

# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

## Executive Committee

*May 3, 2023  
8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
Hybrid Meeting*

## Draft Agenda

The times listed are approximate; the order in which these items will be taken is subject to change; other items may be added as necessary.  
A portion of this meeting will be closed for Committee Members and Commissioners only.

1. Welcome/Introductions (*S. Woodward*)
2. Committee Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Meeting Summary from February 1, 2023
3. Public Comment
4. Report of the Administrative Oversight Committee (*J. Cimino*) **Action**
  - Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget
5. Discuss Potential for Legislator and Governors Appointee Commissioner Stipends (*R. Beal*)
6. Future Annual Meetings Update (*L. Leach*)
  - October 15-19, 2023 – Beaufort, North Carolina
  - 2024 – Maryland
  - 2025 – Delaware
  - 2026 – Rhode Island
  - 2027 – South Carolina
7. Other Business
8. Executive Director Performance Review (**Closed Session**)
9. Adjourn

The meeting will be held at The Westin Crystal City (1800 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA; 703.486.1111) and via webinar; click [here](#) for details

**DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY OF THE  
ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Westin Crystal City  
Arlington, Virginia**

**February 1, 2023**

## **INDEX OF MOTIONS**

- 1.** Approval of Agenda by Consent (Page 1).
- 2.** Approval of Meeting Summary from November 9, 2022 by Consent (Page 1).
- 3.** Adjourn by Consent (Page 2).

## ATTENDANCE

### Committee Members

Pat Keliher, ME  
Cheri Patterson, NH  
Dennis Abbott, NH (LA Chair)  
Dan McKiernan, MA  
Jason McNamee, RI  
Justin Davis, CT  
John Maniscalco, proxy for Basil Seggos, NY  
Joe Cimino, NJ

Kris Kuhn, PA  
Roy Miller, DE (GA Chair)  
John Clark, DE  
Lynn Fegley, MD  
Patrick Geer, VA  
Kathy Rawls, NC  
Mel Bell, SC  
Erika Burgess, FL

### Other Commissioners/Proxies

Chris Batsavage, NC  
David Borden, RI  
Lewis Gillingham, VA  
Emerson Hasbrouck, NY  
Doug Haymans, GA  
Bill Hyatt, CT

Mike Luisi, MD  
Dee Lupton, NC  
Chris McDonough, SC  
Nichola Meserve, MA  
Renee Zobel, NH

### Staff

Bob Beal  
Tina Berger  
Toni Kerns  
Laura Leach

Alexander Law  
Jeff Kipp  
Lindsey Aubart

### Guests

Debra Abercrombie, US FWS  
Pat Augustine, Coram, NY  
Carolyn Belcher  
Jeff Brust, NJ DEP  
Peter Clarke NJ DEP  
Conor Davis, NJ DEP  
Guy DuBeck, NOAA  
Jesse Hornstein, NYS DEC  
Kathy Knowlton, GA DNR  
Tamara O'Connell, MD DNR

Derek Orner, NOAA  
Nicole Pitts, NOAA  
Erin Schnettler, NOAA  
Chris Scott, NYS DEC  
Ethan Simpson, VMRC  
Somers Smott, VMRC  
Beth Versak, MD DNR  
Ann Williamson, NOAA  
Chris Wright, NOAA

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Executive Committee (EC) of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened February 1, 2023 in the Jefferson Ballroom at The Westin in Crystal City, Virginia. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Chair Spud Woodward.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved, with the addition of a discussion on NE biological sampling.

## **APPROVAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

The summary minutes from the November 9, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **CARES ACT UPDATE**

Mr. Beal and Mrs. Leach gave an update on the balance in the Consolidated Appropriations Act cooperative agreement. There is projected to be roughly \$8.6 million remaining that will be reallocated to states who indicated additional need after the November Executive Committee meeting. Eight states indicated a need and a proposed reallocation was approved at the Executive Committee meeting.

## **L/GA COMMISSIONER STIPENDS**

A discussion was held regarding providing a stipend to the L/GA Commissioners for their service to ASMFC. The discussion focused on providing stipends for participation in meetings beyond the four quarterly meeting weeks and joint meetings with the Mid-Atlantic Council, noting this work is beyond the traditional scope of Commissioner responsibilities. The Executive Committee asked staff to research potential tax advantages for Commissioners for volunteering their time to the Commission. This issue will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

## **COLLECTION OF SHARKS**

The coordination of the collection of sharks for Scientific and Educational Purpose was discussed. Currently, the states have different procedures for approving and issuing permits for collecting sharks. The states agreed that improved coordination would help ensure that the collection of sharks is not having a negative impact on the populations of sharks. If additional coordination between the states and NOAA Fisheries is necessary, the issue will be referred to the Coastal Shark Management Board.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF FISHERY DISASTER FUNDING**

The Executive Committee discussed the distribution of \$300 Million in Fishery Disaster Funding provided in the FY23 Omnibus Spending Bill. The EC recommended the ISFMP Policy Board approve a letter to NOAA Fisheries requesting the available funding be partially applied to fishery disasters on the Atlantic Coast. The letter will also ask for NOAA to work with Congress to streamline the process for fishery disaster declaration, funding, and spend plan approval.

## **NE BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING**

Biological Sampling in the northeast has been significantly reduced in the past few years. The reduction results in uncertainty in the assessment and management of multiple species in the northeast and mid-Atlantic. The states agreed to explore opportunities to assist NOAA Fisheries in collecting fish length and otolith samples. A meeting between the states and NOAA Fisheries will be scheduled to determine where there are opportunities for collaboration.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Chair Woodward noted the Commission received a letter from The Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance expressing concerns about the management of Horseshoe Crabs.

## **ADJOURN**

The Executive Committee adjourned at 9:35 a.m.