
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 22, 2007

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Council Meeting Claymont, DE: February 13-15, 2007

The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's February 2007 meeting to be held at the Holiday Inn Select, 630 Naamans Rd., Claymont, DE 19703 (telephone 302-792-2700).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

10:00-12:00 pm **Bycatch/LAPP Committee**

- Review and evaluate public comments on proposed Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM) Amendment
- Discuss and develop Council position regarding Secretarial submission of proposed SBRM Amendment
- Review reauthorized MSA Limited Access Privilege Program (LAPP) charge

12:00-1:00 pm **Lunch**

1:00 - 4:00 pm **Ecosystems Committee**

- Energy and Habitat
 - NMFS perspective on LNG facilities and windmill farms
 - Industry (Blue Water Wind) perspective on offshore energy sources
- Ecosystem Approach to Fishery Management: Review of "Taking the Bait"...A Blueprint for Councils to Protect the Ocean Forage Base
- Discuss reauthorized MSA study requirement for regional ecosystem based management and research
- EEZ artificial reef management
 - Corps of Engineers (COE) permit conditions
 - Special management zones

4:00 - 5:30 pm **Tilefish Committee**

- Review Fishery Management Action Team (FMAT) progress regarding Amendment 1
- Provide guidance regarding future actions

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

8:00 - 10:00 am **Executive Committee**

- Review new requirements regarding reauthorized MSA and associated timelines
 - Discuss role of SSC in future Council actions
 - Discuss how best to integrate MSA and NEPA
 - Address overcapitalization and excess harvesting capacity
 - Discuss integration of cooperative research, experimental fishing permits and RSA
- Discuss utilization of Joint ASMFC/MAFMC Advisors

10:00 am **Council Convenes**

10:00-12:00 pm **Business Session**

- Approve December Council Meeting Minutes
- Actions from December 2006

Organizational Reports

- NMFS Regional Administrator
- NMFS NEFSC Director
- NOAA Office of General Counsel
- US Fish & Wildlife
- Federal Enforcement Officials (NMFS and USCG)
- ASMFC's Executive Director

12:00 - 1:00 pm **Lunch**

- 1:00 - 2:00 pm** **Receive report on 44th Stock Assessment Review**
- Surfclams
 - Ocean Quahogs
 - Skate Complex
- 2:00 - 4:00 pm** **Framework 7 to Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP**
[Meeting 1]
- Review options/alternatives regarding mechanism to change biological reference points during the specification setting process following stock assessment reviews
- 4:00 - 5:00 pm** **Amendment 14 to Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP**
[Scup Rebuilding Plan]
- Review and discuss public hearing and written comments
 - Decide and adopt final measures to be included in Amendment 14
 - Approve Amendment 14 for Secretarial submission

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 8:00 - 9:00 am** **Law Enforcement Committee**
- Discuss enforcement priorities for the 2007 fishing year
 - Address maritime security issues impacting the fishing industry
 - Develop list of potential actions for Committee in 2007
- 9:00 am** **Council Convenes**
- 9:00 - 10:30 am** **Receive Presentation on Northeast Monitoring Program (NEMAP)**
- 10:30-11:00 am** **Receive Update from South Atlantic Council regarding its Snapper-Grouper FMP (potential impacts on Snowy Grouper)**
- 11:00-11:30 am** **Amendment 9 to Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish FMP**
- Review and approve for Secretarial submission
- 11:30-12:30 pm** **Amendment 10 to Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish FMP**
- Receive update on timeline and status of butterfish rebuilding efforts
 - Discuss use and role of SSC in addressing butterfish stock rebuilding
- 12:30 - 1:30 pm** **Lunch**
- 1:30 - 3:00 pm** **Status of MAFMC FMPs**
Executive Director's Report
Committee Reports
- Bycatch/LAPP
 - Ecosystems
 - Tilefish
 - Executive
 - Law Enforcement
- Liaison Report**
- New England Council (February 6-8, 2007)
- Continuing and New Business**

The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary. Other items may be added, but the Council cannot take action on such items even if the item requires emergency action without additional public notice. Non-emergency matters not contained in this agenda may come before the Council and / or its Committees for discussion, but these matters may not be the subject of formal Council or Committee action during this meeting. Council and Committee actions will be restricted to the issues specifically listed in this agenda. Any issues requiring emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act that arise after publication of the Federal Register Notice for this meeting may be acted upon provided that the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. The meeting may be closed to discuss employment or other internal administrative matters.