped Bass have not been reproducing in sustainable numbers. Striped Bass stocks are currently overfished.

**I WRITE IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSAL TO ALLOW THE TRANSFER OF UNUSED COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS QUOTAS BETWEEN STATES.**

Such a proposal is absurd on its face. Increasing the commercial harvesting of striped bass only serves the short term self interests of commercial fishers in states that would receive such re-allocations. The breeding stock will be further decreased. My gut tells me that those commercial interests will subsequently seek higher quotas to maintain the higher incomes they will enjoys from harvesting more striped bass as a result of quota reallocations. The proposal is simply not in the best interests of the fishery.

Stop the insanity!

Regards,

Don Williams

Donald C. Williams  
Health Care Consultant  
P.O. Box 345  
Adamsville, RI 02801  
401-623-0930  
dclaytonwilliams@yahoo.com

**From:** [zach bob](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [stripercomments@gmail.com](mailto:stripercomments@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Regulations  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 7:20:51 PM

---

Hello,

I am writing to put my effort behind increasing conservation of striped bass by reducing the recreational harvest. Studies show they are overfished as is, and it seems crazy to add more commercial harvest by allowing for the transfer of commercial quotas.

For addendum 1 I support option A, not allowing the transfer of commercial quotas.

Recreational bass in New Hampshire have to pass through intense commercial fishing. Recreational fish generate more money than commercial bass. A dead commercial bass over 35" is an added pressure on an already overfished resource.

Please protect our access to bass in NH by limiting commercial fishing.

Sincerely,  
Zach Wiggin

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Ed Bailor](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 6:46:40 PM

---

Please lower the commercial stripped bass limit and do not allow any netting of stripped bass, pound nets or other at all. No netting of S bass.

Inspector Ed Bailor  
USCP retired

**From:** [matthew.larkin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 support for option A  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 5:20:35 PM

---

I am writing on Addendum 1 to support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted regarding stripped bass management. I grew up fishing the shores of Long Island NY spending countless days running up and down the beach chasing stripped bass. I now live up the coast in NH and still spend countless days Pershing stripped bass. As my methods for recreational fishing have changed and evolved over the years so has my understanding of the species and the requirements needed to sustain a healthy population. The science shows that this species is currently being overfished and supports that greater conservation efforts are needed. What's not needed is more harvest. In addition the financial gain to the commercial fishery by allowing quota transfers is far out weighed by the economic impact of recreational anglers that would be affected by increased overfishing. Back when I was in NY I loved to catch an keeper and bring it home to my parents cook up as years went by I began setting personal limits at two fish a year, then one, then to only catch and release which I have been practicing for over 5 years. I have a degree in Environmental and Resource Economics and work in natural resource management. Please do more and to help reduce the continued overfishing.

Regards,

Matt Larkin  
189 New Road  
Newmarket, NH 03857

--

Matthew Larkin

189 New Road

Newmarket, NH 03857

(631) 335-3933

[larkin.matthew1@gmail.com](mailto:larkin.matthew1@gmail.com)

**From:** [Frank Bryer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 3:41:24 PM

---

Why don't we end all commercial fishing for striped bass. That will end all of this insanity.

**From:** [robert nolte](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 2:10:08 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

The striped bass fishery in the Chesapeake Bay is in decline. Me and friends have targeted striped bass on the bay for about 20 years.

Specifically in the last 10 year period the amount of striped bass small medium and large have declined. The last 2 years we have seen very few schools of baby rockfish. There are some fish in the 10 to 24 inch class available but the schools have gotten smaller and smaller. We once had a really good fishery on the bay and it is slipping away every year. I target striped bass with artificial lures 99% of the time along with practicing catch and release 99% of the time.

Several friends I fished with over the years have given up and taken on other hobbies due to how hard it can be at times to catch stripers. Maybe that is your goal to have less fisherman. There are many things going on right now in our society that make no sense and this one is so visible it must be intentional. I do not recommend increasing the catch limits on striped bass at this time. My recommendation would be to follow the red fish example moving forward.

Thank You, Robert Nolte

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Chris Roach](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 1:58:09 PM

---

January 8, 2023

Hello ASMFC,

I am writing to you, because I am concerned about a proposal to allow states to transfer unused commercial harvest quotas to other states that have already maximized their own commercial harvests.

With all due respect, this does not make sense for an agency that is responsible for the stewardship of responsible fishing regulations.

It would appear that the reason states with unused commercial harvest quotas wanting to transfer those to another state, that has already maximized their own commercial quotas, is because they have over fished their state's waters. Since having over fished their waters, they now wish to over fish other states waters. This is irresponsible, if not criminal.

Your agency has a responsibility to protect fisheries and this proposal flies directly in the face of that responsibility. I do not see how anyone, with good conscience, could support this proposal. It is nothing more than an act of greed with absolutely no consideration to the well being of the stripe bass population.

Consequently, I strongly oppose the proposal, as do my fellow fishermen whether the be recreational or professional.

I thank you for your time and careful consideration.

Warm Regards,  
Christopher L. Roach  
[904-689-6890](tel:904-689-6890)  
[Roach1776@gmail.com](mailto:Roach1776@gmail.com)



**From:** [Jonathan Gertler](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Amendment 1  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 10:07:31 AM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I am a scientist by training and an avid saltwater angler from Westport Massachusetts.

I follow the activities of the ASMFC with particular interest in the amendments and proposals that relate to Striped Bass management. The data are highly supportive of the conclusion that in many recent years Striped Bass are not reproducing sustainably and that overfishing is both contributory and damaging.

All anglers look to the ASMFC to have primary responsibility to ensure that Striped Bass populations are abundant now and in years to come and all of us share in this responsibility. Managing Striped Bass populations responsibly now is a long-term necessity.

I am writing this note in ***STRONG AND DETERMINED OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSAL TO ALLOW THE TRANSFER OF UNUSED COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS QUOTAS BETWEEN STATES.***

The Striped Bass populations need to be restored to sustainable levels and providing ways to increase the taking of fish is counterproductive and illogical. In the long run it is also economically damaging to commercial fisherman as it is clear that global sustainability is the solution to economic success for all fisheries. The ASMFC should establish responsible commercial quotas, addressing both current needs as well as future sustainable economic and environmental needs and not alter them unless science suggests they should be changed. *Adding complexity to the management of the commercial quotas will make a complicated situation more complicated. Do it right and keep it simple so everyone can easily understand the issues and the impacts of the quotas.*

***The Board should oppose this action and ensure that it is acting on behalf of our commercial and recreational anglers and even more so on behalf of its responsibility to the fishery. They are charged with environmental optimization on behalf of their constituents which translates into economic protection, livelihood protection, and responsible ecosystem management.***

Respectfully,

Jonathan P Gertler MD

photo-logo



## JONATHAN P. GERTLER, MD

Managing Partner, CEO

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**From:** [Ron Moore](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 9:55:12 AM

---

Good morning,

As I have read through addendum I, I am appalled to hear that this addendum is nothing more than a way for commercial fishing of striped bass to further put the fishery in jeopardy. All this addendum will do is allow states to transfer unused quota to take the most fish possible, putting this species in a virtual head lock. I have been a recreational fisherman for striped bass for nearly 25 years now. The regulations keep getting more strict, yet I read about stuff like this and it down right makes me angry. It continually puts the responsibility on the recreational fisherman to support the conservation of a struggling species, that in turn the commercial fishing sector takes advantage of. The fact that the commercial fishing sector does not have the same slot limits as recreational fisherman proves that. In my opinion, there should be no commercial fishing of striped bass allowed until the population has been brought back to par, and there should be more effort spent on the massive amount of poachers, both recreational and commercial. The transfers of commercial quota should not be allowed whatsoever. If we want to see the species flourish, we must practice a strict conservation to ensure future generations get to enjoy fishing for striped bass just as I have. Just my two cents.

Ron

**From:** [Samuel Rice](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] public comments on transfer of commercial quot  
**Date:** Saturday, January 7, 2023 9:32:58 PM

---

Keep Option A (status quo) and DO NOT permit the transfer of commercial quotas.

**From:** [Jason Avila](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Saturday, January 7, 2023 6:33:12 PM

---

ASMFC Board,

My name is Jason Avila. I am resident of Massachusetts and a recreational fisherman. Any changes to the current rules for Commercial Quota Transfers can only result in greater fish mortality which is completely against the intentions of Amendment 7 and will make it more difficult to rebuild the stock by 2029. The most recent stock assessment is trending in the right direction, but I feel the numbers are still within the margin of error for a failure to rebuild. Any action taken by this board to encourage a rise in (f) is unacceptable.

Therefore, I support Option A (status quo) – Commercial quota transfers not permitted.

Thank you for the consideration,

Jason Avila  
73 Dr. Braley Rd.  
E. Freetown MA 02717

**From:** [joylenmad@aol.com](mailto:joylenmad@aol.com)  
**To:** [stripercomments@gmail.com](mailto:stripercomments@gmail.com); [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass addendum I.  
**Date:** Saturday, January 7, 2023 4:47:42 PM

---

I am writing in regard to the upcoming ASMFC Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7.

As an avid catch and release surfcaster for over 30 years I feel that any changes to Amendment 7 is not wise and that selecting Option A (status quo) is a no brainer.

In my opinion and what I experienced over the last few years is that the fishery is in trouble and you messed with it enough.

If not only for guys like me but for the next generation of fishermen and the economy of our Island, let it be.

.Sincerely

Lenny Ferro

103 Stevenson Street

Lynbrook, N.Y. 11563

(516) 596-0735

**From:** [Ken Moeller](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Public comments on transfer of commercial quota  
**Date:** Saturday, January 7, 2023 9:55:31 AM

---

ASMFC, please keep Option A and DO NOT permit the transfer of commercial quotas. Transferring the commercial quota would be detrimental to an already fragile fishery.

Thank you,  
Ken Moeller

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Greg Jewell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Saturday, January 7, 2023 9:05:09 AM

---

Sent from my iPhone

I am against the transfer o the Striped bass quotas between states Here we are trying to rebuild the stocks and an absurd idea such as this is floated. Where is the common sense?

C Gregory Jewell DVM



**From:** [David Berez](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] transfer of commercial quotas  
**Date:** Friday, January 6, 2023 7:23:13 PM

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is just NUTS. Every report says striped bass are overfished. Transferring leftover quotas just continues the killing. Could not be anything dumber. DO NOT permit the transfer of commercial quotas!

David Berez

P. David Berez  
65 Elm Street  
Camden, Maine 04843  
207-236-4911

**From:** [Joe Busk](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Amendment 7, Addendum 1 - Comment on Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 6, 2023 4:25:00 PM

---

Hello,

The purpose of this communication is to express extreme opposition to the potential impact that allowance of Commercial Harvest Quota transfers between States as articulated in Addendum 1 to Amendment 7.

In order to meet the goal of rebuilding the Striped Bass Stock by 2029, it is essential that the harvest of Striped Bass up and down the Atlantic Coast be minimized by both Recreational and Commercial fishermen through the balance of this decade. The net effect of allowance of Commercial Harvest Quota transfers between States would maximize the Commercial harvest at precisely the wrong time. In order to protect the breeder stock, it is imperative that Commercial fishermen also be required to strictly adhere to the same 28" - 35" slot limit required of Recreational fishermen.

Rather than being driven by local or individual self interest; State Fishery Managers, and Commercial & Recreational Striped Bass fishermen alike must remain committed to continue rebuilding the fishery stock based upon guidelines outlined in Amendment 7 to preserve this species of fish for the current and future generations.

Just say NO to Commercial Harvest Quota transfers between States.

Thank You,

Joe Busk  
Scituate, MA

**From:** [James Shanley](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] On Addendum 1, Support Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 6, 2023 2:14:42 PM

---

Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission  
1050 N Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission,

I am writing to express my support for continuing to prohibit the transfer of striped bass commercial quotas. I believe that striped bass continue to be overfished, and allowing the transfer of unmet commercial quotas would be detrimental to the effort to rebuild this important fishery.

Sincerely,

James G Shanley  
170 McKinley Rd  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

**From:** [Bob Campbell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I to Amendment 7  
**Date:** Friday, January 6, 2023 1:51:16 PM

---

I am writing to ask the Commission to adopt Option A (status quo) disallowing commercial quota transfers.

I'm currently a New Jersey resident, but lived for considerable lengths of time, decades, in Massachusetts and Connecticut and New York State. I've surf fished from Plum Island to Wellfleet, from Watch Hill and Old Saybrook to Milford and Norwalk, Hampton Bays to the Hudson, and now the Jersey Shore, from the early '80s to now.

So I've witnessed close up our striper cycles. The data, and direct observation and catch rates, clearly point now to a severe downturn. What will our response be? To do everything possible for the health and sustaining of the fishery? Or short-term steps compromising that goal again.

Stripers should be designated a no-keep gamefish, for the obvious economic payback of recreational fisherpersons' expenditures in communities all along the Atlantic states, if not for the sake of preserving this national treasure. A treasure already under attack by a menhaden harvesting industry bent on maximum destruction of striper forage stocks, and reluctance to meaningfully limit or eliminate commercial harvests.

Please do the right thing here, now, as a great many of us citizens, not just fisherpeople, are hoping you'll do. Thank you.

Robert Campbell  
Holmdel, New Jersey

From: [Toby Frey](#)  
To: [Comments](#)  
Cc: [information@ccamd.org](mailto:information@ccamd.org)  
Subject: [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
Date: Friday, January 6, 2023 10:28:19 AM

---

ASMFC Board,

Everybody acknowledges the Striped Bass population is in a precarious position, young of year numbers down , flawed MRIP numbers, (which we continue to use vs funding research on new technology)...why in the world would anybody even consider an amendment that could allow greater harvest of the species...INSANE!!!

I oppose the idea of swapping quotas....I OPPOSE the Amendment !!!!

Sewell "Toby" Frey

<\*))))))>{

Toby Frey

103 Third St.

Oxford, MD 21654

410-725-1781

Coastal Conservation Assoc. MD Board Member

MD Tidal Coastal & Recreational Fisheries Committee

MD Sport Fishing Advisory Commission

Mid Shore Fishing Club

Cambridge Skeet Club

Salt Strong Insider

Secret Dove Club

**From:** [Lanedave7](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 6, 2023 10:12:01 AM

---

Emilie Franke  
FMP Coordinator  
1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 22201

I support Option A - (Status Quo) Commercial quota transfers are NOT PERMITTED.

Respectfully,  
David Flood  
13 Mirador Ct.  
Toms River, NJ 08757  
848-238-7567

**From:** [kris magnotti](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 7  
**Date:** Friday, January 6, 2023 8:53:21 AM

---

To those who can make a difference,

My name is Kris Magnotti I'm a resident of Seaford in Nassau County for the last 20 and an avid Surfcaster. I'd like my voice heard as I would like to see the future of the striped bass in a place my now 7 year old son may enjoy as he matures. I am in support of Option A -(status quo NO transfers allowed). I stress that given the state of stock and the ongoing rebuilding efforts, it would NOT be in the interest of the public or the fish to actively maximize harvest in any sector at this time. Please take care of these fish as it's not just a hobby for myself, my family, and my community it's a life long passion that can NOT be replaced.

Thank you for your time

Kris

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [rweiss@maine.rr.com](mailto:rweiss@maine.rr.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Public comments on transfer of commercial quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 6, 2023 8:26:30 AM

---

Dear Sirs,

I am a sport fly fisherman in the state of Maine. Over the years the striped bass fishery has declined drastically. I urge you to keep Option A (status quo) and DO NOT permit the transfer of commercial quotas.

Thank you

Robert Weiss



**From:** [Tim Morgan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 6, 2023 7:13:39 AM

---

I oppose any weakening of restrictions on the harvest of striped bass in the Chesapeake Bay. Scientific data shows that the population of bass is still recovering if not declining. My personal experience fishing for stripers confirms that conclusion. This fish drives enormous economic activity and must be protected now to sustain those benefits for the long term.

All the best,

Tim

Timothy G Morgan  
474 Whitfield Rd  
Cardinal, VA 23025  
571.215.6944

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Joseph McGurriin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 9:22:28 PM

---

I am opposed to the new Draft Addendum I. Controlling fishing mortality is the only immediate action we can take to help restore striped bass to abundant levels. With the many uncertainties in the recent striped bass stock assessment, now is not the time to allow any actions that could increase the harvest of striped bass. This latest Addendum I that promotes commercial quota transfers shows that the ASMFC remains unwilling to face up to the serious decline in striped bass populations. Instead of looking at measures to mollify current commercial and recreational participants in the fishery, the ASMFC needs to be looking at management measures to cut fishing mortality beyond the recent reductions in case the overly optimistic stock recovery scenario fails to materialize.

**From:** [Garysalontai](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum one  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 6:46:46 PM

---

I am opposed to the commercial transfer of striped bass quotas as they will only cause overfishing, right as the striped bass stocks are starting to get back to where they belong.

Thank you, Gary Salontai.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [fmsprinkel@gmail.com](mailto:fmsprinkel@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 6:10:18 PM

---

I oppose any change to increase striped bass catch limits

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ron Shamaskin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 5:44:42 PM

---

I oppose any action that increases mortality of striped bass. Allowing increased commercial harvesting will deplete the population so that recreational fishing becomes impossible.

Ron Shamaskin

**From:** [John Winston Read](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 5:35:26 PM

---

I oppose any increases in striped bass quotas... anyone who saltwater fishes knows that striped bass are in decline and are already under tremendous pressures..that will only increase as our climate continues to warm...

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Crae Ramsey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 5:33:59 PM

---

Good evening-

I typically do not opine during public comment periods, but as a life long recreational angler from mid Atlantic region, I feel the need to weigh in on this one. I remember the late 1980's striped bass moratorium well and continue to ask myself why after so much effort we seem to be back where we started.

Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

Best regards

**Crae Ramsey**  
Mobile [202.669.0084](tel:202.669.0084)

**From:** [Albano, Albert](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass FMP Amendment 7 Addendum 1 - Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 3:14:23 PM

---

Ms. Franke,

In Section 2.2.1.2 of the Public Information document, with respect to past consideration of quota transfers, it states that “During consideration of Draft Addendum IV to Amendment 6, the Technical Committee raised concerns that transfers had the potential to increase harvest at a time when harvest reductions were needed, which contributed to the Board not approving transfers under Addendum IV (2014).” Now, per the 2022 Stock Assessment Update, the stock remains overfished yet is no longer experiencing overfishing in the terminal year (2021). So, it would seem that just because overfishing did not occur in 2021 (one year!), this attempt to increase the harvest of bass has been brought back to light. Seriously?

Later in the PID, there is another line that states: “Allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum VI in 2020.” This leads the reader to wonder “what the heck is going on here?” Was the ASMFC not serious about restoring the striped bass population and fishery when they promulgated Amendment 7?

ASMFC should have discarded this proposal immediately. It should have never even been presented to the public for comment.

My selection is Status Quo. No transfer of Quotas.

Thanks,

Albert Albano  
601 Chester Road  
Sayville, NY 11782

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**From:** [fmsprinkel@gmail.com](mailto:fmsprinkel@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 2:57:00 PM

---

I oppose any actions that remove any stripped bass from any Atlantic coast or inland waters.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Corinne Green](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 1:57:06 PM

---

Do not allow commercial striped bass quotas to be used/transferred to other states. If you are going to allow only 1 fish per via recreational fisherman in Virginia due to issues with striped bass, WHY would you allow this????

Corinne Green  
Mechanicsville, Va

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Michele Kohler](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Fwd: MY OPINION: Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 1:21:51 PM

---

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Michele Kohler** <[nokofarm@gmail.com](mailto:nokofarm@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Jan 5, 2023 at 1:17 PM  
**Subject:** MY OPINION: Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**To:** <[comments@asfmc.org](mailto:comments@asfmc.org)>

I OPPOSE the Commercial Transfer of Striped Bass Quota.

Respectfully ,

Michele Koehler

**From:** [Karen Noe](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Stripped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 1:16:50 PM

---

I oppose the transfer of Stripped Base quotas.

