



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Patrick C. Keliher (ME), Chair Spud Woodward (GA), Vice-Chair Robert E. Beal, Executive Director

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

MEMORANDUM

Revised January 28, 2020

TO: Commissioners; Proxies; Atlantic Herring Management Board; Atlantic Menhaden Management Board; Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board; Bluefish Management Board; Coastal Sharks Management Board; Executive Committee; ISFMP Policy Board; South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board

FROM: Robert E. Beal *REB*
Executive Director

RE: ASMFC Winter Meeting: February 4-6, 2020 (TA 20-014)

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Winter Meeting will be held February 4-6, 2020 at **The Westin Crystal City** (Telephone: 703.486.1111), located at 1800 South Eads Street, Arlington, VA. Meeting materials are currently available on the Commission website at <http://www.asmfc.org/home/2020-winter-meeting> and supplemental materials will be posted there on Wednesday, January 29th.

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.

Board meeting proceedings will be broadcast daily via webinar beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 4th and continuing daily until the conclusion of the meeting (expected to be 12:30 p.m.) on Thursday, February 6th. The webinar will allow registrants to listen to board 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. To register, please go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3853611638258510347>.

We look forward to seeing you at the Winter 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 20-014, and Travel Reimbursement Guidelines

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Winter Meeting

February 4–6, 2020

The Westin Crystal City

Arlington, 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 **January 28, 2020**) 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, **January 28, 2020 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, February 4

9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Atlantic Herring Management Board

Member States: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey

Other Members: NEFMC, NMFS

Chair: O'Keefe

Other Participants: Zobel, Brown

Staff: Rootes-Murdy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*C. O'Keefe*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from October 2019
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Draft Addendum III for Public Comment (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Action**
5. Set Sub-Annual Atlantic Herring Fishery Catch Limit Specifications for the 2020 Fishing Year (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Final Action**
6. Elect Vice-Chair **Action**
7. Other Business/Adjourn

11:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Lunch will be served

12:30-1:00 p.m.

Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board

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

Other Members: DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

Chair: Borden

Other Participants: Lengyel Costa, Blanchard

Staff: Appelman

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Borden*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from October 2019
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Addendum VI State Implementation Plans and Conservation Equivalency Proposals **Final Action**
 - Review Implementation Plans and Conservation Equivalency Proposals (*M. Appelman*)
 - Technical Committee Report (*N. Lengyel Costa*)
 - Law Enforcement Committee Report (*M. Appelman*)
 - Consider Approval of State Implementation Plans and Conservation Equivalency Proposals
5. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
6. Other Business/Adjourn

3:15 – 4:00 p.m.

Coastal Sharks Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS, USFWS

Chair: Batsavage

Other Participants: Frazier, Garner

Staff: Rootes-Murdy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*C. Batsavage*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from October 2019
3. Public Comment
4. Update on Implementation of CITES Appendix II Provisions for Atlantic Shortfin Mako (*USFWS Staff*)
5. Update from November 2019 Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Meeting on Atlantic Shortfin Mako (*K. Rootes-Murdy*)
6. Other Business/Adjourn

4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Bluefish Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

Chair: Batsavage

Other Participants: Celestino, Kersey

Staff: Colson Leaning

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*C. Batsavage*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from April 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Approval of Conservation Equivalency Proposals (*D. Colson Leaning*) **Final Action**
 - Review Conservation Equivalency Proposals
 - Technical Committee Report
 - Law Enforcement Committee Report
5. Elect Vice-Chair
6. Other Business/Adjourn

