



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Paul J. Diodati, (MA), Chair

Dr. Louis B. Daniel, III, (NC), Vice-Chair

John V. O'Shea, Executive Director

Healthy, self-sustaining populations for all Atlantic coast fish species or successful restoration well in progress by the year 2015

MEMORANDUM

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT FINAL NOTICE

TO: Commissioners; Proxies; American Eel Management Board; American Lobster Management Board; Atlantic Herring Section; Atlantic Menhaden Management Board; Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board; Horseshoe Crab Management Board; ISFMP Policy Board; Law Enforcement Committee; Shad and River Herring Management Board; South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board; Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Sharks Management Board; Sturgeon Management Board

FROM: John V. O'Shea
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John V. O'Shea".

DATE: April 18, 2012

RE: **ASMFC Spring Meeting: April 30 – May 3, 2012 (TA # 12-037)**

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Spring Meeting will be held April 30-May 3, 2012 at the **Crowne Plaza Old Town Alexandria** (Telephone: **703.683.6000**), located at 901 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Directions to the hotel are attached. A courtesy shuttle to the hotel is provided from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) arriving on the quarter hour from Doors 5 or 9 outside of the Lower Level-Baggage Claim area. When completing travel voucher forms, the reimbursement rate for privately owned vehicles (POV) is 0.555 cents per mile. The reserved hotel room block is now closed. If you have difficulty obtaining a room, please call Cindy Robertson at the Commission for assistance.

Enclosed is the CD containing briefing materials. The following pages contain the Spring Meeting Agenda. Please note a number of scheduling changes have been made to the Commission's Spring Meeting and are summarized in the agenda heading. Be advised the schedule is subject to change; the order in which the agenda items are listed is subject to change, and other agenda items or meetings may be added as necessary.

I look forward to seeing you all in a couple of weeks.

Enclosures: Spring Meeting Agenda
Directions to the Crowne Plaza Hotel Old Town
Briefing Book CD

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission



2012 Spring Meeting

April 30 – May 3, 2012

Crowne Plaza Hotel Old Town

Alexandria, Virginia

Final Agenda

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).

- Comments received 3 weeks prior to the start of a meeting week will be included on the briefing CD.
- Comments received by 5:00 PM on the Tuesday immediately preceding the scheduled ASMFC Meeting (in this case, the Tuesday deadline will be April 24, 2012) will be distributed electronically to Commissioners/Board members prior to the meeting and a limited number of copies will be provided at the meeting.
- Following the Tuesday, April 24, 2012 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.

Please note the following scheduling changes have been made to the Commission's Spring Meeting: (1) the Atlantic Herring Section meeting is now scheduled to begin at 1:00 PM on Monday (it was originally scheduled for 10 AM - Noon on Monday); (2) the American Lobster Board will be meeting at 3:15 PM on Monday (it was originally scheduled for 1:15 - 3:15 PM on Monday); (3) the Tautog Board, which was scheduled to meet on May 1, has been cancelled; (4) the Atlantic Striped Bass Board has been moved from Monday afternoon to Tuesday morning (8:30 - 10 AM); and (5) Atlantic Menhaden Board will now meet at 8:00 AM rather than 8:30 AM. The revised agenda follows below and can also be found at <http://www.asmfc.org/spring2012Mtg.htm>. Meeting materials are currently posted to the website.

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.

Monday, April 30, 2012

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Atlantic Herring Section

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

Other Participants: Cieri, Ellenton, Marston

Chair: Pierce

Staff: Vonderweidt

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Pierce*)
2. Section Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 7, 2012
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Approval of Draft Addendum V for Public Comment (*C. Vonderweidt*)
Action
5. Section Comment on New England Fishery Management Council Draft Amendment 5 **Action**
 - Advisory Panel Report (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Summary of NEFMC Public Hearings (*D. Pierce*)
 - Working Group Recommendation (*D. Pierce*)
 - Discuss Preferred Management Alternatives
6. Other Business/Adjourn

3:15 – 5:15 p.m.

American Lobster Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS

Chair: Grout

Other Participants: Carloni, Fessenden

Staff: Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Grout*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 7, 2012
3. Public Comment
4. Elect Vice Chair **Action**
5. Consider Draft Addendum XVIII for Public Comment (*T. Kerns*) **Action**
 - Review of Draft Addendum Proposed Consolidation Program for Lobster Conservation Management Areas 2 and 3
6. Review and Consider Terms of Reference for 2014 American Lobster Stock Assessment (*J. Carloni*) **Action**
7. Discussion of Possible Impacts of Potential Council Action on Lobster in Closed Area II in Georges Bank (*D. Grout*)
8. Other Business/Adjourn

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Public Hearing on Draft Amendment 14**

Tuesday, May 1, 2012

8:30 – 10:00 a.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: PRFC, DC, NMFS, USFWS

Other Participants: Blanchard, Place, Sharov

Chair: O'Connell

Staff: Taylor

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*T. O'Connell*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 7, 2012
3. Public Comment
4. Review Draft Addendum III for Public Comment **Action**
 - Review of Draft Addendum III (*K. Taylor*)
 - Review Law Enforcement Committee Recommendations (*M. Robson*)
 - Consider Approval of Draft Addendum III for Public Comment
5. Technical Committee Report (*A. Sharov*)
6. Other Business/Adjourn

