



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission NEWS RELEASE

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger
703.842.0740

ASMFC Schedules Peer Review of Black Drum Benchmark Stock Assessment for January 18-20, 2023

Arlington, VA – The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s Black Drum Benchmark Stock Assessment will be peer-reviewed over three days from January 18-20, 2023 at the Commission’s office in Arlington, VA (1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200A-N, Arlington, VA 22201).

The assessment evaluates the status of the black drum population along the Atlantic coast and will inform the management of this species. This is the second coastwide stock assessment for black drum on the Atlantic coast and the first to incorporate new, improved recreational catch and effort data released by the Marine Recreational Information Program. This is also the first time the assessment will include data since the implementation of coastwide regulations for the species in 2013.

The Peer Review Panel is comprised of independent fishery scientists with expertise in population dynamics and stock assessment modeling. The peer review is open to the public, except for the Peer Review Panel’s final deliberations, when the public and all other workshop participants will be asked to exit the meeting room. The agenda for the peer review can be found at

http://www.asmfc.org/files/Meetings/BlackDrumAssessmentReviewWorkshopDraftAgenda_Jan2023.pdf.

The Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report will be considered by the Sciaenids Management Board in late winter/early spring 2023.

For more information, please contact Patrick Campfield, Fisheries Science Director, at pcampfield@asmfc.org or 703.842.0740.

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Tagged black drum © Ken Neill

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.