



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Robert H. Boyles, Jr. (SC), Chair

Paul Diodati, (MA), Vice-Chair

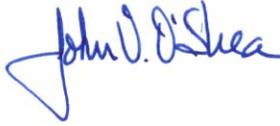
John V. O'Shea, Executive Director

Healthy, self-sustaining populations for all Atlantic coast fish species or successful restoration well in progress by the year 2015

MEMORANDUM

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT FINAL NOTICE

TO: Commissioners; Proxies; American Lobster Management Board; Atlantic Herring Section; Atlantic Menhaden Management Board; Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board; Executive Committee; Horseshoe Crab Management Board; ISFMP Policy Board; Law Enforcement Committee; Shad and River Herring Management Board; South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board; Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Sharks Management Board; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board; Tautog Management Board; Weakfish Management Board

FROM: John V. O'Shea
Executive Director 

DATE: March 8, 2011

RE: Winter-Spring Meeting of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
March 21 - 24, 2011 – Alexandria, VA (TA # 11-013)

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Winter-Spring Meeting will be held March 21-24, 2010 at the **Crowne Plaza Old Town Alexandria** (Telephone: **(703) 683-6000**), located at 901 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Directions to the hotel are attached. A courtesy shuttle to the hotel is provided from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) arriving on the quarter hour from Doors 5 or 9 outside of the Lower Level-Baggage Claim area. When completing travel voucher forms, please keep in mind that the reimbursement rate for privately owned vehicles (POV) is \$0.51/mile. The reserved hotel room block is now closed. If you have difficulty obtaining a room, please call Cindy Robertson at the Commission for assistance.

Enclosed is the CD Briefing Book. The following pages contain the Winter-Spring Meeting Agenda. **Please note that meeting times on Monday have changed slightly and a Business Session meeting has been added to Wednesday's schedule.** Be advised the schedule is subject to change; the order in which the agenda items are listed is subject to change, and other agenda items or meetings may be added as necessary.

I look forward to seeing you all in a couple of weeks.

Enclosures: Winter-Spring Meeting Agenda
Directions to the Crowne Plaza Hotel Old Town
Briefing Book CD

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission



2011 Winter-Spring Meeting

March 21 - 24, 2011

Crowne Plaza Hotel Old Town

Alexandria, Virginia

Final Agenda

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 on the briefing CD.
2. Comments received by 5:00 PM on the Tuesday immediately preceding the scheduled ASMFC Meeting (in this case, the Tuesday deadline will be March 15, 2011) 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, March 15, 2011 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 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.

Monday, March 21, 2011

12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

American Lobster Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS

Chair: Gibson

Other Participants: Baines, Fessenden, Wilson

Staff: Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*M. Gibson*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 10, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Draft Addendum XVII for Public Comment (*T. Kerns*) **Action**
5. Other Business/Adjourn

3:45 – 5:45 p.m.

Atlantic Herring Section

Member States: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey

Other Participants: Ellenton, Marston, Cieri

Chair: Abbott

Staff: Vonderweidt

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Abbott*)
2. Section Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from January 7, 2011
3. Public Comment
4. Review 2010 Fishery (*M. Cieri*)
5. Consider Draft Addendum IV for Final Approval **Final Action**
 - Review Options (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Public Comment Summary (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Technical Committee Report (*M. Cieri*)
 - Advisory Panel Report (*D. Ellenton*)
 - Law Enforcement Report (*J. Marston*)
6. Other Business/Adjourn

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

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, PRFC, USFWS, NMFS

Chair: Rhodes

Other Participants: Young, Bridi, Hattala

Staff: Taylor

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*M. Rhodes*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 8, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. River Herring Sustainable Fishery Management Plans **Action**
 - Technical Committee Report (*K. Hattala*)
 - Discuss and Consider Approval of Sustainable Fishery Management Plans
5. River Herring and American Shad Bycatch Update
 - Update on Drafts Amendment 5 (NEFMC) and 14 (MAFMC) (*K. Taylor*)
6. Discuss Committee Membership and Leadership
7. Other Business/Adjourn