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Law Enforcement Committee

Members: Amato, Anthony, Beaton, Blanchard, Bridi, Buendia, Fessenden, Frampton, Fresco, Gregory, Hogan, Ingerson, King, Lauderman, Lewis, Marston, Overturf, Rutherford, Thumm, Tulik

Chair: Overturf

Staff: Robson

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*K. Overturf*)
2. Roll Call of the States (*M. Robson*)
3. Committee Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Meeting Summary from November 2011
4. Public Comment
5. Report of Data Relating to Seized Illegal Harvest (*T. Kerns*)
6. Mechanism to Provide Input to NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement (OLE)
 - Discuss Key Issues of State/Federal Coordination
 - Discuss LEC Input Process to OLE
7. Discuss ASMFC Priorities and Opportunities for Enhancing LEC Coordination with ASMFC Chair (*P. Diodati*)
8. Discuss LEC Webpage
9. Species Issues
 - Update on Striped Bass Tagging Issue and Draft Addendum III
 - Update on Status of Tautog Management (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Other Species Issues as Reported by LEC Members
10. State Issues, Focusing on Success Stories as Presented by Each State
11. Federal Reports
 - NOAA Fisheries
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - U.S. Coast Guard
12. Other Business/Adjourn

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.

American Eel Management Board

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

Other Members: DC, PRFC, NMFS, USFWS

Chair: T. Stockwell

Other Participants: Fessenden, Limburg, Chase, Lee

Staff: Taylor

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*T. Stockwell*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from May 5, 2010
3. Public Comment

4. 2012 American Eel Stock Assessment Report **Action**
 - American Eel Stock Assessment Report (*L. Lee*)
 - Peer Review Panel Report (*K. Limburg*)
 - Technical Committee Report (*B. Chase*)
 - Consider Acceptance of Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report for Management Use
 - Discussion of Management Response
5. Proposed Endangered Species Act Status Review of American Eel by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (*K. Taylor*)
6. Elect Vice Chair Action
7. Other Business/Adjourn

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board

Member States: North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

Other Members: New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, PRFC, NMFS, USFWS, SAFMC

Other Participants: Collier, Grist, Paramore, Windley

Chair: Daniel

Staff: Chesky

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*L. Daniel*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 9, 2012
3. Public Comment
4. Elect Vice Chair **Action**
5. Consider Approval of Modified Black Drum Public Information Document for Public Comment (*D. Chesky*) **Action**
6. Review and Consider Approval of Spanish Mackerel Implementation Plans (*D. Chesky*) **Action**
7. Review and Populate Black Drum Technical Committee and Stock Assessment Subcommittee Membership (*D. Chesky*) **Action**
8. SEAMAP Funding Update for FY2012 (*M. Paine*)
9. Other Business/Adjourn

2:15 – 4:45 p.m.

Shad & 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

Chair: Duval

Other Participants: Bridi, Gromen, Limburg, Miller, Sweka

Staff: Taylor

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*M. Duval*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda

- Approval of Proceedings from February 7, 2012
- 3. Public Comment
- 4. 2012 River Herring Stock Assessment Report **Action**
 - Presentation of River Herring Stock Assessment (*J. Sweka*)
 - Peer Review Panel Report (*K. Limburg*)
 - Technical Committee Report (*L. Miller*)
 - Consider Acceptance of Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report for Management Use
- 5. Review and Discuss New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) Draft Amendment 5 **Action**
 - Advisory Panel Recommendations (*P. Gromen*)
 - Working Group Recommendations (*K. Taylor*)
 - Review of Draft Amendment 5 Management Alternatives (*K. Taylor*)
 - Discuss Preferred Management Alternatives in Draft Amendment 5
- 6. Review and Discuss Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) Draft Amendment 14 (*K. Taylor*)
- 7. Consider Approval of Amendment 3 American Shad Sustainable Fishery Plans **Action**
 - Technical Committee Report (*L. Miller*)
- 8. Proposed Endangered Species Act Status Review of River Herring by NOAA Fisheries (*K. Taylor*)
- 9. Other Business/Adjourn

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Executive Committee

Members: Abbott, Ballou, Boyles, Chanda, Daniel, Diodati, Gilmore, Grout, Keliher, O’Connell, Poday, Rhodes, Saveikis, Simpson, Travelstead, Woodward, Young

Chair: P. Diodati

Staff: Leach

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Diodati*)
2. Committee Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Meeting Summary from November 2011
3. Public Comment
4. Report of the Administrative Oversight Committee (*L. Daniel*)
 - Presentation of the FY13 Budget **Action**
 - 2012 Action Plan Progress
5. Future Annual Meetings Update (*L. Leach*)
 - 2012 - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania October 21-25 Radisson Plaza Warwick Hotel
 - 2013 - Georgia
 - 2014 - Connecticut
 - 2015 - Florida
 - 2016 - Maine
6. Other Business/Adjourn

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Annual Awards of Excellence Reception