**From:** [jill Lorenz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:33:08 AM

---

Emilie Franke,

I support Option A – (status quo). I am opposed to any commercial transfer of Striped Bass quota.

Jill Lorenz

**From:** [bscintraclub@optonline.net](mailto:bscintraclub@optonline.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:31:25 AM

---

To whom it may concern,  
I support Option A – (status quo). I am opposed to any commercial transfer of Striped Bass quota.  
Marc Lorenz

**From:** [Craig Lorenz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:30:19 AM

---

To whom it may concern,  
I support Option A – (status quo). I am opposed to any commercial transfer of Striped Bass quota.  
Craig Lorenz

Craig Lorenz  
19 Morton Dr.  
Lavallette, NJ, 08735

## Emilie Franke

---

**From:** Peter Mohlin <pmohlin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 8:53 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass - Amendment 7, Addendum 1 Comments  
**Attachments:** Draft Amendment 7 Comments from Maine Rec Fisherman.pdf  
  
**Categories:** Auto Replied

Dear ASMFC,

I am a recreational fisherman that lives in and fishes for stripers in Maine. I am writing to you today in support of Option A - Status Quo regarding commercial striped bass quota transfers.

Allowing the transfer of commercial quota for a species that is overfished, in any way, shape, or form, is wrong. How can we expect an overfished species to recover if states are allowed to harvest more of that species?

Less than a year ago I submitted comments on Draft Amendment 7 via email, advocating to limit the use of Conservation Equivalency and for closures of spawning areas, specifically. I have attached those comments for reference. The vast majority of the folks who commented on the Amendment 7 draft supported these conservation-minded approaches, and now, 10 months later, we are fighting against proposed regulation that could potentially reduce the stock even further.

Please consider Option A - Status Quo to prevent the transfer of commercial striped bass quota.

Thank you very much for your time. And thank you for the informative public hearing webinar I attended last night, January 9th.

Sincerely,  
Pete Mohlin



**From:** [Ken Wolf](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:06:57 PM

---

I oppose increased harvest of striped bass . We need to manage this species more conservatively to encourage its long term health. Thank you.

Kenneth D Wolf

*Ken Wolf*  
*636 magothy view dr*  
*arnold , md 21012*  
*cell (443) 280 - 1691*  
[kwolfsden@gmail.com](mailto:kwolfsden@gmail.com)

**From:** [Ben Scott](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:06:21 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on Draft Amendment I to Amendment 7.

**I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

Addendum I can not be approved! You must work towards the rebuilding plan rather than against it. The damage Addendum I would have (if approved) would be irreversible, and catastrophic.

I ask the Board to recognize the value and importance of this fish when it is alive and in abundance. The importance of this species cannot be overstated. Striped Bass must be restored to abundance and we will no longer tolerate failure. I ask the Board to not be misled by the few outspoken critics and misguided people who oppose Striped Bass conservation measures. Striped Bass are the most important fish in our waters and need to be treated and managed with the utmost respect. You can not allow commercial quota transfers.

Striped bass are at the core of the East Coast's recreational fishing community and economy, and all eyes are on the Striped Bass Board as you decide the fate of the ASMFC's flagship species. Please take this opportunity to position this treasured species for recovery and long-term success.

Thank you,  
Ben Scott

**From:** [BILL HALLMAN 215 512 9314](mailto:BILL.HALLMAN.215.512.9314)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [stripers@stripersforever.org](mailto:stripers@stripersforever.org)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:04:36 PM

---

**We in the mid atlantic and Northeast ask: Please do not support any Commercial catching of Striped Bass.**

**Support: Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

The striped bass is the most important fish in the Recreational fishery and we support and respectfully request your support of the federal status of SPORT FISH of the Striped Bass.

**From:** [William Smith](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:02:11 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.  
Enough is enough! The netters will destroy all that the sport guys have worked for this past decade.

Martin V Smith, Major, USAF (Ret)  
Sea Bright, NJ

**From:** [Derrin Fund](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:02:08 PM

---

I oppose any increase in catch limits for striped bass. Scientists have shown fish stocks are significantly depleted. Limiting the number of fish taken by commercial fishermen will help enable reproduction rates to increase and restore the fishery.

Respectfully,  
Derrin Fund  
Annapolis

**From:** [Troy Jubb](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:01:39 PM

---

I oppose the draft addendum.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jesse King](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:01:36 PM

---

I oppose the increase of striped bass. The stock is still recovering!

Thank you,  
Jesse King

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Lawrence Singmaster](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:00:38 PM

---

Support: Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

**There is no place for such an addendum while the Striped Bass stock is recovering and rebuilding. We need much more time to allow for rebuilding the striped bass stock.**

L. Singmaster  
Cape Cod



**From:** [Bill Harward](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:59:39 PM

---

I oppose any Increase in commercial harvest quantities to allow adequate time for the stock to be more replenished.

William E Harward III

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [Jerome Holter](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:58:47 PM

---

There is no possible justification for increasing commercial limits. I fish the bay on a bi-weekly basis and have personally seen the decline in our bays great resources.

Recreational fishermen love the Chesapeake , and for the most part do all they can to preserve this great gift of nature.

If the Bay was your child , wouldn't you do all things necessary to nurture and protect your own. We(You)have been given the responsibility to protect our own great resource. Step and protect what is our duty to preserve.

Jerome Holter

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Calvert, Tom](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:58:46 PM

---

I am opposed to Striped Bass Draft Addendum I. The fish stock needs less pressure to recover from overfishing. I do not want to see a repeat of the Chesapeake Bay Striped Bass Moratorium from the 70's/80's.

Tom Calvert  
Recreational Angler

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [Frank Morrison](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:56:02 PM

---

OPPOSE

Thank you, Frank Morrison

**From:** [Chuck Shenberger](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota status  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:54:55 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer

Chuck Shenberger  
Pennsylvania

--

Charles M. Shenberger Plastering Inc.

**Personal email-** [cshenberger3163@gmail.com](mailto:cshenberger3163@gmail.com)

**Business email-** [cmsplaster@comcast.net](mailto:cmsplaster@comcast.net)

**Office phone-** 610 942 7310

**Cell phone-** 215 839 2643

**From:** [tricotrout](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:54:10 PM

---

Dear Sir and/or Madam:

My name is Timothy Perry and I am a recreational angler from Staten Island, NY. I am primarily a shore based angler that fishes in Staten Island, New York as well as New Jersey beaches from Sandy Hook to as far south as Belford Beach. I fish for many different saltwater species but I especially enjoy fishing for Atlantic striped bass in the surf with a fly rod.

With regard to the options that are being considered for Addendum 1, I would express my support for Option A to keep the status quo and NOT PERMIT commercial quota transfers. All other options would negatively impact the rebuilding Atlantic striped bass stocks by increasing mortality.

Submitted for your consideration,

Timothy Perry  
Tricotrout@gmail.com

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Feini Yin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:50:27 PM

---

Hello,

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Name: Feini Yin

State: New Jersey

--

Feini Yin  
Strategist and Storyteller  
Pronouns: they/them

**FISHADELPHIA | Community Supported Fishery**  
**W:** [www.fishadelphia.com](http://www.fishadelphia.com) **E:** [feini@fishadelphia.com](mailto:feini@fishadelphia.com) **P:** 908.745.9768

**From:** [Albert Perrino](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:50:25 PM

---

The clear overview remains that the Striped Bass is overfished and requires continued forceful action to decrease mortality. Any action that decreases that focus, like the proposed adjustment of the commercial catch by location is not warranted at this time. When the stock is clearly increasing further consideration may be warranted.

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Glenn Dixon](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:48:24 PM

---

Dear Committee members,

As a fisherman that has lived in Maryland and fished the Chesapeake Bay and off shore all of my life, I beg you to oppose Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 of the Atlantic Striped Bass Management Plan. In my opinion, as well as that of others I associate and fish with, the commercial quota should be left as it is until the Striped Bass stocks are no longer in decline and the young of the year recruitment rates show improvement.

**PLEASE VOTE AGAINST ADDENDUM 1**

Capt. Glenn Dixon

**From:** [jesse.gustafson@unlimitedsir.com](mailto:jesse.gustafson@unlimitedsir.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:48:14 PM

---

To Whom it may concern:

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Respectfully,  
-Jesse Gustafson  
Boston, Massachusetts



Jesse Gustafson  
Sales Team Leader  
Unlimited Sotheby's International Realty  
1334 Beacon Street  
Brookline, MA 02446  
Direct: 617-642-4787  
Email: [jesse.gustafson@UnlimitedSIR.com](mailto:jesse.gustafson@UnlimitedSIR.com)  
[JesseGustafson.com](http://JesseGustafson.com)  
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*Equal Housing Opportunity*

**From:** [Samantha Santoro](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:48:02 PM

---

Hello - as a concerned recreational striped bass angler with the goal of striped bass abundance and rebuilding the fishery and striped bass stock by the 2029 target, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Please do what you know is right in your hearts and do not allow for more killing of this very vulnerable fish.

Thank you.

**From:** [paul.olleroma.com](mailto:paul.olleroma.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:42:59 PM

---

Sirs,

As a concerned recreational striped bass angler with the goal of striped bass abundance and rebuilding the fishery and striped bass stock by the 2029 target, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Please do what you know is right in your hearts and do not allow for more killing of this very vulnerable fish.

Thank you

Paul Amorello  
330 3rd St S Unit 702  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

**From:** [Jackie Amorello](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:42:19 PM

---

Hello - as a concerned recreational striped bass angler with the goal of striped bass abundance and rebuilding the fishery and striped bass stock by the 2029 target, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Please do what you know is right in your hearts and do not allow for more killing of this very vulnerable fish.

Thank you.

**From:** [Kurt Karwacky](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Megan Ware](#); [Patrick Keliher](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:42:01 PM

---

ASMFC,

I am in favor of management targeting the rebuilding of Striped Bass stocks. I am again disappointed in the ASMFC. The board has clearly shown that they don't have the Striped Bass or the public's desires in mind when making management decisions. Addendum I should never have become an option and does not help the rebuilding of the Striped Bass stocks.

I am in favor of:

Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted

Kurt Karwacky  
Brunswick, Maine

**From:** [eliot\\_jenkins](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:41:59 PM

---

I am out on the water everyday in the summer months in Ipswich Ma. I am a striper fishing guide and I am opposed to any commercial fishing for these magnificent fish. I am also opposed to killing them recreationally. The fishing has become steadily worse in the last 15 yrs. And I support the most stringent catch & release practices on these fish. Please do not expand the take on commercial bass fishing. It's the worst for protecting big breeding bass.

Thanks

Eliot Jenkins  
Greasybeaksflyfishing.com  
541-868-6356

**From:** [Andrew McDonald](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:41:48 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Signed,

Andrew McDonald, Connecticut



**From:** [Robert Davis Jr](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:41:29 PM

---

Don't increase catch. All I know  
, it is tough to catch a legal fish theses days.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Grigoriy Losyev](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:40:23 PM

---

i support option a. status quo no transfers.

Grigoriy Losyev MA

**From:** [Deron Simpson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:40:05 PM

---

I oppose allowing commercial quota transfers and urge the Board to support Option A (status quo).

Regards,

Deron Simpson

Office 410-902-0357  
Mobile 443-744-0667

[www.signalsdefense.com](http://www.signalsdefense.com)

**SIGNALS DEFENSE**

**From:** [Scott Larson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:38:50 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Scott Larson  
Plymouth, MA

**From:** [Tyler Harper](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:38:23 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Dr. Tyler Harper. I'm an assistant professor of Environmental Studies at Bates College in Maine and, more importantly, I am a diehard surfcaster. I am writing to voice my support for option A: maintaining the status quo with no commercial transfer.

The idea of a commercial transfer is patently nonsensical at a moment when our striped bass stocks are imperiled in a way not seen in decades. In addition to the abundance of scientific evidence pointing to a decline, my fellow fishermen up in Maine have all noticed the drastic reduction in small, sub-20" stripers. Of the hundreds and hundreds of stripers I caught this year, I landed fewer than two dozen fish under 20". The lack of small stripers is profoundly concerning from a conservation standpoint, and was one of the key warning signs during the previous collapse. The red flags are here: we need to act.

As both a professor of Environmental Studies and as an angler, I know that if we are going to avoid a moratorium, we need to do everything we can to reduce striped bass mortality. Allowing commercial transfers does the opposite of that and I sincerely hope you will heed the advice of the many anglers writing to you to voice their opposition to that proposal.

Thank you for your important work. I realize that your job is not easy, and is often thankless.

Tyler

--

Tyler Austin Harper, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies  
Bates College  
Lewiston, Maine 04240  
Pronouns: he/him/his

**From:** [Michael Pochettino](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:36:02 PM

---

As a recreational angler on the Chesapeake Bay, I am opposed to this addendum. It is clear that Striped Bass populations are still depressed relative to a decade ago, and given this indisputable fact, there is no rationale that could justify an increased harvest that will only benefit a few people at the expense of slowing the rebuild of the overall stock.

Sincerely,  
Michael Pochettino

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Fletch1951](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:34:31 PM

---

I am totally opposed to increasing by any means commercial striped bass harvest. This is a reckless and irresponsible policy being proposed. The commercial targeting of striped bass needs to be eliminated to allow stock to rebuild.

**From:** [Tom Doyle](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:33:56 PM

---

**I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

**There is no place for commercial quota transfers while the Striped Bass stock is recovering and rebuilding. The data shows it as does the naked eye to us fisherman on the front lines. This fishery is much more valuable when the numbers are up and everyone along the coast is getting fish. Like it was after the last moratorium - fishing was excellent. That is no longer the case.**

thank you for your consideration,  
Tom Doyle  
Concerned Angler



**From:** [Mathew Demikat](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass fishing quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:33:18 PM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Mathew

**From:** [Mark Phillips](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:32:21 PM

---

Hello,

In regards to Striped Bass Amendment 7 Addendum 1, I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Mark Phillips

**From:** [Kendall Keer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:32:08 PM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial quota transfer

Kendall Keer  
New Jersey

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Andrew Parsons](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:31:42 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.  
Andrew Parsons, Maine

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [John Lefeber](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Dan Mckiernan](#); [Raymond Kane](#); [Sarah.Peake@mahouse.gov](mailto:Sarah.Peake@mahouse.gov); [Sarah Ferrara](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:31:37 PM

---

Hello ASMFC,

My name is John Lefeber. I am an avid angler here in Massachussetes and a lover of the Striped Bass.

I am deeply troubled to have to write to you, yet again, to fight for Striped Bass conservation.

I would like to add my comment on Addendum 1 around Commercial Quota Transfers. I beg you to select Option A (Status Quo).

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

I do not need to remind you that public trust for the ASMFC is at an all time low. If you need to ask yourself as to why, these types of actions are your answer. Only a matter of months ago, Amendment 7 passed with the vast majority of public comments being in favor of conservation and limiting mortality. ASMFC then backdoored CE as an option based on flawed stock data from 2020 and 2021. Then say that there is no appetite for an addendum AND THEN introduce an addendum to increase fishing pressure through Commercial Quota Transfers. That is why people do not trust you or the process which you own and follow.

Allowing for any level of quota transfers will only hurt our ability to help stock levels (which are teetering) and will only continue to prove to the public that the process cannot be trusted.

We are in a pivotal moment where we can either fast track the recovery of Striped Bass or fast track public disdain for ASMFC and lack of trust in the process.

Not selecting Option A will only hurt our ability to recover our Striped Bass fishery. Option A is our only way the future has a sustainable Striped Bass population.

Thank you,  
John Lefeber

**From:** [JOHN JELLISON](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:31:22 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Thank you.

John Jellison

**From:** [Mark Zaucha](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:29:40 PM

---

I oppose any change increasing stripper harvest. We need to increase spawning & recruitment of young.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Mike Sjöholm](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:28:53 PM

---

Hi –

I am writing to let you know that I support Option A, Status Quo - NO Transfers ....

Best,

Michael S. Sjöholm  
New York State



**From:** [Steven Brennan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:28:24 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Members of the AFMFC,

The transfer of striped bass quotas in the face of the need to rebuild the stock runs contrary to the mission and to common sense. A quota transfer all but guarantees that the maximum number of striped bass will be taken. This is no way to allow an overfished population to recover.

Please disallow the transfer of striped bass quotas and choose Option A, the maintenance of the status quo.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Steve Brennan

**From:** [Amanda Witte](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:27:05 PM

---

Hello,

Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. I'm an avid angler, Maryland resident, and mom. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels. I want to ensure the fishery remains stable so my son can grow-up fishing striped bass, and his kids, and so on - it's intrinsic to Maryland culture, economic success, and life.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment. As responsible anglers, we do everything we can to decrease striped bass mortality in the water, and on the boat. Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

Sincerely,

Amanda Witte

**From:** [Fengler, Nicholas](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:26:09 PM

---

To Whom it may concern:

I support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Sincerely,  
Nicholas Fengler (Long Island, New York)

**From:** [martinfarber](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:23:16 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.  
Allowing any increase in the harvesting of these fish would appear to be counterproductive.

Thank you,  
Martin Farber

**From:** [Stanley Cebula](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:23:13 PM

---

I am against striped bass draft addendum 1. Please vote no. No additional increases or transfers should occur until the menhaden catches in the southern bay and ocean are addressed. There is not enough food for striped bass in this area to allow an increase in harvests

**From:** [Ryan Willis](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:21:31 PM

---

I oppose addendum 1 of the proposed striped bass regulations. We need to fight harder to save the breed for future generations.

Ryan Willis

**From:** [bhald70383@aol.com](mailto:bhald70383@aol.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:20:19 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Byrne Haldeman  
34 Rosalind Rd  
Brick NJ 08724

**From:** [Chris Morgan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [CCA Maryland](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Limits  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:17:44 PM

---

Hello,

I live in Southern Maryland and fish the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries regularly. I remember the stiped bass moratorium of the last century and I fear that we will return to that if immediate action is not taken to limit the harvest of commercial fisheries, including the overharvesting of Atlantic Menhaden. In addition I propose a slot size be imposed on Striped Bass as is done on Red Drum.

Thank you,

Chris Morgan  
19484 Pristine Way  
Drayden, MD 20630



**From:** [Chris](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:17:06 PM

---

Opposed to increase limits ,

Here is a novel idea :

Ban chumming for stiped bass the last 2 weeks of July & 1st 2 weeks of August

Might not see undersized dead fish floating in the bay

**From:** [Robert Krueger](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:15:47 PM

---

Sent from my iPhone  
Oppose.

**From:** [Paul Spinola](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:14:21 PM

---

I support option A , status quo, no transfers.

Paul Spinola  
Massachusetts

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [John Perrone](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:13:49 PM

---

Hi my name is John Perrone from MA I support option A , status quo, no commercial transfer  
Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [LAWRENCE METZGER](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:12:56 PM

---

I select option A

Status quo  
No commercial transfer  
Larry Metzger  
732-740-3867

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Mike Parks](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass fishing quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:11:13 PM

---

I oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass fishing quota.

Thank you..

Mike Parks New Jersey

**From:** [Michael Hurley](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:10:53 PM

---

Hello,

As a concerned recreational striped bass angler with the goal of striped bass abundance and rebuilding the fishery and striped bass stock by the 2029 target, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Please do what you know is right in your hearts and do not allow for more killing of this very vulnerable fish.

