



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

1050 N. Highland Street • Suite 200A-N • Arlington, VA 22201
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Horseshoe Crab Management Board
FROM: Tina Berger, Director of Communications & Caitlin Starks, Senior FMP Coordinator
DATE: April 30, 2025
SUBJECT: Revisions to the Advisory Panel Membership

At the previous Board meeting on February 4, 2025, the Board discussed evaluating the composition of the Advisory Panel (AP) and whether there is adequate representation across stakeholder groups. Based on the recommendations that came out of the July 2024 stakeholder workshop, staff suggested the Board aim for an even distribution of stakeholder groups, with 5 advisors each representing the commercial industry, biomedical industry, and conservation interests, and that 2 of the conservation seats represent the Delaware Bay region. It was also recommended that the states review their membership and consider replacing inactive members.

Since that Board meeting, we received 3 nominations to the AP for possible Board consideration – Edwin Chiofolo, a commercial gillnetter and potter from New York; Arthur “Pete” Bender, a commercial dredger and trawler from Virginia; and David Mizrahi, a conservation biologist with New Jersey Audubon.

Staff poses the following questions and suggestions for the Board to consider:

- Does the staff recommended composition of the AP of 5 commercial harvesters/dealers, 5 biomedical representatives, and 5 conservation interests (2 of which are from Delaware Bay region) still make sense to the Board?
- Remove non-participating advisors from the panel due to inactivity (see members with highlighted text)
- Should the open commercial vacancies be removed? Moving forward, should nominations be sought by user group/geographic scope? States could still submit nominations, but those seats would not be viewed as dedicated state seats.
- How would the Board like to handle the new commercial nominations? The addition of the 2 new commercial nominees and the removal of inactive commercial fishermen would result in a total of 6 commercial fishermen representing New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Delaware Bay regions.
- Currently, there are 2 active conservation interests on the Panel – John Turner and Matthew Sarver (both of whom represent the Delaware Bay region) – and 1 new nominee (David Mizrahi). Note: a call for nominations for conservation groups was not conducted. If you agree that there should be 5 conservationists, staff recommends the Commission solicit nominations through a call for nontraditional stakeholders, but

states could still nominate individuals as well. Staff recommends a small work group of the Board be created to review submitted nominations, including the new nomination we already received, and make a recommendation to the Board for action.

- The Board could also task this work group with providing recommendations on the aforementioned questions/suggestions.

Horseshoe Crab Advisory Panel

Bolded names await Board approval
Highlighted text reflects inactive advisors

Massachusetts

David Meservy (comm/inshore otter trawl)
P.O. Box 128
South Chatham, MA 02659
Phone: 508.237.4366
dmese@yahoo.com
Appt Confirmed 8/3/22

Chair, Brett Hoffmeister (biomedical)
Associates of Cape Cod
124 Bernard East St Jean Drive
Falmouth MA 02536
Phone (day): 508.444.1426
BHoffmeister@acciusa.com
Appt Confirmed 2/3/16
Appt. Reconfirmed 8/18

Rhode Island

Vacancy (comm/otter trawl)

New York

John L. Turner (conservation)
10 Clark Boulevard
Massapequa, NY 11762
Phone (day): 631.451.6455
Phone (eve): 516.797.9786
jturner@seatuck.org
Appt. Confirmed 2/10/05
Appt Reconfirmed 5/10; 4/25

Edwin Chiofalo (gillnet/pots; ocean, LIS, South Shore Bays)

16 Blair Lane
Brookhaven, NY 11719
Phone: 631.987.9478
eelingboy@aol.com

New Jersey

Benjie Swan (biomedical)
Limuli Laboratories
Dias Creek, 5 Bay Avenue
Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210-2556
Phone: 609.465.6552
Swan24@verizon.net
Appt. Confirmed 8/5/10

Delaware

Jordan Giuttari (comm. pot)
3337 Main Street
Bowers Beach, DE 19946
Phone: 302.233.4694
DelBaySeafood@gmail.com
Appt Confirmed 8/3/22

Participation: Inactive; did not attend the only meeting held since his appointment

Matthew Sarver (ecologist; Chair of DE Ornithological Society)
6 Walnut Ridge Road
Wilmington, DE 19807
Phone: 724.689.5845
matt@sarverecological.com
Appt Confirmed 8/3/22
Appt Reconfirmed 4/25

Maryland

George Topping (comm/rawl)
32182 Bowhill Road
Salisbury, MD 21804
Phone: 443.497.2141
george@zztopping.com
Appt. Confirmed 5/16

Jeffrey Eutsler (comm/rawl)
11933 Gray's Corner Road
Berlin, MD 21811
Phone: 443.497.3078
tandje1@comcast.net
Appt. Confirmed 2/4/98
Appt. Reconfirmed 10/02; 10/06; 5/10