Wednesday, May 2, 2012

8:00 a.m. – Noon

Atlantic Menhaden 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: PRFC, NMFS, USFWS

Chair: Daniel

Other Participants: Brust, Ingerson, Windley

Staff: Waine

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*L. Daniel*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Proceedings from February 8, 2012
3. Public Comment
4. Options to Define Ecological Reference Points **Possible Action**
 - Review Recommendation to Adopt Decision Analysis Framework for Developing Ecological-based Reference Points (*J. Brust*)
5. Public Information Document to Amendment 2
 - Review PID Options (*M. Waine*)
 - Review Public Comment Summary (*M. Waine*)
 - Advisory Panel Report (*W. Windley*)
6. Draft Amendment 2
 - Provide Guidance to Plan Development Team for Draft Amendment 2 (*L. Daniel*)
7. Other Business/Adjourn

1:15 – 3:15 p.m.

Sturgeon Management Board

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

Other Members: DC, PRFC, USFWS, NMFS

Chair: Vacant

Other Participants: Mohler, Post, Thumm, Secor

Staff: Taylor

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Beal*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Proceedings from October 29, 2007
3. Public Comment
4. Discussion of Endangered Species Act Listing
 - Technical Committee Report (*B. Post*)
 - Discussion and Development of Response Strategy
5. Review Georgia Section 10 Permit Application (*S. Woodward*) **Action**
6. Other Business/Adjourn

3:30 – 6:00 p.m.

ISFMP Policy Board

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

Other Members: DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

Other Participants: Campfield, Robson, O'Reilly

Chair: Diodati

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Diodati*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings of February 8 and 9, 2012
3. Public Comment
4. Compliance Committee Report (*J. Gilmore*)
5. Assessment Science Committee Report (*P. Campfield*)
6. Law Enforcement Committee Report (*M. Robson*)
7. NEAMAP Report (*R. O'Reilly*)
8. Discuss Research Set Aside Program (*R. Beal*)
9. Other Business/Recess

Thursday, May 3, 2012

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Sharks 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: USFWS, NMFS

Chair: Simpson

Other Participants: Gillingham, Tulik, Skomal

Staff: Vonderweidt

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Simpson*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 9, 2012
3. Public Comment
4. Elect Vice Chair **Action**
5. Consider Massachusetts Coastal Sharks *de minimis* Request (*C. Vonderweidt*) **Action**
6. Review of Preliminary 2012/2013 Spiny Dogfish Quotas (*C. Vonderweidt*)
7. Update on 2012/2013 Federal Quota and Possession Limit (*C. Vonderweidt*)
8. Discussion of Northern Region State Shares (*M. Gibson*)
9. Consider Approval of Addendum IV to the Spiny Dogfish Fishery Management Plan for Public Comment (*C. Vonderweidt*) **Action**
10. Spiny Dogfish Quota Transfer Update (*C. Vonderweidt*)
11. Other Business/Adjourn

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

Horseshoe Crab Management Board

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

Other Members: DC, PRFC, USFWS, NMFS

Chair: Simpson

Other Participants: Brust, Cooper, Howell, Karpanty

Staff: Chesky

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Simpson*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 9, 2012
3. Public Comment
4. Elect Vice Chair **Action**
5. Transfer Request from North Carolina to Georgia (*D. Chesky*) **Action**
6. Consider Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance (*D. Chesky*) **Action**
7. Horseshoe Crab Technical Committee Report on Tagging Program (*D. Chesky*) **Possible Action**
8. Update on ARM Framework Implementation Schedule (*D. Chesky*)
9. Other Business/Adjourn

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

ISFMP Policy Board (continued)

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

Other Members: DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

Chair: Diodati

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Diodati*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Review of Non-compliance Findings (if necessary)
5. Other Business/Adjourn

12:15 – 12:30 p.m.

Business Session

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

Chair: Diodati

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Diodati*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 2011
3. Public Comment
4. Review of Non-compliance Findings (if necessary)
5. Other Business/Adjourn

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council

Members: Alexander, Boyles, Carpenter, Chester, Cyr, Daniel, Diodati, Geiger, Gibson, Gilmore, Grout, Himchak, Howard, Keliher, King, Mahood, Moore, O’Connell, O’Shea, Patterson, Poday, Risenhoover, Sutter, Travelstead, Woodward, Young

Chair: Alexander

Other Participants: Bellavance, Defilippi, Knowlton, McElhatton

Staff: Cahall

1. Welcome/Introductions (*M. Alexander*)
2. Approval of Agenda **Action**
3. Public Comment
4. ACCSP Status Report **Action**
 - Program Status (*M. Cahall*)
 - Process (Committee) Status (*K. Knowlton*)
 - Funding Process Updates (*K. Knowlton*)
5. Briefing on 2012 Independent Program Review (*J. Travelstead*)
6. Presentation on Atlantic Coast Fisheries Data Collection Standards (*K. Knowlton*)
Action
7. Distribution of 2011 Fiscal Year in Review (*A. McElhatton*)
8. Overview of President’s FY2013 Budget (*M. Cahall*)
9. Elect Vice Chair **Action**
10. Other Business/Adjourn