



## Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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*Douglas E. Grout (NH), Chair*

*James J. Gilmore, Jr., (NY), Vice-Chair*

*Robert E. Beal, Executive Director*

*Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries*

### MEMORANDUM

July 18, 2017

**TO:** Commissioners; Proxies; American Eel Management Board; American Lobster Management Board; Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council; Atlantic Menhaden Management Board; Executive Committee; Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board; South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board; Shad and River Herring Management Board; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board; Tautog Management Board

**FROM:** Robert E. Beal *REB*  
Executive Director

**RE:** ASMFC Summer Meeting: August 1 – 3, 2017 (TA # 17-106)

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Meeting will be held August 1-3, 2017 at **The Westin Alexandria** (Telephone: 703.253.8600) located at 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, Virginia. Meeting materials are available on the Commission website at <http://www.asmfc.org/home/2017-summer-meeting>. Supplemental materials will be posted to the website on Wednesday, July 26, 2017.

Board meeting proceedings will be broadcast daily via webinar beginning August 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:45 a.m. and continuing daily until the conclusion of the meeting (expected to be 4:30 p.m.) on Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The webinar will allow registrants to listen to board/section deliberations and view presentations and motions as they occur. No comments or questions will be accepted via the webinar. Should technical difficulties arise while streaming the broadcast the boards/sections will continue their deliberations without interruption. We will attempt to resume the broadcast as soon as possible. Please go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3016985523909460737> to register.

I look forward to seeing you at the Summer Meeting. If the staff or I can provide any further assistance to you, please call us at 703.842.0740.

Enclosures: Final Agenda, Hotel Directions, TA # 17-106, and Travel Reimbursement Guidelines

*Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries*



## Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

### Summer Meeting

August 1 – 3, 2017

The Westin Alexandria

Alexandria, Virginia

### Public Comment Guidelines

With the intent of developing policies in the Commission's procedures for public participation that result in a fair opportunity for public input, the ISFMP Policy Board has approved the following guidelines for use at management board meetings:

**For issues that are not on the agenda**, management boards will continue to provide opportunity to the public to bring matters of concern to the board's attention at the start of each board meeting. Board chairs will use a speaker sign-up list in deciding how to allocate the available time on the agenda (typically 10 minutes) to the number of people who want to speak.

**For topics that are on the agenda**, but have not gone out for public comment, board chairs will provide limited opportunity for comment, taking into account the time allotted on the agenda for the topic. Chairs will have flexibility in deciding how to allocate comment opportunities; this could include hearing one comment in favor and one in opposition until the chair is satisfied further comment will not provide additional insight to the board.

**For agenda action items that have already gone out for public comment**, it is the Policy Board's intent to end the occasional practice of allowing extensive and lengthy public comments. Currently, board chairs have the discretion to decide what public comment to allow in these circumstances.

In addition, the following timeline has been established for the **submission of written comment for issues for which the Commission has NOT established a specific public comment period** (i.e., in response to proposed management action).

1. Comments received 3 weeks prior to the start of a meeting week will be included in the briefing materials.
2. Comments received by 5:00 PM on the Tuesday immediately preceding the scheduled ASMFC Meeting (in this case, the Tuesday deadline will be **July 25, 2017**) will be distributed electronically to Commissioners/Board members prior to the meeting and a limited number of copies will be provided at the meeting.
3. Following the Tuesday, **July 25, 2017 5:00 PM deadline**, the commenter will be responsible for distributing the information to the management board prior to the board meeting or providing enough copies for the management board consideration at the meeting (a minimum of 50 copies).

The submitted comments must clearly indicate the commenter's expectation from the ASMFC staff regarding distribution. As with other public comment, it will be accepted via mail, fax, and email.

# Final Agenda

The agenda is subject to change. The agenda reflects the current estimate of time required for scheduled Board meetings. The Commission may adjust this agenda in accordance with the actual duration of Board meetings. Interested parties should anticipate Boards starting earlier or later than indicated herein.

## Tuesday August 1, 2017

8:00 – 9:30 a.m. **Executive Committee**

**Breakfast will be served when you arrive; you may arrive as early as 7:30 a.m.** *(A portion of this meeting will be a closed session for Committee members and Commissioners only)*

*Members:* Abbott, Allen, Blazer, Boyles, Jr., Bull, Clark, Davis, Estes, Gilmore, Grout, Keliher, McNamee, Miller, Miner, Pierce, Shiels, Woodward  
*Chair:* Grout  
*Staff:* Leach

1. Welcome/Call to Order *(D. Grout)*
2. Committee Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Meeting Summary from May 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Discuss Council/Commission Line in NOAA Budget
5. Discuss the Secretary of Commerce Decision Regarding New Jersey Summer Flounder Recreational Measures
6. Discuss Executive Director's Contract Renewal **(Closed Session)**
7. Other Business/Adjourn

9:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board**

*Member States:* New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* DC, PRFC, NMFS, SAFMC, USFWS

*Other Participants:* Jiorle, Lynn, Lee, McDonough, Powers, Rickabaugh

*Chair:* Estes

*Staff:* Schmidtke, Daniel

1. Welcome/Call to Order *(J. Estes)*
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Review and Consider Cobia Draft Fishery Management Plan for Public Comment *(L. Daniel)* **Action**

5. 2017 Spot Benchmark Stock Assessment **Final Action**
  - Presentation of Benchmark Assessment Report (*C. McDonough*)
  - Presentation of Peer Review Panel Report (*P. Campfield*)
  - Consider Acceptance of Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report for Management Use
  - Consider Management Response to Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report (*J. Estes*)
6. Recess

12:15 – 12:45 p.m.            **Lunch Provided for Commissioners, Proxies and Board Members**

12:45 – 1:30 p.m.            **South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board (continued)**

7. Consider 2017 Traffic Light Analyses for Atlantic Croaker and Spot (*C. McDonough*)
  - Review 2017 Traffic Light Analyses
  - Progress Update on Exploratory Analyses for Incorporation of Additional Indices and Adjustments to the Atlantic Croaker Traffic Light Analysis
8. Consider 2017 Atlantic Croaker FMP Review and State Compliance (*M. Schmidtke*) **Action**
9. Other Business/Adjourn

1:45 – 2:45 p.m.            **Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council**  
*Members:* Alexander, Baum, Beal, Blazer, Boyles, Jr., Carmichael, Cimino, Clifford, Coit, Cyr, Detlor, Fegley, Gary, Geer, Gilmore, Grout, Keliher, King, McCawley, Michels, Moore, Nies, Perkins, Pierce, Ponwith, Risenhoover, Shiels, Stephen, White  
*Chair:* Boyles, Jr.  
*Staff:* Cahall

1. Welcome/Introductions (*R. Boyles, Jr.*)
2. Public Comment\*
3. Council Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2017
4. ACCSP Status Report (*M. Cahall*)
  - Program Updates
  - Committee Updates
5. Review and Consider Approval of the Marine Recreational Information Program Atlantic Regional Implementation Plan (*G. White*) **Action**
6. Recreational Data Collection: Changes on the Horizon (*G. White*)
7. Other Business/Adjourn

See Public Comment Guidelines:

[http://www.accsp.org/sites/all/themes/aqua/File/ACCSP\\_PublicCommentPolicyOct2013.pdf](http://www.accsp.org/sites/all/themes/aqua/File/ACCSP_PublicCommentPolicyOct2013.pdf)

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**American Lobster Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia

*Other Members:* NEFMC, NMFS

*Chair:* Borden

*Other Participants:* Cloutier, Reardon, Gwin, Mansi, Moore

*Staff:* Ware

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Borden*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Consider American Lobster Addendum XXV for Final Approval **Final Action**
  - Presentation of Proposals from Lobster Conservation Management Teams (LCMT) 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
  - Technical Committee Report on LCMT Proposals (*K. Reardon*)
  - Consider Final Approval of Addendum XXV
5. State and Federal Inconsistencies in Lobster Conservation Management Area 4 Season Closure (*M. Ware*) **Possible Action**
6. American Lobster Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Subcommittee Report (*M. Ware*) **Possible Action**
7. Update on Development of American Lobster Draft Addendum XXVI (*M. Ware*)
8. Law Enforcement Committee Report on American Lobster Chain of Custody (*M. Robson*)
9. NOAA Office of Law Enforcement Draft Enforcement Priorities 2018-2022 (*M. Ware*) **Possible Action**
10. Other Business/Adjourn

**Wednesday August 2, 2017**

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**Shad and River Herring Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* DC, PRFC, USFWS, NMFS

*Other Participants:* Chase, Furlong

*Chair:* Clark

*Staff:* Rootes-Murdy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Clark*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from February 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Review Update for River Herring Stock Assessment (*B. Chase*)
5. Review Update for Shad Stock Assessment Timeline (*J. Kipp*)

6. Consider Approval of Shad and River Herring Sustainability Fishery Management Plans (SFMPs) **Final Action**
  - Review SFMPs and Technical Committee Memo (*B. Chase*)
    - South Carolina: Updated River Herring SFMP
    - Florida: Updated Shad SFMP
7. Consider Approval of 2016 FMP Review and State Compliance Reports (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Action**
8. Other Business/Adjourn