9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

Weakfish Management Board

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

Other Members: PRFC, NMFS, USFWS

Chair: Gilmore

Other Participants: Farmer, Anthony, Paramore

Staff: Kerns, Waine

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Gilmore*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from August 4, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Elect Vice-Chair **Action**
5. Technical Committee Report (*L. Paramore*)
 - Update on Weakfish Stock Status Indicators
 - Board Input on Next Steps
6. Consider Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance (*T. Kerns*) **Action**
7. Other Business/Adjourn

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Law Enforcement Committee

Members: Adams, Amato, Anthony, Beaton, Blanchard, Bridi, Buckson, Chicketano, Donovan, Fessenden, Frampton, Gross, Hogan, Hurd, Ingerson, Jones, King, Lauderman, Lewis, Marston, Moore, Norton, Overturf, Thumm, Tulik

Chair: Adams

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*S. Adams*)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Roll Call of the States
4. Public Comment
5. Update on Hiring of Law Enforcement Committee Coordinator
6. Discussion on Striped Bass Enforcement Issues
7. Species Management Update
 - Tautog (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Atlantic Herring (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Spiny Dogfish (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Spot, Spotted Seatrout, and Spanish Mackerel (*D. Brzezinski*)
8. Federal Reports
 - National Marine Fisheries Service
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - United States Coast Guard
9. State Issues (*Presented by Each State*)
10. Other Business/Adjourn

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Atlantic Menhaden Management Board

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

Other Members: PRFC, NMFS, USFWS

Chair: Daniel

Other Participants: Ingerson, Latour, Windley

Staff: Kerns, Waine

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*L. Daniel*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Proceedings from November 8, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Elect Vice-Chair **Action**
5. Consider Acceptance of Revised Benchmark Stock Assessment Report for Management Use (*T. Kerns*) **Action**
6. Technical Committee Report (*R. Latour*)
 - Alternative Reference Points
7. Discussion of Next Steps for Possible Management Action (*T.Kerns*)
8. Other Business/Adjourn

2:15 - 4:45 p.m.

Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Sharks Management Board

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

Other Members: USFWS, NMFS

Chair: Simpson

Other Participants: Brewster-Geisz, Himchak, Shirey, Tulik

Staff: Vonderweidt

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Simpson*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 11, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Draft Addendum III for Final Approval **Final Action**
 - Review Options (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Public Comment Summary (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Technical Committee Report (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Advisory Panel Report (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Law Enforcement Report (*J. Tulik*)
5. Update of Delaware Regulations for Recreational Shore Anglers Targeting Prohibited and Research-Only Species (*C. Shirey*)
6. Future of the Shark Fishery Initiative (*K. Brewster-Geisz*)
7. Federal E-Dealer Update and ICCAT Recommendations (*K. Brewster-Geisz*)
8. Discussion of Variable Commercial Shark Possession Limits
9. Update of Shark Finning Conservation Act (*C. Vonderweidt*)
10. Smooth Dogfish State Shares Discussion (*P. Himchak*)
11. Other Business/Adjourn

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Annual Awards of Excellence Reception &

Office Warming – ASMFC New Offices, Arlington, VA

(Transportation from/to Crowne Plaza Hotel will be provided)

Wednesday, March 23, 2011

8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

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: PRFC, DC, NMFS, USFWS

Other Participants: Blanchard, Place, Laney

Chair: Travelstead

Staff: Taylor

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Travelstead*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 9, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Connecticut Proposal for Alternative Management **Action**
 - Presentation of Proposal (*W. Laney*)
 - Technical Committee Report (*W. Laney*)
 - Advisory Panel Report (*K. Place*)
5. Review of North Carolina Striped Bass Ocean Trawl Discarding (*L. Daniel*)
6. Review of Maryland Striped Bass Poaching (*T. O'Connell*)
7. Consider Initiating an Addendum to Reduce Coastwide Mortality on Striped Bass (*J. Travelstead*) **Possible Action**
8. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*K. Taylor*) **Action**
9. Other Business/Adjourn

10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board

Member States: North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

Other Members: New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, PRFC, NMFS, USFWS, SAFMC

