



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 11, 2008

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## Council Meeting in Philadelphia, PA: August 4-7, 2008

The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's August 2008 meeting to be held at the Renaissance Philadelphia Hotel, 500 Stevens Drive, Philadelphia, PA 19113 (telephone 610-521-5900). Below is the meeting agenda.

### Monday, August 4

**8:00 a.m. - Noon**

#### **Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish Committee**

- Review public comments regarding Amendment 10
- Develop preferred alternatives regarding Amendment 10 for Council consideration and action

**Noon - 1:00 p.m.**

#### **Lunch**

**1:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

#### **Research Set-Aside Committee (NMFS CLOSED SESSION)**

- Finalize Council's award recommendations regarding 2009 RSA proposals

**4:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

#### **Bycatch / Limited Access Committee**

- Receive update on status of bycatch pamphlet for catch and releases practices
- Discuss approaches to prioritize bycatch issues

### Tuesday, August 5

**8:30 - 10:00 a.m.**

#### **Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish Committee**

- Review and consider qualifying criteria to be used in mackerel limited entry system (Amendment 11)

**10:00 a.m.**

#### **Council Convenes**

**10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

#### **Presentation by Mark Millikin (NMFS HQ official) regarding Proposed Rule to Modify National Standard 1 Guidelines (Annual Catch Limits [ACL] and Accountability Measures [AM])**

- Review and discuss NMFS proposed rule regarding ACL / AM

**11:00 - Noon**

#### **Report by Dr. Weinberg (NMFS NEFSC) on the 47<sup>th</sup> Stock Assessment Review Committee**

- Receive SARC summary results and Center for Independent Expertise's (CIE) opinions regarding SAW reports on summer flounder

**Noon - 1:00 p.m.**

#### **Lunch**

**1:00 - 2:30 p.m.**

#### **Approve Amendment 10 to the Squid, Mackerel, and Butterfish FMP for Secretarial Submission [butterfish rebuilding program]**

**2:30 - 5:30 p.m.**

#### **Finalize Scup Management Measures for 2009 in conjunction with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board**

- Review SSC and Scup Monitoring Committee's recommendations regarding harvest levels and commercial management measures
- Adopt recommendations for harvest levels and commercial management measures

### Wednesday, August 6

**8:00 a.m.**

#### **Council Convenes**

**8:00 - Noon**

#### **Finalize Summer Flounder Management Measures for 2009 in conjunction with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board**

- Review SSC and Summer Flounder Monitoring Committee's recommendations regarding harvest levels and commercial management measures
- Adopt recommendations for harvest levels and commercial management measures

Noon - 1:00 p.m.  
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

**Lunch**

**Finalize Black Sea Bass Management Measures for 2009 in conjunction with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, scup, and Black Sea Bass Board**

- Review SSC and Black Sea Bass Monitoring Committee's recommendations regarding harvest levels and commercial management measure
- Adopt recommendations for harvest levels and commercial management measures

3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

**Finalize Bluefish Management Measures for 2009 in conjunction with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Bluefish Board**

- Review SSC and Bluefish Monitoring Committee's recommendations regarding 2009 harvest levels and associated management measures
- Adopt recommendations for bluefish harvest levels for 2009 and associated management measures

**Thursday, August 7**

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

**Protected Resources Committee**

- Review list of fisheries (LOF) and develop comments for Council consideration and action

9:00 a.m.

**Council Convenes**

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

**Framework 2 to Spiny Dogfish FMP [Meeting 1]**

- Review alternatives to adjust stock status determination criteria (biological reference points)

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

**Business Session**

- Approve June 2008 Minutes
- Address any outstanding actions from June 2008 meeting

**New England Council Liaison Report**

**Organizational Reports**

- NMFS Regional Administrator
- NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) Director
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of General Counsel
- Federal Enforcement (NMFS and U.S. Coast Guard)
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC)

**Executive Director's Report - Daniel T. Furlong**

**Status of Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (MAFMC) Fishery Management Plans (FMP) - Rich Seagraves**

**Receive Update on Status of Marine Recreational Information Program [MRIP]**

11:00 - Noon

**Lunch**

Noon - 1:00 p.m.

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**Committee Reports**

- Ad Hoc SSC Working Group [National Standard 1 Guidelines]
- Squid, Mackerel, and Butterfish [Amendment 11]
- Research Set-Aside [2009 Awards Recommendations]
- Bycatch/LAPP [Update on Bycatch Pamphlet]
- Protected Resources [List of Fisheries (LOF)]

**Continuing and New Business**

- Approve Council comments regarding NMFS Proposed Rules on:
  - National Standard Guideline 1 (ACL and AM)
  - Update of NMFS application of NEPA pursuant to MSA
  - National Recreational Fishing Registry
- Approve letter transmitting Council's multi-year research priorities (2009-2013)

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.