Participation: Inactive; 14% attendance rate since 2016; last meeting attended was in 2016

Allen L. Burgenson (biomedical)
8875 Hawbottom Road
Middletown, MD 21769
Phone: 301.378.1263
allen.burgenson@lonza.com
Appt. Confirmed 8/21/08
past chair

Horseshoe Crab Advisory Panel

Bolded names await Board approval
Highlighted text reflects inactive advisors

Sam Martin (comm. mobile tending
gear/biomedical harvest/dealer)
985 Ocean Drive
Cape May, NJ 08204
Phone: 609.381.8892
smartin@atlanticcapes.com
Appt Confirmed 10/16/23

**Participation: Inactive; did not attend 2
meetings held since his appointment**

Virginia

Arthur "Pete" Bender (comm dredge/trawl;
inshore)
6175 Maddox Boulevard
Chincoteague, VA 23336
Phone: 757.350.1271
Harbor.rat@hotmail.com

Christina M. Lecker (biomedical)
FUJIFILM Wako Chemicals U.S.A. Corporation,
LAL Division
Plant Manager - Cape Charles Facility
301 Patrick Henry Avenue
Cape Charles, VA 23310
Phone: 757-331-4240, 757-331-2026
FAX: 757-331-2046
christina.lecker@fujifilm.com
Appt. Confirmed 10/21/2020

1 vacancy - comm/pot/conch

South Carolina

Nora Blair (biomedical)
Charles River Laboratories Microbial Solutions
1852 Cheshire Drive
Charleston, SC 29412
843.276.7819
Nora.Blair@crl.com
Appt. Confirmed 5/1/19

Vacancy - comm/pot/trawl

Nontraditional Stakeholders

Jeff Shenot
7900 McClure Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Phone: 301.580.4524
JUGBAY@msn.com
Appt. Confirmed 8/2018

**Participation: Inactive; 25% attendance since
appointment; has not attended the last 3
meetings; emailed 4/1/25 to gauge interest
and have not received a response**

David Mizrahi (conservation biologist)
2350 Route 47, Building 1
Woodbine, NJ 08270
Phone: 609.400.3835
David.mizrahi@njudubon.org



ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Advisory Panel Nomination Form

This form is designed to help nominate Advisors to the Commission's Species Advisory Panels. The information on the returned form will be provided to the Commission's relevant species management board or section. Please answer the questions in the categories (All Nominees, Commercial Fisherman, Charter/Headboat Captain, Recreational Fisherman, Dealer/Processor, or Other Interested Parties) that pertain to the nominee's experience. If the nominee fits into more than one category, answer the questions for all categories that fit the situation. **Also, please fill in the sections which pertain to All Nominees (pages 1 and 2). In addition, nominee signatures are required to verify the provided information (page 4), and Commissioner signatures are requested to verify Commissioner consensus (page 4). Please print and use a black pen.**

Form submitted by: Jesse Hornstein State: New York
(your name)

Name of Nominee: Edwin Chiofolo

Address: 16 Blair Lane

City, State, Zip: Brookhaven, New York 11719

Please provide the appropriate numbers where the nominee can be reached:

Phone (day): 631 987 9478 Phone (evening): 631 987 9478

FAX: _____ Email: eelingboy@aol.com

FOR ALL NOMINEES:

1. Please list, in order of preference, the Advisory Panel for which you are nominating the above person.

1. Horseshoe Crabs
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

2. Has the nominee been found in violation of criminal or civil federal fishery law or regulation or convicted of any felony or crime over the last three years?

yes _____ no No

3. Is the nominee a member of any fishermen's organizations or clubs?

yes _____ no No

If "yes," please list them below by name.

4. What kinds (species) of fish and/or shellfish has the nominee fished for during the past year?

conch, razor clams

bunkers, stripped bass

Bluefish, weakfish

horseshoe crabs

eels, summer dog fish

hard clams

5. What kinds (species) of fish and/or shellfish has the nominee fished for in the past?

Fluke

blue claw crabs

Lobster

surfclams

oysters

FOR COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN:

1. How many years has the nominee been the commercial fishing business? 38 years
2. Is the nominee employed only in commercial fishing? yes yes no _____
3. What is the predominant gear type used by the nominee? gillnet, pots, clam rake
4. What is the predominant geographic area fished by the nominee (i.e., inshore, offshore)? Ocean, LI Sound, South Shore Bays

FOR CHARTER/HEADBOAT CAPTAINS:

1. How long has the nominee been employed in the charter/headboat business? _____ years

2. Is the nominee employed only in the charter/headboat industry? yes _____ no No

If "no," please list other type(s) of business(es) and/occupation(s): _____

3. How many years has the nominee lived in the home port community? _____ years

If less than five years, please indicate the nominee's previous home port community.