Thank you,  
Michael Hurley

—  
Michael J. Hurley  
[Michael.Hurley57@gmail.com](mailto:Michael.Hurley57@gmail.com)

**From:** [Fred Gers](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:09:27 PM

---

It's crazy to even think about transferring quotes when trying to rebuild. If this is being proposed by a scientist we need their qualifications checked

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [William May](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:07:43 PM

---

This resource needs to recover more for the near future.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Harold Fries](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:07:10 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

Harold Fries  
21 Oraton Dr  
Cranford, NJ 07016

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jamie Clough](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:05:20 PM

---

I whole heartedly oppose any increase in the striped bass harvest..  
As a guide I see the killing first hand..  
I practice proper catch and release all year and only occasionally kill a fish..  
I remember how it used to be and I see how the population is being destroyed today..  
Unfortunately I live in the kill state Maryland where killing is the norm  
For once do what's right for the fish and not what the killers want..  
If they have their way they would kill these fish Into oblivion and blame the recreational fisherman..  
Capt Jamie Clough  
Eastern Shore Light Tackle Charters

**From:** [Matty Bauer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Transfer Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:05:16 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option A, status quo, no transfer.

Thank you,

Matt Bauer, Tiverton, RI

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Bradford Burns](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:03:58 PM

---

I have been fishing for striped bass for 60 years. I can tell you that the general trend since about 2000 has been down. Yes there have been some very good periods, but they get fewer and fewer. We have no large stripers at all compared to what we had 25 years ago, and the number of smaller stripers is just a shadow of what it was in the 1990s. On top of that we have had some extremely poor YOY counts that aren't really in the system yet. Nothing should be done which in any way has even the potential to increase mortality.

**I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

**From:** [Harold Fries](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:03:51 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Robert DeSantis](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:02:52 PM

---

I am strongly opposed to any increase in the striped bass fishery. In fact, I feel that a moratorium is in order.

I have fished the Bay for over 50 years and I've seen the good and the bad. The sad part about limits and laws is that some sportsman as well as professional captains and commercial fisherman, against their own long term interests, ignore them. They continue to keep undersized fish and exceed catch limits. That is why I am in favor of a moratorium.

But the striped bass is so important to the Bay on so many levels, risking their continued decline is shortsighted. Ultimately, it is bad for all fisherman, bad for the health of the Chesapeake watershed, and shows a lack of commitment on the part of those tasked with being stewards of this magnificent resource.

Robert DeSantis  
Severna Park

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [TERRENCE LYONS](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:02:31 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted. If one area is not meeting its quota that in itself indicates that there could be a problem with the fishery.

Thank You For Your Consideration.

Terrence Lyons  
312 Central St.  
Foxboro, MA 02035



**From:** [David Kiser](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] NO transfer of quota!  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 1:01:39 PM

---

I firmly support **option A**, no transfers of quota and maintain the status quo!

David Kiser, New Hampshire

**From:** [Eric Malone](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quote transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:59:21 PM

---

I support Option A, status quo, NO QUOTA TRANSFERS.

I would also like to add that suggesting such a ridiculous, short sighted idea while the stock is overfished is complete and selfish lunacy by the Board that goes against all earlier public comments where an overwhelming majority of anglers expressed interest in MORE CONSERVATION not more harvest.

Eric Malone  
New York

**From:** [J.T.](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:59:18 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

I do not support the idea of commercial quota transfer. I support option A, no commercial transfer. Let's do what's best for our striped bass population.

Sincerely  
John Tombros  
188 Oak St, Pembroke, MA 02359

**From:** [Rick Hickox](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:59:02 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support Option A, status quo with no commercial transfer.

thank you,  
Rick Hickox  
Gloucester, MA

**From:** [shawn.gibson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:58:42 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I oppose the transfer of commercial quota between states. It is ridiculous to even consider such a change during a stock rebuild.

Sincerely,

Shawn Gibson

Wound Tight Sportfishing LLC  
Reel Current Offshore LLC  
Miss Lizzy Fishing Charters LLC  
410-610-6283

**From:** [Bill Fiora](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:58:18 PM

---

Greetings.

I am a Massachusetts-based recreational angler writing to express my support for Option A, which will extend the status quo and not allow for commercial quota transfers across states.

Sincerely,

Bill Fiora

**From:** [jcabrera978@gmail.com](mailto:jcabrera978@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:58:13 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Jonathan Cabrera, Massachusetts.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [JPM](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Opposition to Addendum 1 - Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:57:27 PM

---

I'm old enough to remember the moratorium and what caused it along with the results. I can't understand what you public servants are missing with regard to this situation. Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.



**From:** [Gregory McCrickard](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] In support of Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:57:21 PM

---

I am a long time recreational fisherman who enjoys fly fishing for Striped Bass. Over the last many years I have seen the population crash, recover, and now crash again. Recruitment has been very poor the last few years. We are in danger of another bust in striper numbers.

Thus I support Option A:Status Quo/No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Let's save the population while we can.

Greg McCrickard  
Ruxton, Md.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [colin lennon](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:56:43 PM

---

The Striped Bass population is already overfished. There is no good reason for this to pass. As a recreational angler I agree with the current regulations put on the recreational folks. It is time for the commercial fisherman to do their fair share in the protection of Stripe Bass population.

I feel that if this addendum passes we run the risk of further hurting the Bass population to a point of no recovery. Let's make the right decision on this one.

Sincerely,  
Colin Lennon

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Toby Lapinski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial Quota Transfer - Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:55:52 PM

---

My name is Toby Lapinski and I have been recreationally fishing for striped bass for nearly 40 years. I am a resident of Connecticut and fish for striped bass in Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island and Massachusetts waters. I support option A, status quo. While I am not opposed to commercial fishing as it stands, I am opposed to any transfer of commercial quota from state to state. Thank you.

**From:** [Tim Bubnack](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:55:06 PM

---

Hello,

As a concerned recreational striped bass angler with the goal of striped bass abundance and rebuilding the fishery and striped bass stock by the 2029 target, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Please do not allow for more killing of this very vulnerable fish.

Thank you

**From:** [john rowley](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:54:30 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Please keep the status quo, now is not the time to maximize commercial harvest.

Thank you,  
John Rowley

**From:** [John Weber](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:54:00 PM

---

Dear Sirs/Madams:

Please protect this species! If a quota is not caught, there is a strong argue between that is due to lack of fish which is have directly experienced over the past 10 years on the bay. Why then provide a means to again target and harvest those fish?

I am strongly against transferring any quotas and hope that you will do the right thing for the resource.

Thank you

John Weber

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Simon Stacey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:53:31 PM

---

Dear Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission,

I am writing to express my deep opposition to Draft Addendum I, which I do not believe adequately protects the region's vulnerable striped bass population. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Stacey

**From:** [John Ballance](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:52:38 PM

---

I oppose also.

J. H. Ballance Jr.



**From:** [Oliver Murray](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:52:09 PM

---

Hello - as a concerned recreational striped bass angler with the goal of striped bass abundance and rebuilding the fishery and striped bass stock by the 2029 target, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

please do what you know is right in your hearts and do not allow for more killing of this very vulnerable fish.

Thank you,  
Oliver murray

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Will Hallett](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Stop the transfer of striped bass commercial quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:48:58 PM

---

Hello,

I am quickly writing this to comment that I support option a, the status quo of no commercial transfer. This transfer will no doubt lead to a lot more fish taken from our ocean. There is finally more and more people who realize that the striped bass stock isn't going too well right now and who want to see that turned around. Allowing a commercial transfer would be a big step in the wrong direction.

Thankyou William hallett

**From:** [travis ricciarelli](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:48:41 PM

---

I support option a,  
status quo, no commercial transfer

Travis Ricciarelli, Massachusetts

**From:** [hunter.priebe8@gmail.com](mailto:hunter.priebe8@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support Option A - keep status quo  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:46:58 PM

---

Hello - as a concerned recreational striped bass angler with the goal of striped bass abundance and rebuilding the fishery and striped bass stock by the 2029 target, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Please do what you know is right in your hearts and do not allow for more killing of this very vulnerable fish.

Thank you,  
Hunter Priebe

**From:** [Anthony Sarcona](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Public Comments: Amendment 7  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:46:38 PM

---

To ASMFC Board,

As a recreational angler and guide in Maine, I would like to show my support for Option A: No Commercial Quota Transfers. The health of the striped bass fishery is clearly in a decline and changes need to be made to even attempt to rebuild it. Please listen to the majority voice of the public. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Tony Sarcona  
Maine\_Flyfish Guide Services

**From:** [Monee Morrisette](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Comments  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:45:03 PM

---

We boat and fish primarily on the rivers and bays of New Hampshire many days each year. Fishing for Striped Bass is included in almost every one of these outings.

As they are overfished, we need to protect them, not allow additional killing.

I therefore support Option A - Status quo.

Thank You.

Adam Stewart  
Durham, NH

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [William Parish](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:44:33 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Thank you,  
Bill Parish  
Orleans, MA

**From:** [Justin Mangiante](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] No transfer of quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:44:21 PM

---

I support option A , no transfer and status quo

Justin mangiante, Rhode Island

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [AJ Carreiro](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:43:08 PM

---

As a former commercial fisherman, I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

**From:** [Foehring, Robert C](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:42:06 PM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Robert C. Foehring  
3540 Charleswood Avenue  
Memphis, Tennessee 38122

**From:** [Frederick Thurber](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:41:29 PM

---

I cannot believe that you would even consider the Quota Transfer.

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted. Don't be swayed by short-term greed of the commercials.

Sincerely,

Frederick Thurber  
South Dartmouth, MA

**From:** [Shiko Boxman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:37:22 PM

---

**Support: Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

Best,

YS Boxman

**From:** [Shane Gibson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:34:15 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer  
Shane Gibson, New Jersey

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jeffrey Amorello](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:34:12 PM

---

Hello - as a concerned recreational striped bass angler with the goal of striped bass abundance and rebuilding the fishery and striped bass stock by the 2029 target, I strongly support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

please do what you know is right in your hearts and do not allow for more killing of this very vulnerable fish.

Thank you,  
Jeff Amorello.

**From:** [jay Bonanno](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:32:51 PM

---

I Support Option A. Status Quo, NO COMMERCIAL TRANSFER!

Jay Bonanno

201-723-7844

[jay.bonanno@gmail.com](mailto:jay.bonanno@gmail.com)

**From:** [Alex Duda](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:31:49 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Alex Duda  
Massachusetts resident and licensed Saltwater fisherman

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [jasper\\_giles](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:31:22 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers

Jasper Giles  
Buckinghamshire, UK

**From:** [Kyle Schaefer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:31:05 PM

---

Hello:

I would like to submit comments on the Striped Bass Addendum 1 that is currently under consideration.

I am in favor of Option A: Status Quo

Thanks for the consideration.

Best,

Kyle Schaefer

US & WhatsApp - 603.969.3050

Bahamas - 242.451.8758

[Soul Fly Lodge // Bahamas Flats](#) || IG: [@SoulFlyLodge](#)

[Soul Fly Outfitters // Maine Stripers](#) || IG: [@KyleSchaeferFlyFishing](#)

**From:** [Kevin LaCroix](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Stiped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:29:01 PM

---

In support of Option A, Commercial quota transfers should certainly not be permitted. This type of action would be detrimental to the stock of Striped Bass. There are a TON of un-reported methods of striped bass killing that is contributing to the lack of population.

At this point, it is obvious we need to rebuild the population and not do the opposite. Making Striped Bass a protected gamefish is truly the best way to go. The tourism alone that would be created from a flourishing Striper population would be worth way more than the commercial industry.

It is important we manage a declining fishery properly and before anything really drastic happens. Please be ahead of the decline and not be behind. Many of us support Option A and beyond !!

Sincerely,  
Kevin LaCroix

Ps- I have spent my whole life respecting the ocean and its inhabitants, this is near and dear to me and many other people. WE MUST PROTECT OUR BELOVED STRIPERS.

**From:** [Jacob Gross](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External]  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:27:15 PM

---

Completely ban the harvest of striped bass. The stocks are low and still recovering. We need to do everything in our power to get the stock back to a healthy level.

**From:** [Chase Porter](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] stripe bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:27:09 PM

---

i support option A, status quo, no transfers

(chase porter, maine)

**From:** [Chris MacClinchy](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:26:46 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

It is absolutely insane to allow commercial transfers while the striped bass are still recovering!!! Now is absolutely the wrong time to maximize the commercial quotas!

Regards,  
Chris MacClinchy  
Kennebunk, ME

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Mike Randall](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:26:14 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

(Mike Randall, Maine)

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**From:** [Craig Arms](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:24:37 PM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

Craig Arms, Massachusetts



**From:** [Mike Evans](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:22:37 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Mike Evans, Massachusetts

**From:** [Evans, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:22:22 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Mike Evans, Massachusetts

--

**Mike Evans, M.Ed**  
Director of Auxiliary Programming  
St. John's Prep  
72 Spring Street  
Danvers, MA 01923  
p: (978) 624-1470 x270  
e: [mevans@stjohnsprep.org](mailto:mevans@stjohnsprep.org)  
w: [stjohnsprep.org](http://stjohnsprep.org) [eaglesedgeprograms.org](http://eaglesedgeprograms.org)

**From:** [Anthony Alessi](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:21:20 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial quota transfer!

Anthony Alessi - NYS

**From:** [The Andersons](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:21:08 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted. Does it not occur to the asmfc that the reason quotas are not being met is the lack of fish? You really can't be considering any commercial quota increases! I urge you to go with Option A or even better reduce the commercial quota until sustainable levels are achieved for at least a full breeding cycle.

Cordially,  
Earl D. Anderson III

**From:** [Dan Mayberry](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:19:58 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Thank you,  
Daniel Mayberry  
New York

**From:** [Mark Seymour](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:19:16 PM

---

I'm writing to voice my support for Option A. It's the only one that makes sense.

Mark@fishhookvineyards.com

**From:** [Bob Drapcho](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:16:57 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.  
Please Please do not transfer the quotas. Striped Bass need the large females to spawn.  
Instead of transferring quotas I urge you stop commercial fishing for stripers altogether. They should be declared a sport fish and are worth far more to the east coast as a sport fish! All the studies have proven this!!!

Please let this fish rebound to previous numbers so that my children and grandchildren can catch them. There is plenty of other seafood available other than stripers.

Thank You  
Bob Drapcho  
Greene,R.I.

**From:** [Kieran Alessi](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:16:57 PM

---

Hi there,

Last email was formatted incorrectly, sorry:

**I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer**

**Name:**

**Kieran Alessi**

**State:**

**New Jersey**



**From:** [Frank Brady](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:15:40 PM

---

Option A please!  
No commercial transfer of unused quota  
Thank you  
Frank Brady

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [epriovolos@lemekllc.com](mailto:epriovolos@lemekllc.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:15:21 PM  
**Importance:** High

---

I support option A, status quo, NO TRANSFERS.

Thanks.

Evan Priovolos  
Lemek LLC/Lemek Slower Lower LLC  
443-552-0708

**From:** [Paul PDA](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:14:58 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Only the slightest change in F greatly reduces the percent chance of bringing the SSB above the threshold and target. F changing from 0.1363 to 0.2013, resulting in a dramatic change in the percentage chance of getting the SSB above the threshold and target. We quickly go from a 96.7% probability of getting the SSB above the threshold to 59.4%. The probability of getting the SSB above the target goes from roughly 78.6% to a scary 30.5%.

**From:** [Robert Huddy](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:12:47 PM

---

To whom it may concern

I am writing to express my support for option a, status quo, no commercial transfer between states.

I (and all the recreational fisherman I know) strongly believe that states being unable to fill their individual quotas is a strong indication that the striped bass fishery remains in a poor state and transferring quotas between states would only further decrease the state of the fishery.

Thank you for your consideration

Bob Huddy  
38 Brookridge Drive  
Avon CT 06001  
860-673-0312

**From:** [Tom Brightman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:11:13 PM

---

Hello:

I would like to submit comments on the Striped Bass Addendum 1 that is currently under consideration.

I am in favor of Option A: Status Quo

As Captain Peter Fallon so eloquently observed at the January 9th ASFMC webinar, “Now is not the time to risk the progress we have seen recently by increasing the commercial harvest. The ASMFC draft document for public comment states that ‘allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum 6 in 2020.’ [...] During the Addendum 6 process, the technical committee noted that the reduction in the commercial quota would achieve the necessary reduction in commercial removals only if the commercial fishery performs as it has in the past. This assumption may be violated if the commercial transfers in the ocean region are permitted.”

Additionally, any decision other than Option A: Status Quo would endanger the steps for rebuilding the striped bass stock, especially the breeding females (currently Overfished), that is at the core of Striped Bass Amendment 7. It makes no sense to allow expanded access to harvesting large breeding age females, when they are critical to the success of stock rebuilding efforts.

Further, these large bass are also the ones that typically accumulate many toxins, making them unfit for human consumption in many cases.

To reiterate, I am in favor of choosing Option A: Status Quo.

Thank you for your time in reviewing and considering these comments.

Tom

Tom Brightman  
1 Clearwater Drive  
Dover, NH 03820

**From:** [Jack Foell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:10:34 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

**From:** [Michael Amelang](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:09:36 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, No commercial transfer.

Michael Amelang

Ocean Link Inc.

1 Maritime Drive

Portsmouth, R.I. 02871

p. 401-683-4434

f. 401-683-3388

**From:** [John Steele](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:08:52 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern,

I support Option A: status quo, no commercial transfer. The striped bass need a break.

Respectfully,

John Steele  
Bourne, Massachusetts 02532



**From:** [Andrew Kirby](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:08:50 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Thank you,

Andrew kirby

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Emmons Whited](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:08:33 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfer

John Whited, Maine

**From:** [Andy Boynton](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:07:57 PM

---

Greetings....

I am an avid sports fisherman and want to preserve the future of striped bass fishing for all!

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

The striper population is recovering and rebuilding. Let's keep the momentum going.

Thank you, Andy Boynton

Andy Boynton  
John and Linda Powers Family Dean  
Carroll School of Management  
Boston College  
140 Commonwealth Avenue  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

[boyntona@bc.edu](mailto:boyntona@bc.edu)

617-552-8420 (p)

617-552-8738 (f)

**From:** [Mark Brozek](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [saltyflyroddersofny@gmail.com](mailto:saltyflyroddersofny@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:06:24 PM

---

**To whom this may concern,**

***I am a recreational angler from NY, and I primarily fish in LI Sound, and on the south shore of Long Island. The Atlantic striped bass fishery is important to me because I feel the Stripped Bass fishery remains at risk.***

***With regard to the options being considered for Addendum 1, I am writing to express my support for Option A (status quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted. All other options would increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.***

***Sincerely,***

**Mark Brozek**

*Huntington, NY*

**Brozek.mark@gmail.com**

**From:** [Gene Dorney](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:02:27 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support "Option A", status quo, no commercial transfer.

Thanks,  
Gene Dorney  
Massachusetts

**From:** [Emmons Whited](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:02:05 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Emmons Whited, Maine

**From:** [Matthew Coolidge](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:00:46 PM

---

I support choice A - no change, no commercial transfer

Matt Coolidge. Boston MA

**From:** [Mariusz Pajewski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:59:48 AM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Regards,

Mariusz Pajewski, Massachusetts.



**From:** [Anthony Pizzella](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:59:48 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

At a time when the population is overfished, and there have been poor spawns for roughly the past decade, no effort should be made to maximize striped bass harvest. These quota transfers explicitly increase the number of fish harvested and are in direct opposition to any goals of rebuilding the stock.

Thank you for your time  
Anthony Pizzella, Maine

**From:** [Brendan Pembroke](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Transfer Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:58:24 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option A, status quo, no transfer.