10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

**American Eel Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Chair:* Clark

*Other Participants:* Cloutier, Delucia, Wildman

*Staff:* Rootes-Murdy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Clark*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from January 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Consider North Carolina Glass Eel Aquaculture Plan for 2018 (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Action**
  - Technical Committee Report
  - Law Enforcement Committee Report (*M. Robson*)
5. Consider 2016 Yellow Eel Landings Overage and Coastwide Cap (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Possible Action**
6. Consider 2016 American Eel FMP Review and State Compliance (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Action**
7. Other Business/Adjourn

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Atlantic Menhaden Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Other Participants:* McNamee, Kaelin, Kersey

*Chair:* Ballou

*Staff:* Ware

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Ballou*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Review 2017 Atlantic Menhaden Stock Assessment Update (*J. McNamee*)
5. Recess

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.           **Lunch Break (not provided)**

1:30 – 5:45 p.m.           **Atlantic Menhaden Management Board (continued)**

6. Biological Ecological Reference Point Work Group Report (*S. Madsen*)
  - Review of Hilborn, et al (2017) Paper
7. Consider Draft Amendment 3 for Public Comment **Action**
  - Biological Ecological Reference Point Workgroup Report on Interim Reference Points (*K. Drew*)
  - Review of Management Issues and Alternatives (*M. Ware*)
  - Plan Development Team Report on New York Proposal to Recalibrate Landings (*M. Ware*)
  - Advisory Panel Report (*J. Kaelin*)
8. Set 2018 Atlantic Menhaden Fishery Specifications **Final Action**
  - Overview of Specification Process (*M. Ware*)
  - Technical Committee Report (*J. McNamee*)
  - Advisory Panel Report (*J. Kaelin*)
9. Update on 2017 Episodic Events Set Aside (*M. Ware*)
10. Other Business/Adjourn

**Thursday, August 3, 2017**

8:00 – 11:15 a.m.           **Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Chair:* Grout

*Staff:* Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Grout*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Update from the State Director's Meeting and Executive Committee (*D. Grout*)
5. Review and Consider New Jersey Appeal of Addendum XXVIII to the Summer Flounder Fishery Management Plan **Final Action**
  - Postponed Motion: *Move to postpone the New Jersey Appeal of the Summer Flounders, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Addendum XXVIII until the Summer/August ISFMP Policy Board Meeting. Motion by Mr. Nowalsky; Second by Mr. Keliher.*
6. Discuss the Secretary of Commerce Decision Regarding New Jersey Summer Flounder Recreational Measures
7. Review of the Annual Performance of the Stocks (*T. Kerns*)
8. Discuss New England Fishery Management Council Participation on the Atlantic Herring Section (*T. Kerns*) **Possible Action**

9. Review and Consider Approval of Standard Meeting Practices (*T. Kerns*) **Action**
10. Progress Update on the 2017 Atlantic Sturgeon Benchmark Stock Assessment (*K. Drew*)
11. Review and Consider Approval of the Assessment Schedule (*S. Madsen*) **Action**
12. Standing Committee Reports
  - Habitat and Artificial Reefs (*L. Havel*) **Action**
  - Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership (*L. Havel*)
13. Review Non-compliance Findings (if necessary) **Action**
14. Other Business/Adjourn

11:15-11:30 a.m.

**Business Session**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Chair:* Grout

*Staff:* Beal

1. Welcome/Introductions (*D. Grout*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Review Non-compliance Findings (if necessary) **Final Action**
5. Other Business/Adjourn

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina

*Other Members:* NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Other Participants:* Wojcik, Snellbaker

*Chair:* Luisi

*Staff:* Rootes-Murdy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*M. Luisi*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Summer Flounder Recreational Working Group Report (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Possible Action**
5. Recess

12:30 – 12:55 p.m.

**Lunch Provided for Commissioners, Proxies and Board Members**



12:55 – 1:45 p.m.            **Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board (continued)**

6. Review of 2017 Black Sea Bass Recreational Measures (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Possible Action**
7. Black Sea Bass Recreational Working Group Report (*K. Rootes-Murdy*)
8. Other Business/Adjourn

2:00 – 4:30 p.m.            **Tautog Management Board**

*Member States:* Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia

*Other Members:* NMFS, USFWS

*Other Participants:* McNamee, Snellbaker

*Chair:* Nowalsky

*Staff:* Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*A. Nowalsky*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Amendment 1 for Final Approval **Final Action**
  - Review Public Comment and Review Management Options (*T. Kerns*)
  - Advisory Panel Report
  - Law Enforcement Report (*J. Snellbaker*)
  - Consider Final Approval of Amendment 1
5. Elect Vice-Chair **Action**
6. Other Business/Adjourn