FOR RECREATIONAL FISHERMEN:

1. How long has the nominee engaged in recreational fishing? _____ years

2. Is the nominee working, or has the nominee ever worked in any area related to the fishing industry? yes _____ no _____

If "yes," please explain.

FOR SEAFOOD PROCESSORS & DEALERS:

1. How long has the nominee been employed in the business of seafood processing/dealing? _____ years

2. Is the nominee employed only in the business of seafood processing/dealing?

yes _____ no _____ If "no," please list other type(s) of business(es) and/or occupation(s):

3. How many years has the nominee lived in the home port community? _____ years

If less than five years, please indicate the nominee's previous home port community.

FOR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:

1. How long has the nominee been interested in fishing and/or fisheries management? _____ years

2. Is the nominee employed in the fishing business or the field of fisheries management?
yes _____ no _____

If "no," please list other type(s) of business(es) and/or occupation(s):

FOR ALL NOMINEES:

In the space provided below, please provide the Commission with any additional information which you feel would assist us in making choosing new Advisors. You may use as many pages as needed.

Being a Second Generation Fisherman, and have been ^{ON} the water for more than 40 years. I have my own Marine Biology degree by working in a lot of these fisheries Day in and Day out

Nominee Signature: Edwin Chiofalo

Date: 3/18/25

Name: EDWIN CHIOFALO
(please print)

COMMISSIONERS SIGN-OFF (not required for non-traditional stakeholders)

[Signature]
State Director

State Legislator

[Signature]
Governor's Appointee



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Form submitted by: Ethan Simpson State: Virginia
(your name)

Name of Nominee: Arthur "Pete" Bender

Address: 6175 Maddox Blvd.

City, State, Zip: Chincoteague, Va. 23336

Please provide the appropriate numbers where the nominee can be reached:

Phone (day): 757 350 1271 Phone (evening): 757 350 1271

FAX: _____ Email: harbor.rat@hotmail.com

FOR ALL NOMINEES:

1. Please list, in order of preference, the Advisory Panel for which you are nominating the above person.

1. Horseshoe Crab Advisory Panel

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

2. Has the nominee been found in violation of criminal or civil federal fishery law or regulation or convicted of any felony or crime over the last three years?

yes _____ no X

3. Is the nominee a member of any fishermen's organizations or clubs?

yes _____ no X

If "yes," please list them below by name.

4. What kinds (species) of fish and/or shellfish has the nominee fished for during the past year?
horseshoe crab

channeled & knobbed whelk

5. What kinds (species) of fish and/or shellfish has the nominee fished for in the past?

scallops

oysters, clams (inshore)

flounder

croaker, grey trout, menhaden

sea clams

blue crabs

FOR COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN:

1. How many years has the nominee been the commercial fishing business? 38 years

2. Is the nominee employed only in commercial fishing? yes X no

3. What is the predominant gear type used by the nominee? dredge / trawl

4. What is the predominant geographic area fished by the nominee (i.e., inshore, offshore)? INSHORE

FOR CHARTER/HEADBOAT CAPTAINS:

1. How long has the nominee been employed in the charter/headboat business? _____ years

2. Is the nominee employed only in the charter/headboat industry? yes _____ no _____

If "no," please list other type(s) of business(es) and/occupation(s): _____

3. How many years has the nominee lived in the home port community? _____ years

If less than five years, please indicate the nominee's previous home port community.

FOR RECREATIONAL FISHERMEN:

1. How long has the nominee engaged in recreational fishing? _____ years
2. Is the nominee working, or has the nominee ever worked in any area related to the fishing industry? yes _____ no _____

if "yes," please explain.

FOR SEAFOOD PROCESSORS & DEALERS:

1. How long has the nominee been employed in the business of seafood processing/dealing? _____ years
2. Is the nominee employed only in the business of seafood processing/dealing?
yes _____ no _____ If "no," please list other type(s) of business(es) and/or occupation(s):

3. How many years has the nominee lived in the home port community? _____ years
If less than five years, please indicate the nominee's previous home port community.

FOR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:

1. How long has the nominee been interested in fishing and/or fisheries management? _____ years
2. Is the nominee employed in the fishing business or the field of fisheries management?
yes _____ no _____

If "no," please list other type(s) of business(es) and/or occupation(s):

FOR ALL NOMINEES:

In the space provided below, please provide the Commission with any additional information which you feel would assist us in making choosing new Advisors. You may use as many pages as needed.

Pete is a long time participant and commercial harvester of HSCs in Virginia waters and personally harvests a large portion of the VA quota. His relationship with commercial wholesalers, other harvesters, & user groups in the whole fishery would make him a valuable addition to the HSC AP.

Nominee Signature: AP Bender

Date: 03/20/2023

Name: Arthur Bender
(please print)

COMMISSIONERS SIGN-OFF (not required for non-traditional stakeholders)

State Director

State Legislator

Governor's Appointee