



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

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ASMFC Schedules Delaware Bay Horseshoe Crab Management Stakeholder Workshop for January 29 & 30

Arlington, VA – The Commission’s Horseshoe Crab Management Board is holding a stakeholder workshop January 29-30, 2026, in the Spinnaker Room at the Courtyard by Marriott Ocean City Oceanfront, Two 15th Street, Ocean City, Maryland. The workshop is the central event in an ongoing stakeholder engagement process to inform revisions to the Delaware Bay Horseshoe Crab Adaptive Resource Management (ARM) Framework. The process is being facilitated by Compass Resource Management with the goal of identifying stakeholder values and perspectives in order to develop clear, actionable recommendations for revising core functions of the ARM Framework that reflect stakeholder priorities.

Stakeholder Workshop Participants

Jeff Eutsler, Horseshoe Crab Fisherman
Sam Martin, Martin Fish Company
Stuart Potter, Horseshoe Crab Fisherman
Danielle To, Sea King Corporation
David Trader, Horseshoe Crab Fisherman
Nora Blair, Charles River Laboratories
Allen Burgenson, Lonza
Joanna Burger, Rutgers University
Lisa Ferguson, The Wetlands Institute
Glenn Gauvry, Ecological Research & Development Group
Susan Linder, Wildlife Restoration Partnerships
Danielle McCulloch, American Littoral Society
David Mizrahi, New Jersey Audubon
Carly Touran, Maryland Coastal Bays Program

The ARM Framework is a model used to set annual harvest levels for horseshoe crabs in the Delaware Bay region. It is designed to balance the needs of the horseshoe crab fishery with the ecological needs of migratory shorebirds, particularly the rufa red knot, which depends on horseshoe crab eggs as a food source. Within the ARM Framework, three mathematical functions—the Utility, Reward, and Harvest Policy (U/R/H) functions—serve to align the model with the values and interests of stakeholders.

The purpose of the two-day values workshop is to develop quantitative values representing the interests of stakeholder groups for integration into the model as well as consensus recommendations for model updates. Fourteen individuals were selected to participate, representing a broad range of stakeholder perspectives, including commercial harvesters and dealers; biomedical industry representatives; and horseshoe crab, shorebird, and ecosystem conservationists.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and diadromous species.

A detailed meeting agenda will be posted [here](#) ahead of the workshop. Interested parties are welcome to attend the workshop as observers, but space is limited so please notify Caitlin Starks, Senior Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at cstarks@asmfc.org by **January 16, 2026** if you plan to attend. For more information on the Commission and horseshoe crab management, please contact Caitlin Starks at cstarks@asmfc.org or visit <https://asmfc.org>.

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