V/R,

Brendan Pembroke - Duxbury, MA

**From:** [Robert Voltaggio](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:57:27 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Robert Voltaggio  
New York

--

**Robert Voltaggio**  
EVP Revenue, Planning & Operations

347-751-4877  
[warnerbrodiscovery.com](http://warnerbrodiscovery.com)



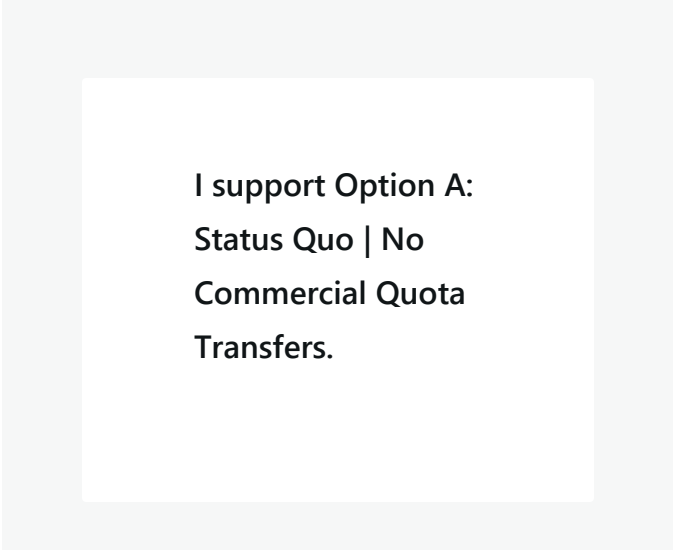
**From:** [steven.focer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:57:17 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer. If you really want to do something, go stop the illegal poaching nets off shagwon in MTK and all the illegal fish being poached from NY state and County Parks  
-SF

**From:** [John Kaufmann](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Public comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:56:57 AM

---



I support Option A:  
Status Quo | No  
Commercial Quota  
Transfers.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [V Santa Maria](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:56:34 AM

---

: I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

Vincent Santa Maria  
New Jersey  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [John Yemma](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:54:59 AM

---

Dear ASMFC:  
I support Option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

This is John Yemma from Boston Massachusetts.

Thank you,  
John

--

John Yemma  
[j.yemma42@gmail.com](mailto:j.yemma42@gmail.com)  
508.843.0085 mobile

**From:** [Zach Malfa-Kowalski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:54:36 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

Thank you,

Zach Malfa-Kowalski  
240 Usquepaugh Road  
West Kingston, Rhode Island



**From:** [Richard Hutchins](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass regulations  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:53:08 AM

---

From everything that I have read on this matter, I am not in favor of commercial quota transfers. I would also like to see the commercial catch reduced even more.

I do a lot of fly fishing from shore in NH and ME and the numbers were way down this year. A lot of the smaller fish never showed up like they have in prior years.

I never keep any legal size fish as I feel it gives more of them a chance to make it to bigger size and reproduce more times.

This fishery is too good to see it crash again, so let's do everything we can to protect this valuable resource.

Thank you,

Richard T. Hutchins  
603-970-0760

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Anna](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:52:23 AM

---

Our family and friends fish for Striped Bass and boat all around New England.

Striped Bass are overfished and there are fewer small fish while commercial interests continue to kill the large breeding females.

I support Option A - Status quo as I want to continue fishing for Striped Bass and want my kids to be able to do so in the future.

Thank You.

Anna Stewart  
Durham, NH

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Chris Law](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:51:01 AM

---

I support Option A, Status Quo, No Transfers.

Christopher Law - New York.

Thank you for your time,  
Chris

**From:** [Marcin Romanczyk](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Status Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:50:11 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, **NO commercial transfer.**

Marcin Romanczyk  
New York

--

**Marcin Romanczyk DPM, AACFAS**  
Board Certified Podiatrist

[LongIslandSolePodiatry@gmail.com](mailto:LongIslandSolePodiatry@gmail.com)



**From:** [Grimes, Patrick S. \(Student\)](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:49:09 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Patrick Grimes, NJ

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Tim Carey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:46:09 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.  
Thank you  
Tim Carey  
Windham CT

**From:** [Jerry Audet](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [JERRY AUDET](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:45:44 AM

---

I support option A, status quo and no transfer of commercial quota of striped bass  
Jerry Audet  
Douglas, MA

--

Jerry Audet  
Freelance Writer, Editor, Photographer  
[indeepoutdoorsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:indeepoutdoorsmedia@gmail.com)  
[www.indeepoutdoors.com](http://www.indeepoutdoors.com)

**From:** [Monee Morrisette](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:45:12 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

Our family spends dozens of days on the water in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Fishing and related activities continue to be our largest pastime expenditure.

The Striped Bass stock is unhealthy and variable. No big fish one year, fewer small fish, etc.

We cannot continue to kill them at this rate. Endangering the large breeding females cannot continue.

Please exercise Option A - Status quo and move to protect this critical fishery.

Thank you,  
Monee



**From:** [Tom Staugaitis](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:44:50 AM

---

I oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota.

Tom Staugaitis  
732-266-7313  
staugaitis@aol.com

**From:** [Matt Mattera](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:42:22 AM

---

I support **option A**, status quo, **no commercial transfer**.

Matthew Mattera  
New York

**From:** [Brendan Holden](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:39:05 AM

---

I support Option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Thank you,

Brendan Holden  
Massachusetts

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Eric Spicer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:37:41 AM

---

I am writing this email in support of option A (status quo): Commercial Quota Transfers are not permitted.

The potential to increase commercial harvests in states that have spawning or stock-rebuilding opportunities should not be allowed or should be studied further. The impacts of Amendment 7 need to be realized before changes are made.

Thank you

Eric Spicer

The Saltwater Edge

Customer Acquisition and Retention

[TheSaltwaterEdge.com](http://TheSaltwaterEdge.com)

[eric@saltwateredge.com](mailto:eric@saltwateredge.com)

(802)-380-0957



**From:** [Ryan Norell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:36:39 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Ryan Norell, NY

**From:** [Connor Lynch](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:36:23 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Connor Lynch  
Maryland

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Pat Fin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:35:49 AM

---

I support option a, status quo no commercial transfer

-Patrick Finucane  
Rhode Island

**From:** [Josh Cohn](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] I support Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Transfers  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:35:26 AM

---

To the commission,

I am a Washington DC, based angler and I support Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Transfers.

If a quota isn't met by one state as the fish leave those waters, that should not mean an increased harvest somewhere else. Natural variability is what protects species like striped bass, and variability year-over-year in the success of a commercial fishery should be treated like recreational fishermen treat a blown out river, zero catch days are zero catch days. Just the way it goes.

--

Josh Cohn  
(202) 689-4196 | [Joshccohn404@gmail.com](mailto:Joshccohn404@gmail.com)



**From:** [Gabriel Montemuro](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:35:15 AM

---

I support Option A.

Status Quo, no transfers.

Very truly yours,  
Gabe Montemuro  
(PA)

--

--

Gabe Montemuro  
215-906-1438

**From:** [Vasilios Siklas](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass transfer quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:35:02 AM

---

I support option A  
Status quota , no transfer  
What are we thinking trying to kill more and allowing transfers ?!  
Vasilios siklas  
Long Island, Ny  
Thank you

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Kevin Touhey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:33:52 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.  
Kevin Touhey  
Massachusetts

**From:** [Joe Gugino](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:33:31 AM

---

Hello,

Thank you in advance for recording this comment to the record.

**“ Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.”**

Thank You,

— Joe Gugino  
Winthrop, MA  
--

---

Joe Gugino  
29 Billows St.  
Winthrop, MA 02152  
(860) 402-5903

**From:** [James Goodhart](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass management  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:32:13 AM

---

Dear Managers,

The striped bass population is not doing well. We are in a rebuilding phase and all management efforts should be in line with the rebuilding effort. I support Option A: Status Quo / No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Best,

James

Capt. James C. Goodhart  
Shadowcaster Charters  
56 Boardman St.  
Newburyport, MA 01950  
(978) 463-7755  
[www.shadowcastercharters.com](http://www.shadowcastercharters.com)

**From:** [Zachary Whitener](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:32:11 AM

---

Good morning,

I am writing to comment my support for Option A, Status Quo for Addendum I. Transfer of commercial quotas would only be to allow more harvest of a fish that is newly on a tenuous track for recovery.

Thank you for your time.

Zach Whitener  
Captain and Guide  
Anadromous Adventures Guide Service, LLC  
Freeport, ME

**From:** [Nicholas Dalimonte](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:31:47 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers

--

Nicholas Dalimonte-Massachusetts

**From:** [Brian Cloutier](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:31:16 AM

---

I support option A; status quo, no commercial transfer.

Brian Cloutier  
Beverly, MA



**From:** [Justin Sorbo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:28:29 AM

---

Hello,

I support option A, status quo, no commercial quota transfer.

Thank you for your time!

Best,

Justin Sorbo  
540 Revere Beach Blvd  
Revere, MA

--

Justin Sorbo, BS, CSCS, LMT

**From:** [Peter](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:26:54 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Peter Walsifer

New Jersey

**From:** [PAUL GALLO](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:26:16 AM

---

I am a recreational angler from New York and I primarily fish Jamaica Bay, Rockaway beaches and Breezy Point. The Atlantic Striped Bass fishery is important to me because I believe that commercial quota transfers or any of the other options would destroy the sustainability of the Striped Bass. Commercial fishing operations already kill enough Striped Bass as well as the food that they eat to stay alive. Option A is the only choice. All the other options are only about the dollar sign.

Sincerely,  
Paul Gallo

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Alex Earley](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:26:12 AM

---

My name is Alex Earley and I am a recreational angler in CT. I support option A. Allowing the transfer of quotas is a horrible idea. You already have a commercial fleet of Rhode Island anglers traveling to mass and decimating the bass schools in the Boston Harbor.  
Please do not encourage this behavior.

What are we doing???

-Alex

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Matt Mailloux](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer - Opt. A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:24:47 AM

---

Hi,

I support Option A - no transfers, status quo.

I appreciate your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,  
Matt Mailloux  
New Jersey

**From:** [Jim Simms](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Dave Bixby](#); [John Kaufmann](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:24:38 AM

---

As a recreational striped bass fisherman on Cape Cod, I'm dismayed by a quota transfer addendum for the commercial side of the harvest. Option A is the only approach that should be considered as the rebuilding process is implemented. The transfer of unused commercial quotas that target breeding females is inconsistent with rebuilding an overfished resource.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my viewpoint, and I anticipate that ASMFC will vote in favor of disallowing quota transfers.

Jim Simms

**From:** [Stephen Rogers](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 striped bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:24:27 AM

---

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am respectfully emailing you today to voice my opposition to the proposed idea of conservation equivalency (CE). CE is an absolutely illogical idea when our striped bass stocks are in trouble and need protection. CE DOES NOT PROTECT STRIPED BASS; rather, it represents a major obstacle to an effective rebuild. I am on the water very, very frequently, and I have seen the stark reality - there are no more big fish in our waters. It is frightening to see such a lack of size diversity in the stock. Obviously, something dramatic needs to happen in order to save the stripers for future generations. We all recognize this. CE will be a devastating blow.

Yours truly,

Stephen Rogers

**From:** [Kristen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:24:06 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no transfers

Thank you,  
Kristen Ricci  
Rhode Island



**From:** [Noah Lamperti](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:19:47 AM

---

As a recreational angler from the state of Massachusetts, I support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Noah Lamperti

**From:** [Blane Chocklett](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Amendment 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:19:17 AM

---

**I support Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.**

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Noah Ialongo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:07:14 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Noah Ialongo, Rhode Island

**From:** [garrym](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External]  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:07:11 AM

---

Striped bass addendum 1

Sent from my Galaxy

My name is Garrett Moore from Westbury New York I'm in favor option A, no change.  
Thank you.

**From:** [Jay harrison](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:04:49 AM

---

Hello,

I support option A, status quo, no transfers

I feel that we should be doing everything possible to return the stock to a healthy population and I feel that option A is the best avenue to achieve this goal.

The stock is still overfished and should be heavily protected as such.

Thank you for your consideration of public comments.

Best,  
Jay Harrison (Massachusetts)

**From:** [Patrick Perrotto](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:04:37 AM

---

I support Option A, Status Quo-No Transfers.

As a recreational angler, I value the conservation of the striped bass. I feel it is too soon and not enough time has elapsed or data captured to support any other option.

Sincerely,

Patrick Perrotto  
New Jersey

--



**Patrick Perrotto**  
Patrick Perrotto Production Services LLC

[908.309.8044](tel:908.309.8044)  
 [www.patrickperrotto.com](http://www.patrickperrotto.com)  
 [patrickperrotto@gmail.com](mailto:patrickperrotto@gmail.com)



**From:** [William Clark](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:03:56 AM

---

Hello,

I support **option A, status quo, no transfers.**

Will Clark  
Massachusetts

**From:** [Roberto Fonzo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [My Email](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:59:19 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option A. Status quo, no transfers.

Please associate my name Roberto Fonzo member of stripersurfclub with this option.

Thank you,

Roberto



**From:** [Shawn Bailey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quote Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:58:27 AM

---

I fully support Option A, status quo, No transfer !

Thank you

Shawn Bailey  
1248 Hartford pike  
Scituate RI 02857  
401-640-3617

**From:** [Brian Russell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:57:17 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Brian Russell  
Long Island, New York

**From:** [Liam Brouillette](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:56:53 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Sincerely,

Liam Brouillette

Massachusetts and New York resident

**From:** [Jonathan Krahl](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quote Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:55:29 AM

---

Hello,  
I support option A, status quo, no transfers.  
Thanks,

Jon Krahl New Hampshire

--

**Jonathan Krahl**  
**Cell: (860) 416 - 2283**

**From:** [Jeff Bergeron](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:54:28 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, No transfers

Jeff Bergeron  
Massachusetts

**From:** [Jeff Bergeron](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:53:48 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, No transfers

-

Jeff Bergeron  
Massachusetts

**Jeff Bergeron**

Project Executive



10 Commercial Way Milford, MA 01757

**Office:** (508)458-1500 | **Cell:** (508)294-7171

[www.PlumbHouse.com](http://www.PlumbHouse.com)

**From:** [Ben Carlson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:53:31 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Ben Carlson

**From:** [Timothy Wadman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:53:15 AM

---

I support Option A, status quo, with no quota transfer.

Tim Wadman, Massachusetts



**From:** [STEPHEN KNAPIK](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:52:18 AM

---

In regards to the Striped bass Addendum I

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted**

**We need to protect of fishery, we need to protect our Striped Bass along the ENTIRE Atlantic coast.**

**Stephen Knapik  
Striper Surf Club  
516-721-7595**

**From:** [Vox Mansilungan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:49:30 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

In fact, I find it despicable to attempt to maximize the yield harvest of striped bass while their population is in steep decline. Do your job to protect our resources instead of padding your pockets.

Vox Dei Mansilungan  
Missio Church- Director of Student Ministry  
631.566.2198

**From:** [Michael Dooley](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Megan Ware](#); [Patrick Keliher](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:48:59 AM

---

Good morning,

I am a recreational angler from Maine in support of option A, status quo, no quota transfers.  
Thank you- have a great weekend.

Mike Dooley

**From:** [Frank Shea](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:46:49 AM

---

I support option A. Status quo, no transfers

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Stephen Barone](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:46:45 AM

---

I support Option A, status quo, no quota transfers.

Stephen Barone - Massachusetts

Thank you

--

Stephen Barone  
617-460-5611  
[stephenbarone2@gmail.com](mailto:stephenbarone2@gmail.com)

**From:** [Rocco IV](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:46:05 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers!

Thank you,

Rocco Risbara IV  
Maine

**From:** [Ron Jensen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:45:13 AM

---

I am in support of option A status quo no transfer of commercial quotas

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Todd Calitri](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quotas  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:44:46 AM

---

On Addendum I, support **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

Thank you,  
Todd Calitri  
267 Parker Mt Rd  
Barrington, NH 03825  
970 376 2157



**From:** [Matt Haeffner](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:44:45 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

(And frankly, I think this should concern anyone in their right mind, fishermen/sportsmen or not.)

I SUPPORT OPTION A, STATUS QUO, **NO INTERSTATE TRANSFERS OF COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS QUOTA.**

Can't believe this is even being considered. Conservation coastwide is of utmost importance, and these greed-driven fishing practices are beyond wrong. Do the right thing.

My name is Matthew Haeffner: Long Island, NY native now living in Cape Cod, MA.

**Matt Haeffner**

Assistant Editor

**[On The Water](#)**

707 Teaticket Highway, E Falmouth, MA 02536

508-548-4705 x226



**From:** [Jim Murray](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:42:48 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers

James L. Murray  
New York

**From:** [Anthony Poirier](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:42:47 AM

---

Hello,

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Thank you,  
Anthony Poirier  
Westport, MA

**From:** [Ron Jensen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:41:10 AM

---

I support option A  
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Neal Hafner](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:41:01 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no transfers

Neal Hafner, Pennsylvania

**From:** [Michael Perrone](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:39:50 AM

---

In regards to Striped Bass Quota Transfer -

**I support Option A, status quo, NO TRANSFERS**

Thank you,  
Michael Perrone

**From:** [Jeff C](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:38:56 AM

---

ASMFC Board Members-

My name is Jeff Carson, and I am a recreation angler from New York. I am an avid striped bass angler, and I fish primarily in LI Sound and around the South Shore of Long Island with friends and family. I believe the fishery should be managed for abundance as that is the most equitable path for all stakeholders.

I am writing to express my support for Option A (status quo): commercial transfers are NOT permitted. All other options would increase mortality, and the stock is in a fragile position and needs time to rebuild.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Carson  
[jwcarson99@gmail.com](mailto:jwcarson99@gmail.com)

--

Jeff Carson  
303.915.0730

**From:** [mike C](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Transfer of quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:36:56 AM

---

I support option A. No transfer. Wake up its moratorium time.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)



**From:** [Scot Calitri](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:36:53 AM

---

Thank you for the work you do trying to balance conservation and commercial interests. It can't be easy as economic pressures weigh while nearly every stock of fish continues to dwindle.

I have spent time in commercial fishing, commercial shellfishing and decades of sportfishing and strongly support **OPTION A (status quo)** - Commercial quota transfers are not permitted for Striped Bass.

At the most basic level, we have an overfished stock with low recruitment. Any additional commercial killing will further jeopardize the recovery plan.

Look at the trend charts. We are rapidly heading toward repeating the past sins of the late 70s and early 80s. **A recreational fish is many times more valuable than a dead commercial fish** fetching \$2 / lb.

I'm not sure how well these are read, but if someone gets this far, **I would enjoy engaging with your team to help revise the process.** ASMFC has been around since the 1940s and although some minor wins have happened, the approach is all wrong.

**Abundance maximizes the long term economic value of fisheries**, insulates against climate change and buffers against one time weather events or "acts of god".

Let's change the model and celebrate future wins.

**Option A please.**

- Scot Calitri  
970-390-4997  
Durham, NH

**From:** [Jmon.1](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:34:54 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no transfers. John Robert.

**From:** [Mitch Battista](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:33:42 AM

---

I support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Mitch Battista - Rhode Island

--

**Mitch Battista**

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage  
132 Boston Post Rd  
East Lyme, CT, 06333  
**Cell: 401-226-6124**  
Office: 860-739-6277  
[mitch.battista@cbmoves.com](mailto:mitch.battista@cbmoves.com)

**From:** [Jacob Jaskiel](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Comment regarding striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:31:00 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I am in support of Option A: Status Quo, no transfer of quotas.

The fishery is in a precarious position, and it is the responsibility of the ASMFC to act conservatively with the goal of maximizing biomass and revenue. Striped bass are worth more alive than dead, with thousands of anglers contributing to local economies, charter captains, and other small businesses. The commercial fishery is small relative to other more desirable food fishes, and should not be propped up by proposals such as this one. The emphasis should be placed on phasing out this nonviable commercial fishery and transitioning the very few commercial fishermen who rely solely (or in large part) on this fishery to others, and protecting striped bass as gamefish, much like Florida has done successfully with several species already. Thank you for your time.

Regards,  
Jacob Jaskiel  
PhD Candidate - Boston University Marine Program

**From:** [Seth Fiola](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:30:58 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Seth Fiola, Rhode Island

**From:** [nrbucktails](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:29:12 AM

---

I support option A. Status quo, no transfers

Sent from my Galaxy

**From:** [nikkizzoo13](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:28:44 AM

---

I support option A. Status quo, no transfers

Sent from my Galaxy

**From:** [ngaines128](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:27:46 AM

---

I support option A. Status quo, no transfers

Sent from my Galaxy



**From:** [Gordy Stanton](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:24:53 AM

---

Good Morning,

I support option a, stays quo, no transfers.

