



# *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission*

## NEWS RELEASE

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*Working towards healthy, self-sustaining populations of all Atlantic coast fish species, or successful restoration  
well in progress by the year 2015*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 7, 2013

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703.842.0740

### **Massachusetts and Rhode Island Schedule Joint Public Hearing on American Lobster Draft Addendum XXI**

Arlington, VA – The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the state of Rhode Island have scheduled a joint hearing to gather public comment on Draft Addendum XXI to Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for the American Lobster. They are the only states that will be conducting a hearing; the hearing details follow.

#### **Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries & Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management**

*June 26, 2013; 7 - 9 PM*

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth  
Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Center  
151 Martine Street  
Fall River, MA

Contact: Jared Silva at: 617.626.1534

Draft Addendum XXI proposes changes to the transferability program for Lobster Conservation Management Areas (LCMAs) 2 and 3. These changes are designed to allow for flexibility in the movement of traps as the consolidation program for LCMAs 2 and 3 is implemented. The proposed measures are intended to address latent effort (unfished allocation) while also providing a mechanism for industry to maintain a profitable fishery as trap reductions occur.

The Draft Addendum is the second in a series of addenda that respond to the depleted condition of the Southern New England (SNE) lobster resource by scaling the capacity of the SNE fishery to the size the SNE resource. Since the scope of the SNE resource encompasses all or part of six of the seven LCMAs established by Amendment 3, additional addenda will be developed to address effort reductions in the remaining LCMAs (4, 5, and 6).

Fishermen and other interested groups are encouraged to provide input on the Draft Addendum either by attending the joint public hearing or providing written comment. Draft Addendum XXI is available on the Commission website ([www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org)) under *Breaking News* or by contacting the Commission at 703.842.0740. Public comment will be accepted until **5:00 PM (EST) on July 15, 2013** and should be forwarded to Kate Taylor, Senior FMP Coordinator, at 1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, VA 22201; 703.842.0741 (FAX) or [ktaylor@asmfc.org](mailto:ktaylor@asmfc.org) (Subject line: Lobster Draft Addendum XXI). For more information, please contact Kate Taylor at [ktaylor@asmfc.org](mailto:ktaylor@asmfc.org) or 703.842.0740. PR13-32

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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 anadromous species.