
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 19, 2008

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Council Meeting in Kill Devil Hills, NC: October 14-16, 2008

The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Management Council's October 2008 meeting to be held at the Ramada Plaza & Resort, 1701 South Virginia Dare Trail, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 (telephone 252-441-2151). Below is the meeting agenda.

Tuesday, October 14

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bycatch /Limited Access Committee

- Continue discussion regarding prioritization and resolution of bycatch issues, i.e. - bycatch notebook
- Approve final version of bycatch pamphlet for catch and release practices

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Ecosystems Committee

- Consider expanding current charge / role of Committee

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

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

Research Set-Aside Committee

- Establish research set-aside priorities for 2010
- Consider developing a standardized rating / ranking system for grant applications from a management / policy perspective

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish Committee

- Review comments received regarding Amendment 11's recent NOI including:
 - Implementation of ACL / AM
 - Updated EFH descriptions for all four species
 - Consider possible limitations on at-sea processing of mackerel

Wednesday, October 15

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

Law Enforcement Committee

- Review Fisheries Achievement Award (FAA) Nominations
- Recommend recipient(s) for recognition

9:30 a.m.

Council Convenes

9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Swearing In of New and Reappointed Council Members and Election of Council Officers

9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Report by Dr. Jim Weinberg on recent GARM Assessment

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Framework 2 to Spiny Dogfish FMP [Meeting 2]

- Select and adopt preferred alternative to adjust stock status determination criteria (biological reference points)

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Presentation by Karyl Brewster-Geisz on Amendment 3 (small coastal shark issues) and Amendment 4 (Caribbean issues) to the Consolidated HMS FMP

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

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

Business Session

- Approval of August Minutes

Organizational Reports

- NMFS Regional Administrator
- NMFS NEFSC Director
- NOAA Office of General Counsel
- Federal Enforcement Officials (NMFS and USCG)
- ASMFC Executive Director

Liaison Report

- New England Council
- South Atlantic Council

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Furlong

Status of MAMC FMPs - Mr. Seagraves

Committee Reports

- Highly Migratory Species (HMS)
- Bycatch / Limited Access
- Ecosystems
- Research Set-Aside (RSA)
- Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish (Amendment 11)
- Law Enforcement

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Presentation by NMFS Protected Resources Official regarding NMFS Proposed Rule for Use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) in All Trawl Fisheries throughout the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Executive Committee

- Review 2009 Annual Work Plan (AWP)
- Review nominees and select recipient of 2008 Ricks E Savage Award
- Address logistics and mechanics of using SSC to provide advice to Council

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Scoping meeting for Amendment 3 to the NMFS' Consolidated Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fishery Management Plan (FMP)

Thursday, October 16

9:00 a.m.

Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Approve Amendment 10 to Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish FMP for Secretarial Submission

- Review and adopt modified alternative 1A (i.e. - 1B, 1C, 1D) to implement butterfish rebuilding through use of a bycatch cap

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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.