Sincerely,  
Robert Stanton  
Massachusetts

**From:** [Brian Hayes](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:23:53 AM

---

I support option A. Status quo, no transfers

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Christopher Pizaro](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Transfer Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:23:21 AM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Regards,

Christopher Pizaro  
New York State

**From:** [davidouch92](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] No transfer of quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:22:40 AM

---

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Hello,

I support option a, no transfers and status quo.

David Ouch Massachusetts

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Brent Flack-Davison](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:17:46 AM

---

***To whom it may concern,***

***I am a recreational fly fisherman from NY, and I primarily fish in NYC harbor, Cape Cod, LI Sound, NJ Jersey and Long Island.***

***I spend a lot of money and time fishing for stripers in multiple states and something I share with my sons and core friends. With regard to the options being considered for Addendum 1, I am writing to express my support for Option A (status quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted. All other options would increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding. If the striped bass population collapses again, I will go fish and send my money elsewhere with good fishing.***

***Sincerely,***

***Brent Flack-Davison***

***[brentfd@gmail.com](mailto:brentfd@gmail.com)***

--

Brent Flack-Davison  
(c) +1 202 550 3464  
(e) [brentfd@gmail.com](mailto:brentfd@gmail.com)

**From:** [Conor McDonnell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A: Status quo  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:14:45 AM

---

Hello,

I am emailing to express my support for Option A: Status quo | No commercial transfers.

To truly conserve this fish population, unused quotas cannot be transferred, and the focus needs to be on protecting the fish.

Best regards,  
Conor McDonnell

**From:** [James Mcmanus](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:10:45 AM

---

I support Option A and like many others, feel that allowing commercial quota transfers would be a huge mistake.

James

**From:** [Jordan Lang](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:50:23 AM

---

Hello,

I am a saltwater angler living in Kittery, ME and am writing in to share my comments on Addendum I as I was not able to make it to the hearing.

My unwavering opinion is that the Striped Bass are far more valuable as a recreational fish than they are for commercial harvest.

I oppose any legislature that will reduce the likelihood of rebuilding the stock. The fishery should be managed for abundance, especially when it comes to the large breeding females.

When it comes to Addendum I, **I support Option A: Status Quo. No transfers of commercial quotas.**

Thank you,  
Jordan Lang



**From:** [Albert Lykon Sr](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:49:28 AM

---

Please do not allow transfer of quota

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [mike downham](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A Status Quo  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:27:14 AM

---

I support Option A Status Quo no commercial quota transfers. A path has been chosen to rebuild the stock, let's stick with it.

Michael Downham  
Glassboro NJ  
609-330-3815

**From:** [deceiver64](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:24:42 AM

---

Vote no on the commercial transfer, striped bass stocks are in trouble. Sincerely, William A. Sistas

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

**From:** [japopopo@verizon.net](mailto:japopopo@verizon.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:58:31 AM

---

I do not support commercial quota transfers. I support option A, status quo.

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [rcmuller@optimum.net](mailto:rcmuller@optimum.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:55:15 AM

---

I oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota. It will further deplete our recreational striped bass fishing opportunities.

Regards,

Bob Muller

**From:** [Paul Novello](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:33:21 AM

---

As a lover of surf fishing, and as a father who has passed on this passion to my children, I feel the need to provide my comments for this addendum (Addendum I to Amendment 7). I fully support responsible fishing, practicing all catch and release practices, as do my family. I am concerned with the health of the striped bass stock., as I want my childrens children to enjoy this sport. That being said, I support Option A, status quo. If you have any questions please let me know.

Paul Novello  
Atlantic Saltwater Flyrodders  
Jersey Shore Surfcasters

**From:** [Aaron Gallusser](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] STRIPED BASS Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:27:14 AM

---

Hello, my name is Aaron Gallusser. I'm from Islip, NY I'm in favor of Option A (Status Quo) - No Commercial Transfers Allowed; throughout my years of saltwater fishing practicing catch and release. I think it's imperative that we protect the Striped Bass species. For to many years we have seen an over harvest of this fishery without rebuilding the population. I would like my children and grandchildren to experience the same fishery that I have grown to love throughout the years.

Sincerely,  
Aaron Gallusser

**From:** [wahooslayer89@comcast.net](mailto:wahooslayer89@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Amendment 7 - Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:12:38 AM

---

I support option A (status quo) - Commercial quota transfers are NOT permitted.

Sincerely,

Someone whom wishes the fishes will be around in abundance, much longer than our own lifetimes



**From:** [Comcast](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft amendment 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:24:55 AM

---

Gentlemen,

As a 50 year veteran of the striped bass fishery I am opposed to the transfer of quota between states.

“Striper Joe Kozic  
Asbury Park Fishing Club

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Dave Deo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Stripe Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:26:17 AM

---

I strongly oppose the transfer of quota from state to state and agree with “ option A “ status quo

Thank you

--

**David M. Deo**

President



908-482-5647 Cell  
908-756-0435 Office  
908-756-3538 Fax  
[daved@rllandscaping.com](mailto:daved@rllandscaping.com)

**767 North Ave**  
**Plainfield, NJ 07062**

**From:** [James Boyle](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:32:06 AM

---

**Dear ASMFC, I feel that there should be no transfer of quota between states for striped bass.  
Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted is the only option with  
the current state of the striped bass fishery.**

**American Saltwater Guides Association MA Board member**

Capt. Jaime Boyle

PO Box 1534

Oak Bluffs MA, 02557

508-922-1749

[boylermaker.com](http://boylermaker.com)

## Emilie Franke

---

**From:** Sean Tracey <sean@seantracey.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 13, 2023 12:58 PM  
**To:** Comments  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1

**Categories:** Auto Replied

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.  
In fact, I wish there were NO commercial harvesting of Striped Bass, at all, as soon as possible.

Sean Tracey  
Recreational Fisherman in NH

Sean Tracey

[email: sean@seantracey.com](mailto:sean@seantracey.com)  
m.603/828-6010  
o 603/427-2800, ext 110  
visit us: [seantracey.com](http://seantracey.com)

401 State Street, Suite 3  
Portsmouth, NH 03801



**From:** [Geoff Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:20:40 PM

---

Hello,

I support option A, status quo, with no commercial transfer.

Geoff Lewis, Milton Massachusetts.

Thank you.

--

Geoff Lewis  
75 Hinckley Road  
Milton MA 02186  
617-312-1351

**From:** [Kevin Williams](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:16:38 PM

---

Striped Bass are in bad shape in the Chesapeake Bay. While anecdotal, any fisherman can tell you that the health of this fishery is and has been for some time in decline. I Oppose Increase in Commercial Striped Bass Harvest.

With the wild proliferation of Blue Catfish and continued stock surveys show a trending decline, let's protect the 2nd most important fishery in the bay.

Sincerely,

Kevin Williams

**From:** [Christopher Farschon](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:15:19 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted. As a for hire charter captain in NJ, please increase the number of available fish before opening more harvest. Catch and release is so much better for our local economy than a few more fish in a seafood market.

Thanks,

Capt. Chris Farschon  
Fischon Charters  
Avalon, NJ

**From:** [Jake Naso-Kushner](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Comments  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:05:30 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I support option A (status quo) - Commercial quota transfers are NOT permitted.

Sincerely,  
Jake Naso-Kushner  
North Kingstown, RI



**From:** [scott jorgensen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:03:32 PM

---

***To Whom It May Concern,***

*My Name is Scott Jorgensen and I am a fly fisherman located in East Quogue, NY And I fish for striped bass all around the east end of long island. My love for the striped bass can not be expressed enough. I have been see a great decline in bass numbers in my area for the last 13 years and I am very concerned for the striped bass's future and fly fisherman like myself.*

*I am writing and giving my full support for option A : commercial quota transfers are NOT permitted .All other options would increase mortality at a time when stock is rebuilding.*

***Sincerely,  
Scott Jorgensen***

Scott Jorgensen  
Jorgensen Estate Management Inc.  
JorgensenEstate@yahoo.com  
631-848-4614



**From:** [Anthony Lopardo](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass transfer quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:58:32 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option A, no transfer

Best,  
Anthony Lopardo - Monmouth County, NJ

**From:** [Matt Dobbins](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] No Commercial Quota Transfers  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:55:43 PM

---

**To whom it may concern**

**I fully support Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.**

**Captain Matt Dobbins**

Tempus edax rerum  
Time, devourer of all things

**From:** [andrewhtaylor.me@gmail.com](mailto:andrewhtaylor.me@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:52:51 PM

---

To Whom it May Concern,

I support option A, status quo. No transfers!

Andrew Taylor, Maine

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [William Fox](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass commercial quota transfer.  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:52:06 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

William Fox Jr, Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

**From:** [Brian Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial Quota Transfers  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:39:16 PM

---

To whom this may concern,

I am writing in to let you know I support,  
Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.

I am concerned for the Striped Bass stock and removing more commercial harvest will be detrimental to the current Amendment 7 Stock Rebuild.

I am also aware of the threats recreational pressure as well as large party boats which have 16 anglers harvesting fish on a daily basis throughout the striper run as they migrate north and establish residency in Northern territories.

Thank you for your assistance.

Captain Brian Kelly

**From:** [James Macdonall](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:35:05 PM

---

***I am a recreational angler from New Jersey, and I primarily fish the beaches of New Jersey. The Atlantic striped bass fishery is important to me because it provides the opportunity to catch large fish that provide good sport.***

***With regard to the options being considered for Addendum 1, I am writing to express my support for Option A (status quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted. States that opt to prohibit commercial fishing for striped bass are straining commercial fishers who need to fish for other species. Those states accept the sacrifice their commercial fishers are making. By allowing the unused quota to move to another state the sacrifice of their commercial fishers is ignored. All other options would increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.***

--  
Jim MacDonall, PhD  
Professor Emeritus of Psychology  
Fordham University  
[jmacdonall@fordham.edu](mailto:jmacdonall@fordham.edu)



**From:** [David Schwen](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass draft addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:34:19 PM

---

I strongly oppose commercial transfer for striped bass quota. Please consider saving bass for future generations to enjoy both on a recreational level and for future commercial fishing.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [William Sands](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:27:14 PM

---

the striped bass stocks are already low in the chesapeake bay and local coastal waters,  
In my opinion the catch limits should be lowered

I have been fishing in the bay since a kid in the 60' s with my dad.  
the only time I have seen fishing this bad is PRE moratorium.  
Let's not have to do that again.  
W Sands

**From:** [Hunter Zandri](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Transfer Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:20:58 PM

---

I support option A

**From:** [Mark Bonvouloir](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Amendment 7  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:17:04 PM

---

Option A !

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Michael Walp](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Transfer Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:16:13 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern:

I'd like to voice my strong support for Option A - status quo with NO transfer.

Thank you,

Michael C. Walp  
Westbrook, ME  
207-450-5597

**From:** [Andrew Garnitz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Transfer Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:15:30 PM

---

I support option A, no transfer.

Thanks  
Andy Garnitz - Marblehead Ma

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [christopher brown](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial quota transfers ....  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:14:38 PM

---

I absolutely support Option A Status Quo, No Commercial Quota Transfers  
Thank you

**From:** [Joshua Diner](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:13:00 PM

---

Hello - I do not support the commercial quota transfer. I support option A no transfer.

Thanks,  
Joshua Diner



**From:** [Anthony Stefanski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:04:12 PM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

Anthony Stefanski, Massachusetts

**From:** [Brian Madden](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:03:33 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Best regards,

Brian Madden  
Plymouth, MA

**From:** [PETER BRAVO](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer.  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 6:00:05 PM

---

I support option A. Status quo. No commercial transfer

Thank you

Peter Bravo  
Milford, CT.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Eugene Schwartz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:59:51 PM

---

I'm an old guy, 81 next Aug. I remember as a kid my dad, and several other Baltimore businessmen fished with Jimmy Martini in the bay. I think his boat was the Mary Ellen an old bay fishing boat. I have pictures packed somewhere of dad coming home with these large canvas bags filled with "Rockfish" and trying to give them away. I say trying because folks didn't want to clean them and lots of fish went into the trash. Result, I had to suffer through years of no fishing for "Rock" because the fishery was on the verge of dying. It took years for it to come back some and folks were satisfied with 2 fish and catch and release. You have to think, when my father was fishing late 1940's to 1954 there weren't a lot of boat owners and folks fishing the bay.

I vote keep the catch levels and save the fishery. Also, think about trying to save the menhaden the bay while you are at it.

Gene Schwartz  
formerly of Baltimore, MD

Now,  
3425 Diamond Leaf Dr.  
Vero Beach, FL 32966

PS, If you want I could probably find the old photos. I had promised years ago I would give them to Tocterman's but never did.

**From:** [Lawrence Welcome](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:58:40 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.  
Respectfully submitted by: Lawrence Welcome ((owner, Northbar Tackle LLC)  
Thank you

**From:** [Dave Nolan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I Comments  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:54:30 PM

---

Good Day and thank you for the opportunity to comment;

The overall quotas and limit changes in the addendum are unlikely to make material differences in the fish stocks for the recreational or commercial angler and there will likely be continued decline in striped bass stocks.

The fisheries management community needs to make significant changes in how they assess and manage fisheries on the Atlantic coast to bring about a change in the fishing environment. Some area to consider:

- Managing the fisheries as a dynamic system of multiple species
- Developing management techniques that are based on the interrelationships between forage stock (principally menhaden) and the other commercial species in the mid-atlantic region.
- Understanding that depleted forage stocks affects finfish as well as shellfish.
- Understanding that menhaden provide not only forage for finfish, but also, as filter feeders, help maintain water quality for shellfish.
- Dead zones can be reduced by improving water quality such as would be provide by increased menhaden stocks
- Managing menhaden within the Chesapeake Bay as a single quota instead of separately for VA and MD.
- Greatly reducing the menhaden quota to allow an improvement in forage stocks and water quality.
- Changing the management approach for striped bass to a slot size for both recreational and commercial anglers to protect breeder sized females.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Dave Nolan  
Herndon, VA

=====  
=

**From:** [jtomici@optonline.net](mailto:jtomici@optonline.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:44:29 PM

---

Dear ASFMC,

I support option a, status quo, NO commercial transfer.

Regards,  
John Tomici  
Southold, NY

**From:** [Raymond Vrablic](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:42:37 PM

---

I've been fishing for Striped Bass 52 week's a year my entire life on the Chesapeake and on the coast. The fisheries is totally mismanaged from the pollution run off, Foreage fisheries being over fished and Striped bass themselves being mismanaged. You have commercial netting that goes on where more then half of the fish are dead by the time the watermen unload them discarding the dead one's that don't count toward their quota, to the fishermen catching hundreds of fish a day only to say they released them all but for someone as myself working above them can see so many die. Their actually killing more then someone keeping the limit. Then on top of all that you have the same people saying how bad of shape the fisheries are in only to day after day knowingly illegally Target and catch Striped Bass outside the EEZ zone just don't make sense! Why is there no hook size minimum let's say 8/0 and no trebble hook's to stop released fish mortality or does that not fit the agenda? Everything I've stated above is how bad Striped Bass are mismanaged and definitely are not able to sustain more pressure! People really need to step up! There need to be more done on shutting down the Omega ship destroying the Chesapeake and there should be a real effort put into tagging them!

Raymond Mel Vrablic III



**From:** [Capt. Brian Coombs](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:41:33 PM

---

To whom it may concern. I would like to show my support for option A : Status Quo, No commercial quota transfers.

Thanks!  
Captain Brian Coombs

**From:** [bobparkinson@hughes.net](mailto:bobparkinson@hughes.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [oysterbob11@gmail.com](mailto:oysterbob11@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Opposing Increase in Commercial Striped Bass Harvest  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:39:41 PM

---

To Whom It Concerns,

Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

I suggest that you put your efforts into farming stripped bass and let the wild fishery take its natural course without the continual antagonism of the commercial wild fishery.

Very respectfully,

Bob Parkinson

**From:** [Peter J. Lefeber](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:39:14 PM

---

Hello ASMFC,

My name is Peter J. Lefeber. I am an avid angler from the State of Connecticut, and proud father of John F. Lefeber, who is self-styled as “The Greatest Fisherman in New England” which, although a bit quirky, could be true.

I would like to add my comment on Addendum 1 around Commercial Quota Transfers. I beg you to select Option A (Status Quo).

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

We are in a pivotal moment where we can either fast track the recovery of Striped Bass or continue the heavy pressure and slow decline of the species.

Not selecting Option A will only hurt our ability to recover our Striped Bass fishery. Option A is our only way the future has a sustainable Striped Bass population.

Thank you,

Peter J. Lefeber

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [DICKSON YOUNG](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:38:22 PM

---

I have been an avid fisherman fresh and salt water for many years. Im now semi retired and living on the eastern shore. During the season i fish the Chester river and the bay almost daily. With few exceptions i have noted the decline in the health, quality and quantity of the rockfish i encounter. Measures should be taken to restrict, reduce or eliminate the catch of this fish to allow it to restore itself to a healthy population. I oppose the current proposed limits as simply not enough. Please take action if not now when??

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Rxscape Sportfishing](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum 1 comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:36:06 PM

---

Please support. Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

**From:** [jeff.tyser](mailto:jeff.tyser)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:34:42 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I am a recreational fly angler from Massachusetts. I do most of my fishing on the Boston north and south shores, and Cape Cod. The Atlantic striped bass fishery is important to me because it supports numerous tackle shops, guides and other businesses in my state, as well as affording myself and countless others the opportunity to connect with nature and follow our passion.

Regarding the options that are being considered for Addendum 1, I am writing to express my support for Option A (status quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted. I strongly believe that all other options will increase mortality at a critical time when the stock is rebuilding.

Sincerely,

Jeff Tyser

[jefftyser@gmail.com](mailto:jefftyser@gmail.com)

**From:** [Chet Lubaczewski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass draft addendum 1 comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:32:57 PM

---

I vote for Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

**From:** [mark](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I - Support of Option A (status quote)  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:31:08 PM

---

As a saltwater fisherman for stripped bass and a holder of a Massachusetts saltwater and sporting licenses I only support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

This is after reading your report and reviewing your figures, the Option A Status Quo , is the only long-term viable solution.

Mark Almeda



**From:** [David Price](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:26:08 PM

---

Hello,

I'd like to submit my response to the ASMFC in regards to the commercial quota transfer on striped bass. I fully support option A. Which states no commercial transfer of striped bass which is status quo. I appreciate your time and consideration of my response. Thank You

Sincerely,

David Price  
311 Laurel Blvd  
Lanoka Harbor, NJ

**From:** [seffy78](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:22:49 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfer

Seth, New Jersey

**From:** [Matt Bacchi](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:16:31 PM

---

I am a recreational angler from NY, and I primarily fish in Long Island Sound and around Montauk NY. The Atlantic striped bass fishery is important to me because they are an important natural resource to the entire US, and my favorite game fish to chase. As a recreational angler, I keep/kill zero fish because their stock is in decline, and your board has designated them as overfished.

In section 2.1 of the Draft Addendum document (on pg 2) you list a number of concerns in the problem statement that are simply one sided points of view. The commercial fishing sector involved in striped bass harvesting is continually attempting to increase their catch, all while the striped bass management board is tasked with REBUILDING THE STOCK. The facts are that there is evidence the population is overfished. This forces you as a board to rebuild the stock. Do not let these selfish interests distract you from your legally mandated task.

With regard to the options being considered for Addendum 1, I am writing to express my support for **Option A (status quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted**. We must not increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.

Sincerely,  
Matt Bacchi  
[mbacchi@gmail.com](mailto:mbacchi@gmail.com)

**From:** [Tom Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:13:52 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Daniel Drabkin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:11:21 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support option a: status quo, no transfers.

Sincerely,

Daniel Drabkin  
Marblehead, MA

**From:** [Alan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial Quota transfers  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:09:38 PM

---

Good afternoon , as a long time dedicated recreational Striped Bass fisherman.....

