



# 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

June 10, 2016

TO: Commissioners; Proxies; American Eel Management Board; American Lobster Management Board; Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) Coordinating Council; ACCSP Executive Committee; Atlantic Menhaden Management Board; Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board; Atlantic Sturgeon Management Board; Coastal Sharks Management Board; Executive Committee; Horseshoe Crab Management Board; ISFMP Policy Board; South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board; Tautog Management Board

FROM: Robert E. Beal *REB*  
Executive Director

RE: Summer Meeting: August 2-4, 2016 (TA # 16-059)

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Meeting will be August 2-4, 2016 at **The Westin Alexandria**. A brief, preliminary agenda and directions to the hotel are included with this memorandum. The hotel directions will provide transportation options. **Please note the preliminary agenda is subject to change.** Materials will be available on July 20, 2016 on the Commission website at <http://www.asmf.org/home/2016-summer-meeting>. Briefing CDs will be sent by request only.

A block of rooms is being held at The Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA 22314. Cindy Robertson will make Commissioner/Proxy reservations and will contact you regarding the details of your accommodations. **Please notify Cindy of any changes to your travel plans that will impact your hotel reservations, otherwise you will incur no-show penalties.** We greatly appreciate your cooperation.

For all other attendees, please call The Westin Alexandria at 886.837.4210 or 703.253.8600 as soon as possible and specifically mention the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to obtain the group room rate of \$162.00 plus tax single/dbl.

Please be aware that you must guarantee your room reservation with a major credit card or one night's advance payment. **Hotel reservations must be made before June 29, 2016. Room availability will not be guaranteed beyond this date.** Please note cancellations at The Westin must be made prior to 72 hours of arrival to avoid penalty. If you have any problems at all regarding accommodations please contact Cindy at 703.842.0740 or [crobertson@asmfc.org](mailto:crobertson@asmfc.org). For those driving to the meeting, the self-parking garage by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on Dulany Street is recommended – The \$10 daily rate there is a substantial savings over parking at the Westin.

We 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.

cc: Interested Parties

Attachments: Preliminary Agenda, The Westin Alexandria Directions, TA#16-059, and Travel Reimbursement Guidelines



## Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

### Summer Meeting

August 2-4, 2016

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 26, 2016**) 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 26, 2016 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.

# Preliminary Agenda

The agenda is subject to change. Bulleted items represent the anticipated major issues to be discussed or acted upon at the meeting. The final agenda will include additional items and may revise the bulleted items provided below. 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 2, 2016**

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

## **Executive Committee**

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

- Discuss ASMFC Staff Lead on Assessments
- Discuss Conservation Equivalency
- Discuss Plan Development Team Membership White Paper
- Discuss Renaming the Hart Award
- Discuss Health Benefits for Retired ASMFC Employees
- 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Update
- Discuss ACCSP Governance
- Discuss Commission-specific Meeting Procedures

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.

## **South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board**

- Discuss ASMFC Involvement in Cobia Management and Develop Recommendation for ISFMP Policy Board Consideration
- Progress Report on Spot and Atlantic Croaker Benchmark Stock Assessments
- Progress Report on Red Drum Tasks
- Consider Approval of Atlantic Croaker and Red Drum 2016 FMP Reviews and State Compliance

12:15 – 1:45 p.m.

## **Tautog Management Board**

- Review and Consider Approval of the Regional Stock Assessments for Long Island Sound (LIS) and New York/New Jersey (Excluding NY LIS)
- Update on Commercial Harvest Tagging Program
- Update on Draft Amendment 1

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

## **Horseshoe Crab Management Board**

- Review and Consider Recommendations from the Adaptive Resource Management (ARM) Subcommittee on Revisions to the ARM Framework
- Discuss Additional Bait Trials

3:45 – 4:30 p.m.

## **Coastal Sharks Management Board**

- Consider Draft Addendum IV for Final Action
- Consider Approval of 2013-2014 Coastal Sharks FMP Review and State Compliance
- Elect Vice-Chair

4:45 – 5:30 p.m.

**Atlantic Sturgeon Management Board**

- Review and Comment on Proposed Rule for Designating Critical Habitat for Atlantic Sturgeon
- Progress Report on 2017 Benchmark Stock Assessment
- Elect Chair and Vice-Chair

**Wednesday, August 3, 2016**

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

**Atlantic Menhaden Management Board**

- Consider Draft Addendum I for Final Action
- Set 2017 Fishery Specifications
- Provide Guidance to Plan Development Team on Draft Amendment 3 Public Information Document
- Update on the Atlantic Menhaden Commercial Fishery Socioeconomic Study

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) Executive Committee**  
*(A portion of this meeting may be a closed session for Committee members only)*

- Program Update
- Governance Transition Plan Discussion

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board**

- Review Striped Bass Advisory Panel Meeting Summary
- Consider Approval of 2016 Atlantic Striped Bass FMP Review and State Compliance
  - Review Performance of Addendum IV Regulatory Measures in 2015

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

**Legislative and Governors' Appointee Commissioner Luncheon**

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

**Interstate Fisheries Management Program (ISFMP) Policy Board**

- Executive Committee Report
- Consider Recommendation from the South Atlantic Board Regarding Cobia Management
- Review Annual Stock Rebuilding Performance
- Discuss Recommended Changes to the Conservation Equivalency Guidance Document
- Update from Climate Workgroup
- Update from Risk and Uncertainty Workgroup
- Habitat Committee Update
- Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Update

3:45 – 5:15 p.m.

**ACCSP Coordinating Council**

- Program Update
- Governance Transition Plan Discussion

**Thursday, August 4, 2016**

8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

**American Eel Management Board**

- Discussion to Consider Changes to Addendum IV Yellow Eel Allocations
- Consider North Carolina Aquaculture Plan for 2017

9:45 – 10:30 a.m.

**Business Session**

- Review Non-compliance Findings (if necessary)
- Review ACCSP Transition Plan and Associated Documents

10:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**American Lobster Management Board**

- Review Rhode Island Report on Egg Production and Technical Committee Report on Management Options to Achieve a 20-60% Increase in Egg Production
- Discuss Management Options to be Included in American Lobster Draft Addendum XXV
- Consider Approval of Jonah Crab Draft Addendum II for Public Comment
- Discuss White Paper on Potential Loop-holes in the Interstate FMP for Jonah Crab
- Update on New England Fishery Management Council Omnibus Deep Sea Coral Amendment
- Update on State Implementation of the Interstate FMP for Jonah Crab