



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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A.G. "Spud" Woodward (GA), Chair

Joseph Cimino (NJ), Vice-Chair


Robert E. Beal, Executive Director

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

MEMORANDUM

Revised July 28, 2023

TO: Commissioners; Proxies; American Eel Management Board; Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board; Coastal Pelagics Management Board; Coastal Sharks Management Board; Executive Committee; ISFMP Policy Board; Spiny Dogfish Management Board; Tautog Management Board; Shad & River Herring Management Board

FROM: Robert E. Beal 
Executive Director

RE: ASMFC Summer Meeting: August 1-3, 2023 (TA 23-043)

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Meeting will be held August 1-3, 2023 at **The Westin Crystal City**. The room block is now closed; if you need assistance reserving a room, please contact Lisa Carty at lcarty@asmfc.org. This will be a hybrid meeting (both in-person and remote) to allow for participation by Commissioners and interested stakeholders.

The final agenda and meeting materials for the Summer Meeting are now available at <https://www.asmfc.org/home/2023-summer-meeting>; click on the relevant Board/Committee name to access the documents for that Board/Committee.

Webinar Information

Board meeting proceedings will be broadcast daily via webinar beginning Tuesday, August 1 at 9 a.m. and continuing daily until the conclusion of the meeting (expected to be 11 a.m.) on Thursday, August 3. To register for the webinar, please go to:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8211916328494316377> (Webinar ID 505-145-715).

If you are joining the webinar but will not be using voice over internet protocol (VoIP), you can also call in at +1 (914) 614-3221, access code 865-531-935. A PIN will be provided to you after joining the webinar; see webinar instructions for details on how to receive the PIN.

For those who will not be joining the webinar but would like to listen to the audio portion only, press the # key when asked for a PIN.

Meeting Process

In terms of meeting process, board chairs will ask both in-person and virtual board members if they wish to speak. In-person members can simply raise their hands at the meeting without logging on to the webinar, while virtual members will raise their hands on the webinar. The chair will work with staff to compile the list

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of speakers, balancing the flow of questions/comments between in-person and virtual attendees. The same process will be used for public comment. Depending upon the number of commenters, the board chair will decide how to allocate the available time on the agenda (typically 10 minutes) to the number of people who want to speak.

Each day, the webinar will begin 15 minutes prior to the start of the first meeting so that people can troubleshoot any connectivity or audio issues they may encounter. If you are having issues with the webinar (connecting to or audio-related), please contact Chris Jacobs at 703.842.0790.

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.

Enclosed: Final Agenda, Hotel Directions, TA 23-036, Travel Reimbursement Guidelines



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Summer Meeting

August 1-3, 2023

The Westin Crystal City

Arlington, Virginia

Public Comment Guidelines

To provide 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 the opportunity for the public to bring matters of concern to the board's attention at the start of each board meeting. Board chairs will ask members of the public to raise their hands to let the chair know they would like to speak. Depending upon the number of commenters, the board chair will decide 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 three weeks prior to the start of a meeting week (July 10th) will be included in the briefing materials.
2. Comments received by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, July 25th will be included in supplemental materials.
3. Comments received by 10:00 AM on Friday, July 28th will be distributed electronically to Commissioners/Board members prior to the meeting.

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 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, August 1

9 – 10 AM

Shad and 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, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

Chair: Fegley

Other Participants: Eakin, Sabo

Staff: Boyle

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*L. Fegley*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 2023
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Update to Potomac River Fisheries Commission American Shad Sustainable Fishery Management Plan (*W. Eakin*) **Final Action**
5. Update on US Geological Survey Alosine Genetic Repository and Expanding Collection Efforts (*W. Eakin*)
6. Progress Update on the 2024 River Herring Benchmark Stock Assessment (*K. Drew*)
7. Other Business/Adjourn

10:15 – 11:45 AM

American Eel 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, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

Chair: Edwards

Other Participants: Carty, Beal, Eyler

Staff: Starks

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Edwards*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 2023
3. Public Comment

4. Consider Stock Assessment Subcommittee Report on Alternative Analysis of Index Methods for Setting Management Measures **Action**
 - Presentation of Stock Assessment Subcommittee Report (*S. Eyster*)
 - Consider Acceptance of 2023 Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report for Management Use
 - Consider Management Response, if necessary
5. Review Maine Glass Eel Quota Provision of Addendum V (*C. Starks*) **Action**
6. Review Maine Life Cycle Survey Report (*D. Carty*)
7. Consider Approval of 2024 Maine Aquaculture Proposal (*C. Starks*) **Action**
8. Other Business/Adjourn

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM **Lunch Break (provided)**

12:30 – 1:30 PM

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

Chair: Burgess

Other Participants: Willey, Thomas, DuBeck

Staff: Starks

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*E. Burgess*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from May 2023
3. Public Comment
4. Presentation on Scoping for Draft Amendment 16 to the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan (*G. DuBeck*)
5. Consider Approval of Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for the 2021 Fishing Year (*C. Starks*) **Action**
6. Other Business/Adjourn

1:45 – 5:45 PM

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: Gary

Other Participants: Lengyel Costa, Mercer

Staff: Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*M. Gary*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from May 2023

3. Public Comment
4. Consider Approval of Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for the 2022 Fishing Year (*T. Kerns*) **Action**
5. Review Status of 2023 Emergency Action **Possible Action**
 - Public Hearing Summary (*T. Kerns*)
 - Discuss Timeline for Possible Extension of Emergency Action
6. Consider Approval of Draft Addendum II on 2024 Management Measures for Public Comment (*T. Kerns*) **Action**
7. Other Business/Adjourn

Wednesday, August 2

8 – 10 AM

Breakfast will be served at 7:45 a.m.