I writing to say that i absolutely Do not support the Commercial Quota transfer addendum that is is being considered....it foolish and short sighted to consider this addendum as we are trying to re-build Striped Bass stocks along the Atlantic seaboard. I support Option A...No commercial Quota transfers.

Alan Berger  
Assistant Director  
516-647-1391  
[bergersmac@gmail.com](mailto:bergersmac@gmail.com)

**From:** [Alfred Sargente](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:09:35 PM

---

***To whom it may concern,***

***I am a recreational angler from Bronx, NY, and primarily fish in LI Sound and the south shore of Long Island. The Atlantic striped bass fishery is important to me because I have fished for stripers since I was a kid (I'm 64 now) and remember the good times and the bad times. Unfortunately, based on the most recent spawning numbers, it looks like we are heading for more bad times. That's why it's more important now than ever to do everything we can to protect striped bass stocks.***

***With regard to the options being considered for Addendum 1, I am writing to express my support for Option A (status quo): commercial quota transfers are not permitted. All other options would increase mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding.***

***Sincerely,***

***Alfred J. Sargente, Esq.***

***[asargente@gmail.com](mailto:asargente@gmail.com)***

**From:** [Taylor Ingraham](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Opposing Commercial Transfers  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:08:04 PM

---

Thank you for accepting my feedback on commercial transfers. I support Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Happy to discuss and thank you again,

Taylor Ingraham

**Taylor Ingraham**





**From:** [Gene Torrey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:07:25 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

There should be no increase in the stripped bass fishery in the Chesapeake Bay or US East Coast for recreational or commercial fishing.

In fact, there should be a reduction in the take until such time as biologist not affiliated with the harvest industry or conservation special interests verify populations have returned to a sustainable level.

*Gene*

**From:** [Mary](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 5:04:14 PM

---

Stop the attack on OUR natural resources.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [CHRIS GUAY](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:59:34 PM

---

Hi,

I support option A, status quo, NO QUOTA TRANSFERS.

I have been passionately fishing for striped bass for the last 4 years. I've spent thousands on equipment, charter services, and licenses to recreationally fish for striped bass from NJ to MA. I live in Florida but am planning a several month trip to fish for them with some other friends from other areas of the country who have never fished for them before. I love many fish species but none are as near and dear to me as stripers.

If you fail to rebuild these stocks by transferring quotas and allowing more harvest, it's only a matter of time until your failures become punishable by federal law under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Think about that. A little more sacrifice now, for a lot less pain later on.

Regards,

Christopher Guay

**From:** [D. Carver](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:58:40 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

This is so typical. I know there were a lot more fish this year than recent years. However, that is no the time to go ravaging gains made.

The Cod fishery is not a tiny fraction of what it once was. Cod was like... air. Then, it was popularized on many fronts and now.... if not tightly controlled, there would probably be none left. Not the quantity, nor the size.

So how about we hold off on pounding stripers back to the edge.. again.. and make for a great recovery, to a level where the striper population might just stand a chance of being supported, managed, maintained at truly healthy levels.

And for another sample of how to mismanage a fishery and recovery, look at salmon. And now, we are short on herring, mackerel are needing protection, and even bluefish, considered by so many to be undesirable, are showing up... or not showing up... to the game anywhere near where they were just a few years ago. Wake the F.. up folks.

Leave something alone for a while and see where it can go. There are not "plenty of fish in the sea" any longer. But there are some that are more able to carry the pressure that is being put on stripers.

I would give up fishing for them, as much as I love to catch (and carefully release) them, if it would make the difference. But transferring the little successes that maybe occurred this year??? Good Grief Charlie Brown.

**From:** [albert daddario](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:58:22 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [debbie bennett](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:57:50 PM

---

I oppose any increase in the commercial striped bass harvest.

The striped bass population is currently overfished as it is rebuilding.

Please let the population rebuild and oppose this bill!

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Bennett  
2335 Cape Leonard Drove  
St. Leonard, MD

**From:** [Sean Hogan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer - option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:57:09 PM

---

I support option A along with the entire east coast, no quota transfer.

Sean

**From:** [Steven Reardon](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:52:54 PM

---

To whom it may concern.

My name is Steve Reardon from and I reside in CT. I am writing this to you to inform you that I support option A, status quo, no comercial transfer.

Thank you,  
Steven Reardon

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Ryan Horan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:52:46 PM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.  
Ryan Horan  
Rhode Island

**From:** [scott\\_honse](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:50:59 PM

---

Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels or lowering them.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning. If there is any consideration to allow the large stripe bass to not be fished I would recommend implementing these measures.

Thank you,

Scott Honse

**From:** [Kyle Dancause](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A: status quo  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:48:52 PM

---

The Striper stakeholders have spoken loud and clear through the amendment 7 process - rebuild the stock. Do right by the public you serve. Myself along with an overwhelming majority agrees to option A. No commercial quota transfers.

Thank you.

Kyle Dancause  
South Portland, ME

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [stmatts@aol.com](mailto:stmatts@aol.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:47:39 PM

---

I am opposed to any increase in the quota at this time.

Jon W Abboud

**From:** [Carpe Diem](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota email transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:43:47 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer

Joseph Cumella  
Long Beach New York

**From:** [Daniel Findorak](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:42:03 PM

---

I hope all is well. I support Option A, status quo - no commercial transfer

Thanks,

Dan Findorak - Connecticut

**From:** [amughal.aamdesignbuild.com](mailto:amughal.aamdesignbuild.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:35:05 PM

---

Greetings—

I support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Amir Mughal  
New York, NY

**From:** [barmby@comcast.net](mailto:barmby@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:34:37 PM

---

Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

Please make striped bass a game fish ASAP

Captain Scott Barmby

***Rock on Fishing Charters***

***[www.fishrockon.com](http://www.fishrockon.com)***

240-372-1864



**From:** [main1pi](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:26:38 PM

---

Leave what few fish we have alone. Yes it will be painfull but it is not as bad a full blown ban on fishing like the 80's.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Ferdinand Cosentino](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:25:30 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I support option A, status quo no transfers

Ferdinand Cosentino  
New York

**From:** [dylan.perron](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:24:51 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Thank you  
Dylan Perron

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Alex Kaye](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:23:36 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Alexander Kaye, Maine

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [dennis feliciano](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:22:28 PM

---

As an avid striped bass recreational angler I firmly support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Please maintain the status quo, option a, and do not allow transfers.

Thank you,

Dennis Feliciano, New York

**From:** [robert\\_young](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 - Vote for Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:22:09 PM

---

Dear Board Members of the ASMFC,

Please note that my email to you constitutes my opposition for striped bass quota transfers.

Please select Option A - Status Quo - No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Thank you for your time.

Best,

Robert Young  
NH

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Robert Flynn](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:18:05 PM

---

Please do not increase or transfer the allowable commercial catch quota for striped bass. Commercial quota should be decreased until the population is fully restored.

**From:** [Alec Griswold](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Public comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:16:25 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

**I support Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers. I am hopeful the council will listen to the public.**

**Thank you,**

**Alec**

Alec Griswold  
*pronouns:he/him*  
*Executive Director*  
***Elevate Youth***  
*89 South Street, Suite 203*  
*Boston, MA 02111*  
*(o) 857.995.8050*  
*(c) 410.627.8066*  
*I.G. @elevate.youth.boston*  
[www.elevateyouthoutdoors.org](http://www.elevateyouthoutdoors.org)

[Be the Spark - Elevate the next generation of diverse environmental stewards - Donate Now.](#)



**From:** [Sam Herzig](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1, Comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:12:16 PM

---

Hello ASMFC,

My name is Sam Herzig. I am an avid angler from the great State of New York.

I would like to add my comment on Addendum 1 around Commercial Quota Transfers. I beg you to select Option A (Status Quo).

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

We are in a **crucial** moment where we can either protect the recovery of Striped Bass or continue the heavy pressure and slow decline of the species. It is our duty and responsibility to protect our fisheries for future generations.

Not selecting Option A will only hurt our ability to recover our Striped Bass fishery. Option A is our only way the future has a sustainable Striped Bass population.

Thank you,

Sam

**From:** [Kevin Lesser](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum One Comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:08:05 PM

---

Hello,

I strongly support option A: status quo, no commercial quota transfers on Striped Bass.

Thank you,

Kevin Lesser

**From:** [Tony Pizzella](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer...  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:07:50 PM

---

To whom it may concern,  
I support Option A, status quo, no transfers.

Thank you,  
Anthony Pizzella, Maine

**From:** [Sam Azoulay](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:02:11 PM

---

I am opposed to the increased quota for striped bass. The fishery is strained. To buy quotas from other states is not logical. The catch should be reduced to save this fishery. Thanks Sam Azoulay

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Nadine Pizzella](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 4:00:13 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I support Option A: status quo, no transfers.

Thank you,  
Nadine Pizzella, Maine

**From:** [Chris Andrianas](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] striped bass quote transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:58:41 PM

---

I support option a, status quo, no transfers.

Christopher Andrianas, Massachusetts

**From:** [Hugh Kaplan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:58:23 PM

---

Dear Asmfc,

Please don't adopt the amendment raising the Rockfish quota. They are already overfished. - Hugh Kaplan,  
Montgomery County, MD

**From:** [Jess Bucks](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:51:39 PM

---

opposed

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



**From:** [Capt. Carle Hildreth](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Comments re: Addendum 1, Commercial Quota Transfers  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:49:54 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a striper fishing guide in Portland, Maine. I have been fishing recreationally for striped bass here for over 20 years and have been a full time guide for 11 of those years (5+ days a week on the water with clients). Fishing for stripers has been my main source of income and I have been willing to make changes in order to do my part in supporting sustainable fishery management. I have adjusted my business model to support conservation and responsible catch and release measures in order to keep this fishery sustainable. I do not harvest any stripers on my trips and my business has thrived. I submit this not to boast, but to acknowledge that the general public will support guides that are conservation minded. Regarding the referendum at hand I do not see how commercial quota transfers have any place in the discussion of managing this fishery responsibly. It feels like greed at the expense of the fish. It also feels like there is an attempt to minimize the impact of harvesting additional spawning size biomass by stating it would be just a small percent of a small percent of overall harvest. ANY additional harvest of spawning size biomass is unacceptable at this point. I have made several efforts over the years to change my business in order to adjust to conservation methods that I believe are necessary. I expect commercial striper fishermen to do the same yet in my opinion they do not. They continue to find loopholes and introduce ideas that are clearly selfish in nature and do not consider sustainability. The board has an obligation to strike down referendums that fail to promote good sense management. It has done this in the past and I hope its response is consistent regarding this nonsensical addendum. For these reasons I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Regards,  
Carle Hildreth  
Portland, ME

--

Capt. Carle Hildreth  
207-450-9428



**From:** [Brad Curtin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:48:07 PM

---

In regards to addendum 1 my support is for option A: maintain status quo no transfer of commercial quota allowed.

Thank you,  
Brad Curtin recreational angler from Massachusetts

**From:** [Doug Caplan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Dan Mckiernan](#); [Raymond Kane](#); [Sarah.Peake@mahouse.gov](mailto:Sarah.Peake@mahouse.gov); [Sarah Ferrara](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:47:02 PM

---

Hello ASMFC,

My name is Doug Caplan. I am an avid angler from Massachusetts. Fishing has been a way for me to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends my whole life, especially during the difficult times of the past few years. I am deeply troubled to have to write to you to fight for Striped Bass conservation.

I would like to add my comment on Addendum 1 around Commercial Quota Transfers. I beg you to select Option A (Status Quo).

***Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.***

We are in a pivotal moment where we can either fast track the recovery of Striped Bass or continue the heavy pressure and slow decline of the species.

Not selecting Option A will only hurt our ability to recover our Striped Bass fishery. Option A is our only way the future has a sustainable Striped Bass population.

Thank you,

-----

Doug Caplan  
[dougacaplan@gmail.com](mailto:dougacaplan@gmail.com)  
(717) 460-6239

**From:** [william.martin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:46:47 PM

---

For heaven's sake, do the commercial interests have any sense of shared responsibility? I adamantly oppose the recently proposed draft addendum regarding striped bass quotas. Nothing could better illustrate the tragedy of the commons! We all, commercial and recreational fishermen must share the increased regulatory burden until the population of large breeding female striped bass materially and provably is increased to a sustainable and robust level. No more regulatory chicanery! Be responsible by better protecting the biomass and particularly the large females. What insanity allows us to target those fish in any season or to take the summer population of juvenile stripers on the Chesapeake?

William Martin Ph.D., Baltimore MD

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Fred Meers](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:41:10 PM

---

I oppose any increased fishing for striped bass. God at \$18/lb who can afford what the commercial interests are selling anyway. We don't need to reallocate uncaught quotas . I think we should have a moratorium for all.

Fred Meers

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Warren Stern](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:40:41 PM

---

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

Warren Stern, CT

**From:** [gj.beidler@comcast.net](mailto:gj.beidler@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:40:11 PM

---

Hello,

I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Thank you,  
-Greg Beidler, PA



**From:** [Kevin Ventriglia](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:37:55 PM

---

My name is Kevin Ventriglia and I support “option a - no commercial transfer of unused quota.” With the wind turbines in development, the last thing I want to see going on top of whales would be bass. We’re in a fragile time where surely even at the highest of positions people are aware that uncertainty is in the air, regardless of research findings. Better safe than sorry.

DO NOT TRANSFER COMMERCIAL UNUSED STRIPED BASS QUOTA. OPTION A

Kevin Ventriglia

**From:** [Richard Howell](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:37:00 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

I am a qualified fisheries biologist and feel that the biology is taking second place to extreme lobbying with the proposed management of the species.

Richard Howell

20 Fells Road  
Wellesley  
Massachusetts  
MA 02482  
USA

Cell: 781-795-2131  
[howellrichardk@gmail.com](mailto:howellrichardk@gmail.com)

**From:** [Colin Temple](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1 : comments  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:35:48 PM

---

Good afternoon Emilie & ASMFC team,

I am writing this afternoon as a recreational fly angler located in Massachusetts, and a member of Plum Island Surfcasters & South Shore Fly Casters to express my absolute support for Option A, no commercial quota transfer.

This addendum is in direct conflict with the objective of Amendment 7 which seeks to rebuild the stock by 2029. ANY initiative that seeks to harvest more fish at this current point in time should be avoided.

Given the sensitivity of the rebuild plan to mortality assumptions it would be irresponsible to do anything that would put achieving the targets at risk.

So summarize my argument in as logical a way as possible; if you are wrong on the risks associated with harvesting more fish then we end up with a moratorium, and if I'm wrong we simply end up with a more abundant stock. With that as the basis for the argument, and given the current status of an overfished biomass I don't see how this Addendum is even a consideration worth discussing.

Thank you sincerely for your time.

Best regards,  
Colin Temple

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Andrew Collins](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:31:24 PM

---

Makes n sense at all to increase/maximize striped bass quotas at this time. I've been fishing for rock fish in the Bay for almost twenty years and the last five years have been horrible. I oppose any/all efforts to increase catch limits until we are back to levels of ten years ago.

Best regards,  
Andy Collins  
Leesburg, VA

**From:** [Herb Keating](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:29:05 PM

---

I oppose Striped Bass Draft Addendum I. To maintain an increase the health of the population and keep the mortality rate low I strongly agree with opposing this addendum. Any increase in catch quotas will no doubt will reduce the future population

Respectfully  
Herb Keating  
30 year veteran Chesapeake Bay Fisherman  
443-852-9684

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [THOMAS DOLAN](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:26:55 PM

---

Conservation ,  
I have been fishing the Middle Chesapeake Bay Region for 25 years. I have witnessed the Rockfishing worsen tremendously. It's very sad.  
Please act and fix it!  
Captain Tom Dolan  
Avid angler

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Christian Halik](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Stripped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:25:51 PM

---

I support option A, stratus quo no transfer

Christian halik

Massachusetts  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Julia Gaff](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Jerrygaff@yahoo.com](mailto:Jerrygaff@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:24:18 PM

---

Sent from [Mail](#) for Win

My wife and I are writing to oppose Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 of the Striped Bass Management Plan. At a time when regulators have declared Stripers To be Overfished and regulations are focused on rebuilding the stock, this is no time to remove more from the spawning biomass. We need all the breeders we can retain in order to rebuild the stock. Thus far, recreational fishermen have agreed to reduce our harvest, and if special exception is made for commercial fishermen, that work counter to the best interests of both groups. Please do the right thing and keep the focus on rebuilding the stock instead of increasing the removal of breeding Stripers.



**From:** [clutch putt](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:18:51 PM

---

I will pursue an election fund to remove anyone who votes in favor of this Addendum.

You vote for it and I will do everything within my resources to remove you from office

That is my pledge!

--

Jim

---

Jim Smolen  
[jim@smolengroup.com](mailto:jim@smolengroup.com)

**From:** [Sean Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:14:55 PM

---

I support option A as someone that fishes hard and cares to continue fishing!

Sean Hughes  
Hughes & Cronin Public Affairs Strategies  
455 Boston Post Rd, Ste 203 B  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475  
O: 860.346.7978 | C: 860.853.8748  
[Hughesandcronin.com](http://Hughesandcronin.com)

**From:** [Doug](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:14:23 PM

---

**I support Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.**

Doug Alichwer  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Frank Pitz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:13:10 PM

---

I support Option A

**From:** [thoude3320@aol.com](mailto:thoude3320@aol.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Draft addendum 1 to amendment 7  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:12:30 PM  
**Attachments:** IMG\_3912.PNG

---

I support option A (status quo).  
Please do NOT allow commercial transfer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tom Houde  
Recreational Angler

📶 T-Mobile LTE

3:08 PM



**Addendum 1 Final Actio...**



**Link to Addendum 1: DRAFT**

ADDENDUM I TO AMENDMENT 7

**Email:** [comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org)

**Subject Line:** Striped Bass Addendum I

**Support:** Option A (status quo):

Commercial quota transfers are not

permitted.

**Comments will be accepted until**

**January 13, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. (EST).**

**Be a part of the process...ACT NOW!**



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[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [Zach Devaughn](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:11:29 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I would respectfully ask that you DO NOT raise the quota for the harvest of Striped Bass. My family comes from commercial fisherman, but I do not see how it is sustainable to continue the catch as it is now. I love to catch and even eat these fish, however, I would like to make sure they are around for my children to enjoy as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Zachary DeV Vaughn  
Peninsula Water Conditioning  
443-735-7671

**From:** [nhlombardi](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:10:20 PM

---

I support Opinion A, status quo, no transfers.

Please don't do this. Nantucket Sound waters are already depleted, myself and others around the Cape & Islands cannot afford to keep losing the money maker for our guide businesses. These larger fish are 15-20 years old. The biomass cannot meet the demand of the commercial and recreational harvest. Anyone who says otherwise is compromised.

Nicholas Lombardi,  
Massachusetts



**From:** [Robert Moore](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:07:55 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, NO TRANSFERS.

Bobby Moore, NY

**From:** [Tyler Clark](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:03:14 PM

---

I am submitting this email to support option A in relation to striped bass Addendum 1. A transfer of commercial quotas is unacceptable given the low stock populations. The ASMFC is not properly managing this stock and further poor decisions will only compromise this vital resource. Keep the current regulations status quo.

-Tyler Clark

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Tom](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I: VOTE OPTION A.....  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:01:22 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

I am a recreational fisherman that boats in both the Long Island Sound and off Martha's Vineyard actively. I have experienced directly the incredible decline in striped bass over the last 10 years, and remain very concerned about how we manage the Atlantic fishery.

I believe it would be a huge mistake to allow the transfer of commercial quota's being contemplated in the addendum. I 100% believe that the only logical position is to support:

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

Please do not reverse course and further damage the striped bass fishery as it is just beginning to recover.

Thank You.