Chair: Daniel

Other Participants: Adams, Collier, Grist, Paramore, Windley

Staff: Brzezinski

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*L. Daniel*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 11, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Draft Omnibus Amendment for Public Comment (*D. Brzezinski*) **Action**
5. Consider Fishery Management Plan Review (*D. Brzezinski*) **Action**
 - Spot
 - Spotted Seatrout
 - Spanish Mackerel
6. Consider Draft SEAMAP 2011-15 Management Plan for Approval (*M. Paine*) **Action**
8. Update on FY 2011 SEAMAP Funding (*M. Paine*)
9. Other Business/Adjourn

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Horseshoe Crab Management Board

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

Other Members: DC, PRFC, USFWS, NMFS

Chair: O'Connell

Other Participants: Cooper, Hurd, DeLancey, Smith, Brust

Staff: Brzezinski

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*T. O'Connell*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 8, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Update on Funding for Benthic Trawl Survey (*D. Brzezinski*)
5. Delaware Bay Ecosystem Technical Committee Report (*J. Brust*) **Action**
 - Review Technical Committee Report
 - Discuss Range of Options for Future Management
6. Fishery Management Plan Review and Consider Request for *de minimis* Status (*D. Brzezinski*)
7. Committee Nominations (*D. Brzezinski*) **Action**
 - Shorebird Advisory Panel
 - Horseshoe Crab Technical Committee
 - Stock Assessment Committee
8. Other Business/Adjourn

3:15 - 4:15 p.m.

Business Session

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

Chair: Boyles

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Boyles*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings of November 10 & 11, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. ASMFC Commissioner Survey Results (*R. Beal*)
 - Summary of Results
 - Discuss Next Steps
5. Other Business/Adjourn

4:15 - 6:15 p.m.

ISFMP Policy Board

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

Other Members: DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

Other Participants: Almeida, Colvin

Chair: Boyles

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Boyles*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings of November 10 & 11, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Discussion of Policy Board Involvement in Species Management (*R. Beal*)
5. Update on Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) (*G. Colvin*)
6. NEAMAP Report (*F. Almeida*)
7. Discussion on ASMFC Role in National Seafood Marketing Coalition
8. Discussion of Blue Catfish Management in Chesapeake Region
9. Law Enforcement Committee Report
10. Report on Black Drum Assessment Data Workshop (*G. Nesslage*)
11. Other Business/Adjourn

Thursday, March 24, 2011

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Executive Committee

Members: Abbott, Ballou, Bowman, Boyles, Chanda, Daniel, Diodati, Gilmore, Grout, McCawley, Miller, O'Connell, Olsen, Rhodes, Shirey, Simpson, Woodward, Young

Chair: Boyles

Staff: Leach

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Boyles, Jr.*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Meeting Summary from August 2010 and November 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Report of the Administrative Oversight Committee (*P. Diodati*)
 - Presentation of the FY12 Budget **Action**
 - Motion Authorizing Line of Credit **Action**
 - Motion Authorizing Temporary Draw on Short-Term Reserves **Action**
 - Proposed Revision to the Reserve Fund Policy **Action**
5. Future Annual Meetings Update, *L. Leach*
 - 2011 - Boston, Massachusetts November 7-10 The Langham Hotel
 - 2012 - Pennsylvania
 - 2013 - Georgia
 - 2014 - Connecticut
 - 2015 - Florida
6. Other Business/Adjourn

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Tautog Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS, USFWS

Chair: Pending Election

Other Participants: Caruso, Donnelly, McNamee

Staff: Vonderweidt

1. Welcome/Call to Order
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 11, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair **Action**
5. 2011 Tautog Stock Assessment **Action**
 - Assessment Overview and Results (*P. Caruso*)
 - Technical Committee Report (*P. Caruso*)
6. Consider Draft Addendum VI for Final Approval **Final Action**
 - Review Options (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Public Comment Summary (*C. Vonderweidt*)
 - Technical Committee Report (*J. McNamee*)
 - Advisory Panel Report (*P. Donnelly*)
 - Law Enforcement Report (*C. Vonderweidt*)
7. Other Business/Adjourn

12:00 noon - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch for Commissioners and Proxies