Executive Committee

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

Members: Abbott, Bell, Burgess, Cimino, Clark, Davis, Fegley, Geer, Gilmore, Keliher, Kuhn, McKiernan, McNamee, Miller, Patterson, Rawls, Woodward

Chair: Woodward

Staff: Leach

1. Welcome/Introductions (*S. Woodward*)
2. Committee Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Meeting Summary from May 2023
3. Public Comment
4. Consolidated Appropriations Act Update (*R. Beal*)
5. Review Findings of the Legislative and Governor Appointee Commissioner Survey Regarding Stipends (*R. Beal*)
6. Legislative Update (*A. Law*)
7. Discussion on Per Diem Rates (*R. Beal*)
8. Other Business/Adjourn

10:15 AM – 12:45 PM

Coastal Pelagics Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS, PRFC, SAFMC

Chair: Cimino

Other Participants: Giuliano, Pearce

Staff: Tuohy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Cimino*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 2022
3. Public Comment

4. Consider Approval of Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for Atlantic Cobia for the 2022 Fishing Year (*C. Tuohy*) **Action**
5. Consider Total Harvest Quota for Atlantic Cobia for the 2024-2026 Fishing Years **Final Action**
 - Technical Committee Report (*A. Giuliano*)
 - Consider Setting Total Harvest Quota for 2024-2026
6. Consider Timeline for Potential Review of State Recreational Allocation for Atlantic Cobia **Possible Action**
7. Consider 2022 Spanish Mackerel Stock Assessment Update
 - Presentation of Stock Assessment Report
 - Presentation of Peer Review Report and Response from South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (*J. Carmichael*)
8. Update from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council on Spanish Mackerel Port Meetings (*J. Carmichael*)
9. Other Business/Adjourn

12:45 – 1:45 PM

Lunch

1:45 – 3:45 PM

East Coast Climate Change Scenario Planning Initiative

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*S. Woodward*)
2. Review Findings from the East Coast Climate Change Scenario Planning Initiative (*T. Kerns*)
 - Overview of Summit
 - Review Draft Possible Action Plan
 - Discuss Next Steps
3. Public Comment
4. Other Business/Adjourn

4 – 5 PM

Tautog Management Board

Member States: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia

Other Members: NMFS

Chair: Luisi

Other Participants: Weedon, Snellbaker

Staff: Boyle

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*M. Luisi*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from January 2022
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Approval of Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for the 2022 Fishing Year (*J. Boyle*) **Action**

5. Consider Committee Reports on Commercial Tagging Program and Possible Changes to the Tagging Program **Possible Action**
 - Technical Committee Report (*C. Weedon*)
 - Law Enforcement Committee Report (*K. Blanchard*)
6. Progress Update on the 2025 Tautog Stock Assessment Update (*K. Drew*)
7. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
8. Elect Vice-Chair **Action**
9. Other Business/Adjourn

Thursday, August 3

8:30 – 9 AM

Spiny Dogfish Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS

Chair: Meserve

Other Participants: Baker, Newlin, Ferrio

Staff: Boyle

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*N. Meserve*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 2023
3. Public Comment
4. Review Progress on Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Councils' Joint Action on Monkfish and Dogfish Fisheries to Reduce Atlantic Sturgeon Bycatch (*C. Ferrio*)
5. Consider Approval of Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for the 2021-2022 Fishing Year (*J. Boyle*) **Action**
6. Other Business/Adjourn

9:15 – 10:45 AM

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: Woodward

Staff: Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*S. Woodward*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from May 2023
3. Public Comment
4. Executive Committee Report (*S. Woodward*)
5. Review and Consider Changes to Conservation Equivalency Policy and Technical Guidance Document (*T. Kerns*) **Possible Action**

6. Update on the Risk and Uncertainty Policy Development (*J. Patel*)
7. Committee Reports
 - Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership (*S. Kaalstad*)
 - Legislative (*A. Law*)
8. Update on the Recreational Sector Separation and Catch Accounting Amendment Timeline (*T. Kerns*)
9. Review Noncompliance Findings, if necessary **Action**
10. Other Business/Adjourn

10:45 – 11:00 AM

Business Session of the Commission

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

Chair: Woodward

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*S. Woodward*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 2022
3. Public Comment
4. Review Noncompliance Findings, if necessary **Final Action**
5. Other Business/Adjourn