-----  
Thomas Wisniewski  
917-885-2616

**From:** [Jim Mize](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1: Commercial Quota Transfers. Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:00:49 PM

---

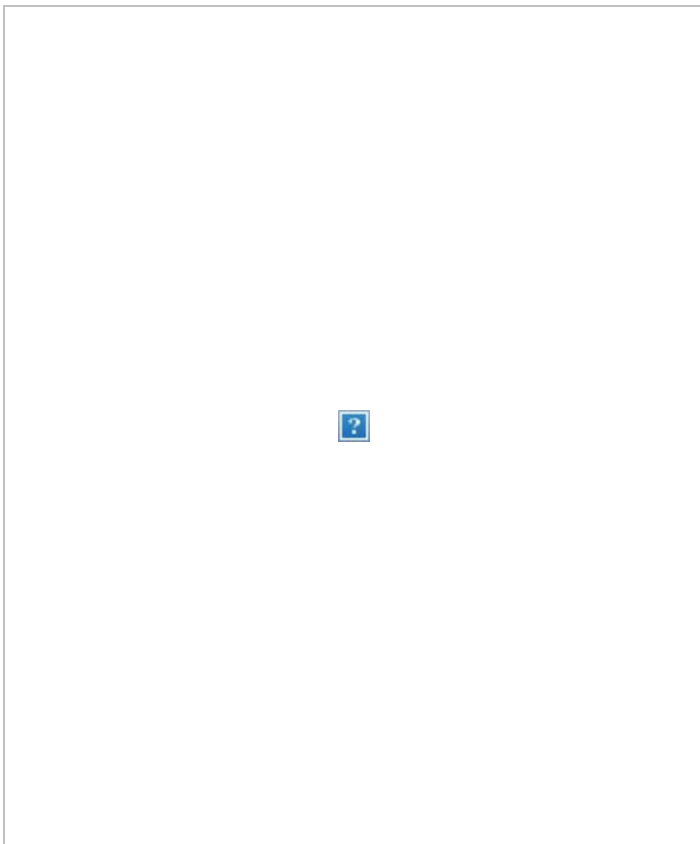
Good afternoon,

Thank you for allowing my input on this matter.

I support option A, status quo with no commercial transfer.

Thank you

***Capt. Jim Mize***  
[Northeast Bluefin Showdown](#)  
July 8-15, 2023  
(603) 234-5932



**From:** [John Detweiler](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 3:00:44 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

According to the 2022 Striped Bass Stock Assessment Update and from one that has fished the Chesapeake Bay for many years, the Striped Bass Stock remains woefully overfished. Rebuilding success hinges on maintaining low fishing mortality rates while poor recruitment persists. Purposefully increasing commercial landings is not a rationale thing to do and I respectfully submit and request that the Board oppose this action.

Thank you,  
John R. "Jack" Detweiler  
717-215-3195

**From:** [Evan Dintaman](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:52:46 PM

---

Good Afternoon,

Yet again, here we are writing our public comments weighing in on a situation that should never have been up for debate. Public sentiment has been clear - we should be aggressively rebuilding the striped bass stock and not actively trying to pass addendums that work against those goals.

Nonetheless, I will write another email in hopes it is heard.

**I strongly support Option A, status quo, no commercial transfers.** This is the only logical and reasonable option given the current state of the striped bass stock.

Hopefully this is not another email that falls on deaf ears. Public faith in the board is low - it is time to stop and listen.

Thanks for your time,  
Evan

**From:** [Bert Olmstead](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:52:32 PM

---

Opposed

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [D.M](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:52:02 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Donald McDougall](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:49:51 PM

---

Dear Sir(s),

As a recreational angler in the Chesapeake Bay region, I urge you to not approve any changes to the commercial harvest of Striped Bass which will result in an increased harvest. The fishery is in poor shape. We must avoid contributing to the problem.

Thank you.

Donald McDougall  
14280 Solomons Island Rd  
Solomons MD 20688

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Bran Dougherty-Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:46:56 PM

---

I support Option A, status quo, no transfers

Thank you,  
Bran Dougherty-Johnson  
NY

**From:** [Daniel Lodato](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer- Strong Opposition  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:45:35 PM

---

I am writing in strong and passionate opposition of the striped bass quota transfer. I am a recreational angler with 15 years experience fishing for striped bass and experienced first hand the huge decline in the species over the years.

All of the conservation efforts that people have been fighting so hard for will have all been for nothing if that passes. This would completely decimate the population when it is already extremely overfished and hurting and we will be right back in the 80's. It would completely break the hearts of the entire recreational fishing community.

The amount of commercial poaching that goes on behind the scene with understaffed law enforcement already accounts for loses that can not even seen in your metrics and then that on top of which these other states like DE and MD would extinct these precious fish and would be salivating at the mouth at thought of all the money they could make at the expense of a fish the entire northeast fishing industry and even town economies are based around, places like Montauk. I pray to god that this does not get passed so does everyone in the surfcasting community on long island NY. Please do the right thing! Thank you for your time.

**From:** [Owen McKenna](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:45:02 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Owen McKenna  
Massachusetts

**From:** [Keegan Austin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:43:58 PM

---

I support Option A, Status Quo, No transfers.

Keegan Austin (Maine)

**From:** [Thomas Perkins](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] I support Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:42:55 PM

---

As a Marylander who fishes for striped bass in Maryland, Maine, Massachusetts and Connecticut I support Option A status Quo No Commercial Quota Transfers

Thank you,

Thomas

**From:** [Jack Tanner](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:40:50 PM

---

Please don't pass this, stripers are already way overfished, it's only going to make it worse if we raise the quota. It used to be a lot more common to catch 20+ pound stripers especially in the upper Potomac and other rivers where the fish run but it is much more difficult nowadays. we need these big fish to make a comeback and that can only happen if the little ones survive.

Sincerely,  
Jack Tanner

**From:** [Bob Goetz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:40:34 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Ed Rakowski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:39:03 PM

---

Since the Chesapeake Bay is critical to the survival of the East Coast Striped Bass population it is essential the we in Maryland be in the forefront of conserving this population. If we do not take the lead in controlling their harvest I fear a moratorium will again become necessary. We must learn from the mistakes of the past and not allow Stiped Bass stocks to be overfished.

Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

Sincerely,

Edwin J. Rakowski

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Pete Moore](#)  
**To:** [Comments: information@ccamd.org](mailto:information@ccamd.org)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:38:37 PM  
**Attachments:** image001.png

---

Hell no. This is ridiculous.

**Pete Moore | Federal Client Manager**

Mobile: 410-279-1499

New email: [pete.moore@optivfederal.com](mailto:pete.moore@optivfederal.com)

[www.optiv.com](http://www.optiv.com)



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**From:** [Trenton Miller](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:38:07 PM

---

I support Option A. Status quo, no transfers.

Trenton Miller, Virginia

**From:** [Bill Wahlers](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:38:00 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

**From:** [Bert Olmstead](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:37:15 PM

---

Opposed!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Mark Dzindzio](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:36:24 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

**From:** [Bert Olmstead](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:35:22 PM

---

Stop netting striped bass for commercial fishing. Reduce tonnage! Reduce fish limit for charters to 1 fish per person like recreational fishing that charters are categorized in.!! No brainer. Have Virginia New Jersey etc. follow set rules for same rules.!!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Kevin Howley](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:35:04 PM

---

I'm writing to opposed any commercial quota transfer for Striped Bass. I support the status quo.



**From:** [Christopher Hallahan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:33:59 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Please respect what myself and thousands of other recreational anglers on MA know, we must protect our striped bass population.

Chris Hallahan  
Ashland, MA

**From:** [JD NOWA](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:32:57 PM

---

PLEASE, do not increase the Striped Bass commercial catch. They need time to rebuild their numbers.

Thanks John Nowakowski, Severn Md.

**From:** [R & T Strz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] FW: Striped Bass: Addendum 1 to Amendment 7: Transfer of Commercial Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:27:39 PM  
**Importance:** High

---

Dear Commission:

My husband has been a surfcaster for striped bass for over 50 years and I want to see the striped bass stock replenished as quickly as possible . Therefore, I support option a, status quo, no commercial transfer

Patricia A Strzepek  
Mattituck, NY 11952

**From:** [Ben Horner](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:27:36 PM

---

Hello,

With the numbers provided in the last report I don't see any logic in allowing the transfer of commercial quotas. All that would do in further reduce the stock. Let's build the stock back to viable levels and then sustain those levels.

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Regards,  
Ben Horner  
New Hampshire

**From:** [Fasolino, Umberto](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] RE: Striped Bass: Addendum 1 to Amendment : Transfer of Commercial Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:26:33 PM

---

Dear Commission:

I support option A: Status quo, no commercial transfer

Umberto Fasolino,  
Cutchogue, New York

Regards,

Umberto

**Umberto C. Fasolino, CFPS**

2260 Duck Pond Road, Cutchogue, NY 11935  
Phone +1 347 986 9117  
[umberto.fasolino@aig.com](mailto:umberto.fasolino@aig.com) | [www.aig.com](http://www.aig.com)

**From:** [Duane Eggie](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:25:08 PM

---

What's wrong with you people? Your management operandi is suspect. I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted. Do the right thing here. Increased commercial harvest supports the few and hurts the many!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jim Tryforos](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Rules - Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:24:34 PM

---

I support Option A: Status quo - No commercial quota transfers.

Thank you.

James Tryforos  
11 Forest Rd  
Glen Rock, NJ 07452

201-835-3831

--

Jim Tryforos  
[jimtryforos@gmail.com](mailto:jimtryforos@gmail.com)  
201-835-3831

**From:** [Ryan Carrier](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Commercial Quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:22:03 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

I do not support the idea of commercial quota transfer. I support option A, no commercial transfer. Let's do what's best for our striped bass population.

Sincerely,  
Ryan Carrier  
Massachusetts

Sent from my iPhone 12 Max Pro 5G



**From:** [Stefan Altenburger](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:21:42 PM

---

Support: Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Best,  
Stefan

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jordan Rae](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 Comment  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:19:01 PM

---

Hello ASMFC,

My name is Jordan Nesi. I am an avid angler from CT.

I would like to add my comment on Addendum 1 around Commercial Quota Transfers. I beg you to select Option A (Status Quo).

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

We are in a pivotal moment where we can either fast track the recovery of Striped Bass or continue the heavy pressure and slow decline of the species.

Not selecting Option A will only hurt our ability to recover our Striped Bass fishery. Option A is our only way the future has a sustainable Striped Bass population.

Thank you,  
Jordan Nesi

**From:** [Andrew Connors](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:16:35 PM

---

Please do NOT allow commercial transfers. We should be doing more to limit harvests whilst rebuilding the biomass stock.

Quite frankly, there should be a full moratorium enacted on the taking of striped bass for at least 5 years.

Thanks,

Andrew Connors  
Chappaqua, NY

**From:** [Bagdonas, Alexander](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:13:12 PM  
**Attachments:** image001.png

---

Hello ASMFC,

My name is Alex Bagdonas. I am an avid angler from Massachusetts.

I would like to add my comment on Addendum 1 around Commercial Quota Transfers. I beg you to select Option A (Status Quo).

**Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

We are in a pivotal moment where we can either fast track the recovery of Striped Bass or continue the heavy pressure and slow decline of the species.

Not selecting Option A will only hurt our ability to recover our Striped Bass fishery. Option A is our only way the future has a sustainable Striped Bass population.

Sincerely,

Alex



Risk & Insurance | Employee Benefits | Retirement & Private Wealth  
**Ready for tomorrow.**

**Alexander K Bagdonas**  
**Senior Vice President - Financial Institutions**

HUB International New England, LLC  
600 Longwater Dr.  
Norwell, MA 02061

**Office:** [781-792-3464](tel:781-792-3464)  
**Mobile:** [857-919-2681](tel:857-919-2681)  
**Email:** [alexander.bagdonas@hubinternational.com](mailto:alexander.bagdonas@hubinternational.com)

[hubinternational.com](http://hubinternational.com)

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**From:** [Jerry Leuters](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:12:38 PM

---

I am opposed to these reg changes and i also believe Striped Bass should not be commercially targeted.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Scott Snyder](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:11:42 PM

---

Striped bass are a unique resource to the Chesapeake Bay, and they need protection to prevent their demise. I have personally seen the fishery decline significantly over the last 10 years, and we need to drastically limit the harvest of this species to allow it to survive! Please drastically reduce the amount of Stripes Bass that can be harvested from Maryland waters - for both recreational, as well as commercial fisherman.

Sincerely,

-Scott Snyder  
Annapolis, Maryland

**From:** [DAN EARLY](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:11:22 PM

---

*Dear Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission -*

*Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning. If there is any consideration to allow the large stripe bass to not be fished, I would recommend implementing these measures.*

*While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.*

*Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels or lowering them.*

Thank you,

**Dan Early**

Vice President/Branch Manager  
Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.  
The Annapolis Eastport Office  
320 Sixth Street - 410-260-2801  
[dan@longandfoster.com](mailto:dan@longandfoster.com)

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---

**From:** [Leon Thompson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:08:17 PM

---

Good Afternoon

I support Option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

Sincerely  
Leon Thompson Jr  
Delaware

**From:** [P.B](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 2:07:01 PM

---

I support option A. Status quo. No commercial transfer.

Transfer of commercial quota would undoubtedly result in more fish being killed.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [John Hayes](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:55:53 PM

---

Hello,

I am emailing today to voice my support for option a, status quo, no transfers.

Have a nice day,  
John Hayes

**From:** [Nicholas Hine](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:52:48 PM

---

Dear Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Council:

I am a catch-and-release fly fisherman from New York City. I primarily fish on the east end of Long Island and Truro, MA. I'm writing because the Atlantic striped bass fishery is integral to recreational fly fishing on the east coast.

I understand that you are considering allowing the interstate transfer of commercial harvest quotas. With regard to the options being considered for Addendum 1, I am writing to express my support for Option A, i.e., the status quo, such that commercial quota transfers will not be permitted. All other options would increase Atlantic striped bass mortality at a time when the stock is rebuilding. As I'm sure you know, striped bass are overfished and spawning success has been far below average the last three years.

Tight lines,  
Nicholas Hine  
[nicholasthine@gmail.com](mailto:nicholasthine@gmail.com)

**From:** [Eric Thies](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Draft Addendum 1 to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan - Submission of Public Comment = Maintain the Status Quo  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:44:06 PM

---

To: Ms. Emilie Franke

FMP Coordinator

1050 N. Highland St. Suite 200 A-N

Atlantic Marine States Fisheries Commission

Arlington, VA 22201

[comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org)

Dear Ms. Franke:

I am a recreational angler and private boater from New Jersey, and I primarily fish in Raritan Bay and along Sandy Hook, New Jersey.

The Atlantic striped bass fishery in New Jersey is very important to me because it provides quality family time that I can spend with my two sons, enjoying being together out on the ocean and pursuing an outdoor activity that we all love. I estimate that I spend about \$15,000/year for bait, tackle, gas and boat upkeep recreationally fishing for just striped bass.

Regarding the options being considered for Addendum 1 (to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan), I am submitting my comments to express my support for **Option A** (maintain the status quo - Commercial Quota transfers are not permitted). All other options would increase mortality of this critical resource at a time when the striped bass fish stock is still rebuilding and would be counterproductive to the Striped Bass Management Plan. I would hate to lose the opportunity to enjoy quality recreational striped bass fishing with my family.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

John Thies

56 Clydesdale Rd

Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

[Latitude1@gmail.com](mailto:Latitude1@gmail.com)

**From:** [Dave McGuffey](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Dave McGuffey](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:37:39 PM

---

I oppose the Striped Bass draft addendum I.

As a recreational fisherman I've experienced the quality, size, and numbers of Striped Bass decline quite rapidly from 2002 when I bought a small boat and began fishing the Chesapeake Bay. The water quality has gone down, the summer algae blooms seem to be on the increase and I see more dead floating fish, especially around the fixed impoundment nets (Fyke nets I believe they are called). The fish seem thinner, and from what I read, it appears that Omega Protein is pulling too many bait fish from the Bay, leaving insufficient forage for the existing predator population (Striped Bass, Blues, and saltwater trout).

I oppose any change in regulations that would allow more Striped Bass to be removed from the population. I would like to see reduced allocations for both recreational and commercial fishermen. I would like to see longer summer black-outs where Striped Bass cannot be taken, or even targeted. I would also like to see a huge cut in the tonnage of Menhaden that Omega Protein is allowed to remove from the Chesapeake Bay, and Atlantic Ocean out to 200 miles.

I say 'NO' to this addendum

Dave McGuffey  
14003 Briarchip Ct.  
Laurel, MD 2708  
301.219.2586 // [vz@mcguffeyfamily.com](mailto:vz@mcguffeyfamily.com)



**From:** [Matthew Murphy](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:30:41 PM

---

Dear Members of ASMFC,

I respectfully submit the following comments to DRAFT ADDENDUM I TO AMENDMENT 7 TO THE ATLANTIC STRIPED BASS INTERSTATE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN:

First, with respect to the proposed Addendum I to Amendment 7, I wish to be clear in my full-throated support of: **Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.**

Frankly, it is somewhat astonishing that we find ourselves here, little more than 1 year removed from the completion of the Amendment 7 process and already re-litigating what seemed to be some of the key aspects of Amendment 7, such as Commercial quota transfers, not to mention the loopholes of conservation equivalency currently being explored and exploited - by this body and certain subsets of its constituents (which is another issue for another time). As a careful, yet avid consumer of information around the policy making decision in this realm and an equally passionate participant in the striped bass fishery, I have observed the process from a distance and I have to say: This policy making process makes less than absolute zero sense. From a fisheries perspective, how can the decision-making body responsible for protecting and managing this critical resource - to both recreational and commercial stakeholders alike - even consider a notion that in its own words undermines the very goals that it has stated it has itself decided to set forth? The ASMFC draft document for public comment literally states that 'allowing quota transfers could increase utilization of the total ocean quota, which could undermine the goals and objectives of the reductions taken under Addendum 6 in 2020.' [...] During the Addendum 6 process, the technical committee noted that the reduction in the commercial quota would achieve the necessary reduction in commercial removals only if the commercial fishery performs as it has in the past. This assumption may be violated if the commercial transfers in the ocean region are permitted."

So how, in the midst of (what at least on the surface appeared to be) a good faith effort by the Committee to take actions to rebuild and conserve the stock with Amendment 7, can the option of commercial quota transfers even be on the table at this stage? It seems so obvious that the stock of striped bass does not recognize our artificially constructed borders and so, efforts to enable maximal harvest in aggregate are a detriment to the whole of what has been for years now, a suffering stock. It is not lost on me nor others, the importance of the fishery as a commercial enterprise - and as a citizen and consumer I agree that it is important to be balanced when weighing options concerning the utilization of resources. However, if the Committee and those interests in favor of enabling absolute maximal harvest of the stock at this stage could only step back for a moment and see the long game: that a pie that increases in area benefits all the pieces of the pie and their claimants, perhaps we

could finally get out of our own way. That is to say, if we allow the rebuilding of the fishery and manage it for abundance, we will no longer be haggling over small parcels of dwindling or barely improving numbers of fish (and needlessly debating within the context of this body's purview as a result). It is somewhat ironic (and apparently lost on at least some) that it needs to be pointed out (apparently) that the advocates of options to enable the transfer of commercial quotas are ultimately working against their own self-interest, as the the proposed measures besides Option A continue to jeopardize the abundance and longevity of the fishery itself and our ability to enjoy the benefits of this resource for generations to come - both commercially and recreationally. This comes down to a common sense decision, and the pressures of an industry that is reacting against measures meant to serve their interest, which are meant to help restore an abundant and thriving, well managed fishery (wherein realizing commercial quotas is not a matter of maximizing the fish remaining but rather reaping the benefits of a bountiful resource), rather than recognizing the root cause of the issue should not win the day.

**In conclusion, I strongly urge the Committee to select and approve Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted,** keeping in mind that fighting over maximizing the percentage of fixed area is small minded when weighed against the possibility of growing the area such that all stakeholders can enjoy the benefits of an abundant fishery.