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board

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

Other Members: NMFS, PRFC, USFWS, MAFMC

Chair: Simpson

Other Participants: Chicketano, Batsavage

Staff: Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Simpson*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from November 10, 2010
3. Public Comment
4. Elect Vice-Chair **Action**
5. Draft Addendum XXI for Final Approval **Final Action**
 - Review Options (*T. Kerns*)
 - Public Comment Summary (*T. Kerns*)
 - Advisory Panel Report
 - Consider Final Approval of Addendum XXI

6. Discussion of MAFMC Action to Initiate an Amendment to the Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan at the 2010 December Council Meeting (*T.Kerns*)
Possible Action
7. Update on MAFMC Request for Proposals for Scup Analysis
8. Review and Populate Black Sea Bass Plan Review Team Membership
(*T. Kerns*) **Action**
9. Other Business/Adjourn

2:00 - 2:30 p.m.

ISFMP Policy Board (continued)

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

Other Members: DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

Chair: Boyles

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Boyles*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Review Noncompliance Findings (if necessary)
5. Other Business/Adjourn

2:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Business Session (continued)

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

Chair: Boyles

Staff: Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Boyles*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Review Noncompliance Findings (if necessary)
5. Executive Committee Report
6. Other Business/Adjourn



Old Town Alexandria, Virginia

From Baltimore, Maryland and points North:

Travel on I-495 (Capital Beltway) South towards Washington/Richmond. Stay on I-95 South towards Richmond. Cross the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and take the first exit to Route 1 North - Alexandria. Go 1.5 miles and turn right onto Madison Street. Travel 7 blocks and turn left onto North Fairfax Street. The hotel is 1 block ahead on the right.

From Richmond, Virginia and points South:

Travel on I-95 North towards Washington, D.C. As you reach the Washington area continue on I-95 North towards Baltimore. From I-95 North exit at Exit 177B (Old Town Alexandria, Route 1 North). Drive 1.5 miles on Route 1 and turn right onto Madison Street. Continue 7 blocks and turn left onto North Fairfax Street. The hotel is 1 block ahead on the right.

From Route 66:

Travel on I-495 South past the Richmond exit. I-495 becomes I-95 North towards Baltimore. Take Exit 177B (Old Town Alexandria, Route 1 North). Go 1.5 miles on Route 1 then turn right onto Madison Street. Continue 7 blocks and turn left onto North Fairfax Street. The hotel is 1 block ahead on the right.

From Route 70 and points West:

Follow Route 70 to Route 270 South; continue on Route 270 South towards Washington, D.C., then take I-495 towards Virginia. Cross the American Legion Bridge and travel on the George Washington Memorial Parkway towards Reagan National Airport. Continue another 3 miles and turn left at the 4th stoplight onto Madison Street. Continue 4 blocks; turn left onto North Fairfax Street. The hotel is 1 block ahead on your right side.

From Crystal City:

Travel on Route 1 South towards Alexandria. Follow Route 1 across the bridge. Turn left at the 4th stoplight onto Madison Street. Continue 4 blocks and turn left onto North Fairfax Street. The hotel is 1 block ahead on your right side.

From Washington, DC:

Take I-395 South to the Reagan National Airport exit (GW Parkway). Follow the Parkway into Alexandria. Turn left at the 4th stoplight onto Madison Street. Continue 4 blocks and turn left onto North Fairfax Street. The hotel is 1 block ahead on your right side.

From Pittsburgh, PA:

Take the PA Turnpike East to Route 70 South. Follow Route 70 to Route 270 South towards Washington, DC. From Route 270 take I-495 towards Virginia. After crossing the American Legion Bridge, take the George Washington Memorial Parkway toward Reagan National Airport. Continue another 3 miles and turn left at the 4th stoplight on to Madison Street. Continue 4 blocks; turn left onto North Fairfax Street. The hotel is 1 block ahead on your right side.

From New York & Philadelphia:

Take I-95 South at Philadelphia and go towards Baltimore. Take 495 South towards Washington/Richmond. Continue on I-95 South towards Richmond. Cross the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and take the first exit to Route 1 North - Alexandria. Drive 1.5 miles and turn right onto Madison Street. Drive 7 blocks then turn left onto North Fairfax Street. The hotel is 1 block ahead on the right.