Wednesday February 5

8:30 a.m. – Noon

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

Chair: Meserve

Other Participants: Ballenger, Kersey, Cieri, Jones, Schueller

Staff: Appelman

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*N. Meserve*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from October 2019
3. Public Comment
4. Atlantic Menhaden 2019 Single-Species and Ecological Reference Point Benchmark Stock Assessments and Peer Review Reports **Action**
 - Overview of Single-Species Assessment (*A. Schueller*)
 - Overview of Ecological Reference Point Assessment (*M. Cieri*)
 - Presentation of Peer Review Reports (*M. Jones*)
 - Consider Acceptance of 2019 Benchmark Stock Assessments and Peer Review Reports for Management Use (*N. Meserve*)
5. Consider Management Response to 2019 Benchmark Stock Assessments (*N. Meserve*) **Action**
6. Other Business/Adjourn

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch (*On Your Own*)

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS, PRFC, SAFMC, USFWS

Chair: Geer

Other Participants: Giuliano, McDonough, Rickabaugh, Hodge, Buckel, Siegfried

Staff: Schmidtke

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Geer*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from October 2019
3. Public Comment
4. SEDAR 58 Cobia Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report **Action**
 - Presentation of Stock Assessment Report (*K. Siegfried*)
 - Presentation of Peer Review Report (*J. Buckel*)
 - Consider Acceptance of Benchmark Stock Assessment, Reference Points, and Peer Review Report for Management Use (*P. Geer*)

5. Consider Management Response to SEDAR 58 Cobia Assessment **Action**
 - Presentation of Recommended Harvest Quota Options from the Cobia Technical Committee (*A. Giuliano*)
 - Set Harvest Specifications (*P. Geer*)
6. Consider Atlantic Croaker Addendum III and Spot Addendum III for Final Approval (*M. Schmidtke*)
Final Action
 - Review Options and Public Comment Summary
 - Review Committee Reports
 - Consider Final Approval of Atlantic Croaker Addendum III and Spot Addendum III
7. Consider Management Action to Align State and Federal Management of Spanish Mackerel (*P. Geer*) **Action**
8. Review Red Drum Stock Assessment Road Map and Consider Recommendations for Changes to the Assessment Timeline (*J. Kipp*) **Possible Action**
9. Elect Vice-Chair
10. Other Business/Adjourn

Thursday February 6

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Breakfast will be available at 7:30 a.m.

Executive Committee

(A portion of this meeting may be a closed session for Commissioners and Committee members only)

Members: Abbott, Anderson, Bowman, Bell, Cimino, Clark, Davis, Estes, Gilmore, Keliher, McKiernan, McNamee, Miller, Murphey, Shiels, White, Woodward

Chair: Keliher

Staff: Leach

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Keliher*)
2. Committee Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Meeting Summary from October 2019
3. Public Comment
4. Discuss Potential Allocation of Remaining Plus-up Funds (*R. Beal*)
5. Update on Review of Advisory Panel and Public Input Process (*R. Beal*)
6. Discuss Management Board Changes to Accommodate Shifts in Species Distributions (*R. Beal*)
7. Discuss Use of Modes Split in Recreational Fisheries Management (*R. Beal*)
8. Future Annual Meetings Update (*R. Beal*)
9. Other Business/Adjourn

10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.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: Keliher

Staff: Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Keliher*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from October 2019
3. Public Comment
4. Update from Executive Committee (*P. Keliher*)
5. Review and Discuss 2019 Commissioner Survey Results (*D. Tompkins*)
6. Discuss Strategy to Incorporate Ecosystem Management into the Interstate Fisheries Management Process (*T. Kerns, K. Drew*)
7. Progress Update on Benchmark Stock Assessments (*J. Kipp*)
 - American Shad
 - American Lobster
8. Review and Consider Revisions to Stock Status Definitions (*T. Kerns*)
9. Review Noncompliance Findings (If Necessary) **Action**
10. Other Business/Adjourn

12:15 – 12:30 p.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: Keliher

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Keliher*)
2. Committee Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from October 2019
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Noncompliance Findings (If Necessary) **Final Action**
5. Update on Commonwealth of Virginia's Compliance with Atlantic Menhaden FMP
6. Other Business/Adjourn