Respectfully,  
Matthew Murphy  
Striped Bass Angler

**From:** [Edwin Rivera](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] No Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:21:57 PM

---

Hi,

I support option A: Status quo No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Thank you,

Edwin Rivera Jr.

**From:** [paulfish.reeltherapy.com](mailto:paulfish.reeltherapy.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:10:48 PM

---

Please vote for Option A  
NO transfer of commercial quota!  
Thank you  
Paul Eidman

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [Paul Shafer](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 11:08:35 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted. I have been a conscientious angler for over 60 years. I live in Connecticut but have a house and boat on the New Jersey shore. I fish for strippers in both states. I have witnessed the striper moratorium of the 80's, the recovery of the 90's and the gradual deterioration over the past 15 years or so. We have witnessed recent tightening of restrictions in terms of bag limit and sizes since the stock has been challenged.

I release the vast majority of strippers that I catch. I also teach "intro to fishing" courses to new anglers and teach them to protect the resource and follow ethical handling for all fish they release. It seems counter productive and frankly inconceivable that a transfer of unused commercial quota to another state is in the best interest of strippers at this time as the resource is overfished. The leeway in the mortality rate is razor thin and could easily fall below the desired overfishing threshold. Please do the right thing and choose Option A ( status quo). Thank you.

Sincerely, Paul Shafer

**From:** [Conor Sheridan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:59:05 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

I support option A, no transfers. It is not an appropriate time to attempt maximize commercial yield.

Sincerely,  
Conor Sheridan  
Dedham, Massachusetts

**From:** [stefanicksd@yahoo.com](mailto:stefanicksd@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:56:33 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

It is my belief that in a time when we are currently trying to rebuild the Stripes Bass stocks, we should not be trying to add new measures to maximize commercial harvest. Commercial and recreational anglers alike must work together and not be greedy when it comes to rebuilding the stock for this fish.

Scott Stefanick  
Pennsylvania

**From:** [Joseph Atshan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External]  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:46:28 PM

---

Hi,

I support Option A: Status quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Thank you



**From:** [Walker Dales](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:41:36 PM

---

I support Option A - status quo / no commercial quota transfers

Thanks  
Walker

E: Walker.H.Dales@gmail.com  
M: 912.484.4175

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Tim Regan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1 Public Comment from Tim Regan  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:39:07 PM

---

Hi,

My name is Tim Regan and I live on the east end of Long Island, NY. I am writing to submit a public comment regarding the Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1. I am a NYS fishing guide, an outdoor writer and a wildlife cinematographer. My business is called South Fork Salt. The striped bass is one of the main protagonists in my life. This fish makes me money on the guiding and content creation fronts, and the challenge of targeting them with rod and reel in the surf every day provides me with a great sense of purpose and fulfillment. I spend thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours a year fishing for striped bass. When the quantity of fish in the water decreases, the massive economy built around the fish shrinks as well. Any proposals that could increase the number of fish being taken out of the water should be shut down.

Therefore, my position regarding Addendum 1 is that option A should be chosen. We should maintain the status quo, and commercial quota transfers should not be permitted.

Rebuilding this fishery to an abundant state should be the primary focus of the Commission. Do not consider taking more fish out of the water at this point.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Tim Regan

South Fork Salt

**From:** [William Prodouz](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:38:07 PM

---

I am commenting on Amendment 7.

Striped bass need all the help we can give them.

Tightest regulation possible. This is no time to get lenient.

Do not allow missed quotas to be transferred from state to state. There is a reason quotas are not met. It is because very good commercial fishermen cannot find fish to catch. Not due to lack of effort, but due to lack of fish.

In the long run if recreational fishermen have to give up days of effort to cut potential mortality, so be it.

This is a shared commercial and recreational fishery and if catch must be limited to save it, so be it.

William Prodouz  
Cape Cod Canal fisherman

Member of multiple fishing clubs

**From:** [Allison Schmidt](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] amendment 7 addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:34:24 PM

---

Dear Management Board

I am writing to you in a plea to not support quota transfers for commercial striped bass. I feel strongly that maximizing short term commercial harvest rather than the longevity of the fishery and industry is short sighted and absurd given the boards goal to rebuild by 2029.

Consequently, Option A (no change - commercial quota transfers not be permitted) is the only option that seems appropriate.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Leo Schmidt  
Plymouth MA

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [John Higgins](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:32:12 PM

---

Sent from my iPhone for the health of the bay and to let the striped bass make a come back I am opposed to increased harvest

**From:** [Michael Mulick](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Re: quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:25:46 PM

---

Hi,

I support Option A: Status quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Michael Mulick  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Nick](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass transfer quota  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:20:03 PM

---

To who it may concern,

I support option A, status quo, no transfer.

Best,  
Nick

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [fishin4777@gmail.com](mailto:fishin4777@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:10:56 PM

---

Hello I fully support Option A , There's no place for transfers when rebuilding the striped bass stock.... Thank you

Capt Vinny Catalano  
631-766-1695  
Longislandflyfishing.com  
IG : @LONGISLANDFLYFISH



**From:** [Jake Hardy](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 10:07:36 PM

---

Dear ASMFC,

After a backdoor CE technical exemption, why does the first addendum to Amendment 7 undermine rebuilding goals?

**A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers!**

Sincerely, another severely disappointed and ignored stakeholder

Jake Hardy, NY

**From:** [Brian O'Toole](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support of option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:58:52 PM

---

I support option A for no transfers of commercial quotas.  
Sincerely,  
Brian.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Bucktail@gmx.com](mailto:Bucktail@gmx.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:55:42 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

My logs show that I fished the NJ Surf 81 days in 2022...was shutout 24 of those days and had “visitations” from Marone Saxatilis 22 of those days...and every single Striper I landed was put back in the water...

I rigorously support continued conservation measures to sustain and grow the fishery.

Figuring out where and how to catch them, on what lures, gives me great joy, (a word that I don't use too often!)... putting them back to go make more — gives me great satisfaction.

\*\* THINK \*\*

**From:** [mccallp16](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:46:21 PM

---

Oppose the commercial transfer of striped bass quota.

Paul McCall

**From:** [Stephen McKeown](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:35:17 PM

---

I support Option A: Status Quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.

And also, great CE stickers  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Chouaib Hihi](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass - Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:32:41 PM

---

Hi,

I support Option A: Status quo | No Commercial Quota Transfers.

Thank you  
Chouaib Hihi

-----  
Senior Advisor  
Alexander Hamilton Society upenn chapter  
[www.hamsoc.org](http://www.hamsoc.org)  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics | 2014

**From:** [James Andrews](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A on Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:27:21 PM

---

I support option option A for addendum 1 regarding striped bass management. Please protect this fishery

James Andrews, North Bellmore NY

**From:** [Rock and Sand Charters Captain Aaron](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:24:00 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.



**From:** [J Miller](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Support of Option A  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:22:22 PM

---

I'm writing to support Option A (Status Quo, no commercial quota transfers) on Addendum 1 to Striped Bass Management.

Regards,

Jim Miller  
Endurance Charters  
Babylon, NY 11702  
631-745-4019

**From:** [CJ Walsh, III](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Option A: Status Quo  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:17:37 PM

---

Please do not allow transfer of commercial striped bass quota.

CJ Walsh, III  
2134 Pine Street #5  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-6575  
484.437.8409  
[cjwalshiii@gmail.com](mailto:cjwalshiii@gmail.com)  
<https://linktr.ee/cjwalshiii>

**From:** [Graham Stephens](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Comments on Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:12:41 PM

---

Hello,

I am an avid boat and surf fisherman from Massachusetts. I wanted to comment on Striped Bass Addendum I and encourage the board to vote for 'Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted'.

I believe that transferring commercial quotas between states would increase harvest at a time when both the commercial and recreational fisheries should be finding ways to reduce harvest/mortality of the most important game fish on the East Coast. Smaller bass were again noticeably absent from the Boston area last season, and while we were lucky to have slot and large bass on menhaden for much of the summer, it was saddening to watch the commercial fleet decimate these wonderful schools of fish.

Thank you for your work and your efforts to end the overfishing of striped bass.

Graham Stephens

**From:** [Brendan Byrne](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] No Commercial Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:07:01 PM

---

We all have to make hard choices in our lifetime.

Do the right thing for the fishery, and future anglers - Option A on Addendum 1

Thank you

--

---

Brendan H. Byrne  
BHByrne@GMail.Com

**From:** [Joseph Alicino](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:05:28 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I am in support of Option A, status quo, no commercial quota transfers.

Thank you for your time,

Joe Alicino

**From:** [Jason Dutremble](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 9:04:05 PM

---

To whom it may concern,  
I'm writing to let you know that I support Option A Status Quo - No Commercial Quota Transfers in regards to the Stripes Bass Addendum I.

Thank you,

Jason Dutremble  
207-590-2690  
Scarborough, ME

**From:** [David Flanagan](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [COMMENTS@SALTWATERGUIDESASSOCIATION.ORG](mailto:COMMENTS@SALTWATERGUIDESASSOCIATION.ORG)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 to Amendment 7  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:58:05 PM

---

I am fully in support of Option A, status quo, NO commercial quota transfer.

I attended the meeting in NY at the Kings Park DEC office and there was not one person in attendance that was in favor of supporting the quota transfer.

As most of us pointed out, how could you promote more harvest in a time of rebuild. Clearly these quotas are not being filled because of a bigger issue.

Also, I feel based on the numbers, other than North Carolina (which hasn't filled ANY quota in the last 4 years) there isn't much room percentage wise to transfer, so why bother? North Carolina shouldn't even have a commercial fishery for striped bass when they can't even fill 1 percent of the quota. Take away North Carolinas numbers and your total percentages are significantly higher.

Thank you for your time.

- Capt. Dave Flanagan  
North Island Fly LLC

**From:** [Molly Estreich](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:57:35 PM

---

Hello,

My name is Molly Estreich and I'm a recreational striped bass angler in New York. I urge you to select Option A and not allow the transfer of commercial quotas at all.

Thank you for your time,

Molly



**From:** [John Moy](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:50:40 PM

---

I support Option A: Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

I am a recreational striped bass angler on Nantucket. At a time when we are rebuilding the striped bass population, we should NOT be trying to maximize the number of stripers that are harvested by the commercial fishermen. Also, when I read your assessment of the current striped bass population, I thought that your predictions for the future of stripers was overly optimistic.

John Moy  
25 Eel Point Road  
Nantucket, MA 02554  
[jmoy@ospf.org](mailto:jmoy@ospf.org)  
617-784-1872

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [stephen.moitoso@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.moitoso@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:40:54 PM

---

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Herb Floyd](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:22:41 PM

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Dear Emilie Franke,

My family and I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission regarding Draft Amendment 1 to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan. I fully oppose allowing commercial quota transfers and urge the board to support Option A (status quo). This transfer most certainly will allow an increase in the removal of more striped bass at a time when the resource needs much further conservation to achieve population rebuilding. Scientific evidence by Maryland's Department of Natural Resources young of the year collection has fully documented a decline in their population.

I'm a native Maryland resident and lived through the declined striped bass population resulting in a moratorium in the mid 1980s and never want to see our precious state fish reach those catastrophic levels ever again. I'm a conservation minded recreational fisherman and have already done my part by reducing the number of striped bass my family and I harvest.

I realize that to ensure the health and abundance of Atlantic striped bass in the future, immediate and difficult management decisions must be made now. The long-term health of the striped bass population should be our top priority, and as I have already stated, the recreational fishing community has already made many sacrifices to ensure successful rebuilding. Therefore, my family and I do not support allowing commercial quota transfers at this time because that will increase commercial removals and certainly jeopardize rebuilding this valuable public resource.

Please, please do not approve this commercial quota transfer option.

Sincerely,

Herb Floyd Jr.

**From:** [johnnym53@charter.net](mailto:johnnym53@charter.net)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:21:22 PM

---

I strongly support Option 1, and hope the committee does too. My 9 year old granddaughter Ava caught

her 1st striper in the surf at Old Orchard Beach Maine, and loves to get out there and chase the schoolies. I want her to have this chance for her entire life, and we must protect the breeders and

not transfer the unused quota. Thank you for listening.

John Meserve

508-523-9397

**From:** [Scott Borawski](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:18:54 PM

---

I support Option A on Addendum 1 to Striped Bass Management.

Thank you  
Scott Borawski  
Sent from Scott

**From:** [Alexander Colantonio](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:18:48 PM

---

I support option A - Status Quo, No Transfers

A transfer of quotas seems like the worst possible approach to management of striped bass, allowing them to be pursued to the last egg layer. Please do not transfer unused striped bass quotas to other states.

Thank you,  
Alexande Colantonio

**From:** [fisherking1979@aol.com](mailto:fisherking1979@aol.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Stripped Bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:17:30 PM

---

I support a, status quo, no commercial transfer  
Michael Cacici  
New York

**From:** [Ryan Duryea](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:15:38 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.



**From:** [Frank DeBord Jr.](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:13:15 PM

---

I strongly oppose any increase in striped bass limits.

Frank DeBord

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Peter Carlson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:10:38 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.  
Peter Carlson IV, New York

**From:** [Thomas Falco](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Addendum 1 Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 8:03:16 PM

---

Hello there,

My name is Capt Tom Falco, owner/operator of Jenny E Charters, a 6-pack charter on Long Island, NY.

I am committed to the rebuilding of the striped bass fishery, and therefore **I support Option A: Status Quo, no commercial quota transfer.**

I can't believe this is even on the table for discussion. I hope and trust that you will listen to the stakeholders and **go with Option A.**

Thank you for your attention,

Capt Tom Falco

**From:** [Paul Haertel](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Draft Addendum 1 Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:59:37 PM

---

I support option A status quo - no transfer of striped bass quota.

Paul Haertel

**From:** [Scott Geissler](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Quota Transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:57:40 PM

---

I support option A, status quo, no transfers.

Scott Geissler, Maine.

**From:** [David Zajano](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Oppose draft addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:57:20 PM

---

Striped bass are currently overfished, it makes no sense to prioritize facilitating catching more striped bass over conserving an overfished stock. Prioritize rebuilding the stock.

Please accept my opposition Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning.

David P. Zajano

32 Glenbrook Drive

Phoenix, MD 21131

[dzajano@verizon.net](mailto:dzajano@verizon.net)

**From:** [scott.carlson](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:55:49 PM

---

I am strongly opposed to addendum 1.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Gilbane, James M.](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] I support option A no commercial quota transfers  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:45:48 PM

---

I support option A the status quo and no commercial quota transfers.

Thank you.

Jim Gilbane

36 Berwick Pl., Rumford, RI weird p part of

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Tom Hollenshade](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:45:42 PM

---

Good evening,

Please accept my opposition to Draft Addendum I. Striped bass remain overfished and in a rebuilding period. The most recent stock assessment showed that the highest likelihood of achieving rebuilding targets requires maintaining fishing mortality at current levels.

While the stock assessment is using low recruitment assumptions to project the rebuilding timeline, the continued low recruitment trend in Maryland is below the assumed average being used in the assessment.

Controlling fishing mortality is the key to returning striped bass to levels that the public demands, and now is not the time to allow any increased harvest in striped bass, no matter the reasoning. Increase quotas for commercial fishing should no be allowed. It actually should be decreased.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas L Hollenshade

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [James Gilbane](#)  
**To:** [Comments: jgilbane@gilbaneco.com](mailto:jgilbane@gilbaneco.com)  
**Subject:** [External] Support option A- status quo no commercial bass quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:43:31 PM

---

Our striped bass fishery is far too valuable to deplete for future generations not to be able to enjoy. Short term gains are not worth the long term stock damage. The fishery is not in a good place, and this evidence is backed by many different studies.

I support option A- keep status quo.

Thank you,  
James Gilbane

**From:** [Ronald McClain](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:41:04 PM

---

I oppose any increase in the commercial harvest of Striped Bass, particularly if there is any attempt to shift catch quotas between jurisdictions. All fishery biologists know that seasonal fluctuations affect the migration of Striped Bass. Therefore, well researched jurisdictional quotas should be maintained to allow market predictability and not prejudice those who rely on certain quotas for their livelihood.

**From:** [rayottulich@rayottulich.com](mailto:rayottulich@rayottulich.com)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Addendum 1  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:36:40 PM

---

I support Option A (status quo): The fishery is already overfished.  
Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.

Ray Ottulich

**From:** [Dave Poe](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass Draft Addendum I  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:30:21 PM

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I am opposed to increased limits on the striped bass fishery. The evidence is overwhelming that the striped bass remains overfished, and until we give the stocks a chance to rebuild, there should be no increase in the limits.

Sincerely,

David R. Poe

**From:** [Robert Yacoub](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass commercial quota transfer  
**Date:** Friday, January 13, 2023 7:24:46 PM

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I support option A, status quo, no commercial transfer.

-Robert Yacoub  
1 Lebanon Road  
Scarsdale, NY 10583

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jake Griffin](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] North Carolinas public comment  
**Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 6:30:28 AM

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Dear Commission,

I wish I could have presented this topic in person at a public meeting, however, our representative stated there wasn't enough interest for a public meeting to be held. As an active participant in the Ocean Beach Seine Fishery I have found myself in a bit of a pickle. I look to y'all for answers or insight as all emails and previous inquiries have been left open without an answer, hopefully you can help.

Our Seine Fishery occurs within state waters in the Atlantic Ocean, of which North Carolina is allotted an annual quota. After not having a commercial season in over 5 years our quota has been reduced from 480,000lbs to 295,000lbs. The recreational sector has had a daily (year round) bag limit of (1) fish 28-35 inches and has had this limit over the several years of which the commercial sector was left without a season.

So, this is my concern, why does North Carolina allow recreational harvest yet denies commercial opportunity? I understand the complexity of regulations but what is true and what is false?

If it were an issue at a federal level and due to low stock/abundances, North Carolina would be denied from participating in the fishery, all together, or shave a shorter season or other implements to the bag limit. Our state mimics Virginia with the recreational fishery having the bag limit of (1) fish in the "Coastal Area" made of state water in the Atlantic Ocean. Virginia has less Quota than North Carolina (114,000lbs, less than half of NC) yet has a commercial season starting January 16th - December 31st yet North Carolina is not given a single day for an opportunity to land and sell a Striped Bass.

Now, bringing it to a state level. After seeing a "healthy sign" of Striped Bass in the early spring (April) in the Beach Seine I started to make calls and send emails inquiring about the possibility of an opening. We used to land Striped Bass up until the last days of the season in April, which in later years would go until April 10th-15th. I got in touch with Charlton Godwin at the Elizabeth City DMF office. Conversation started off well as I told him about the Striped Bass I was releasing from the Seine and you could hear the excitement when he expressed how much he'd love to get some tags in them. It seemed to quickly sour as I hinted towards the possibility of opening the harvest. Later we talked and he asked about seeing tagged fish and if I'd mind if his crew could come tag, I agreed it would be good to work together. I proposed maybe being able to sell a few fish and find a solution that works for all: NCDMF to tag and obtain data on these fish, my crew to profit from selling a few, and those landings to go towards our quota that hasn't had landings in years. That idea was quickly snubbed out and he stated, "Maybe we can get you some compensation for tagging?". Tagging doesn't give North Carolina the landings it should show. I believe his concern and main reason for not opening the Atlantic season is based on the possibility of some of the Albemarle/Roanoke fish being caught in the ocean, how will we know if we don't utilize the potential data collection at hand? If data shows they are indeed A/R fish, how does Virginia get access to harvest these fish while North Carolina does not?

I'm not asking for an increase in quota or daily bag limits, I'm simply asking for a fair chance at what's been allotted to North Carolina's fishermen. This has become very confusing as we have quota on the table, but why are the fishermen being denied the opportunity? If North Carolina is to follow suit with the other Atlantic States, please see that they do so. If anyone can take the time to help me understand this, I am all ears.

Thank you,

Jake Griffin  
fvfamilytradition@gmail.com