
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 22, 2010

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Council Meeting in Duck, NC: April 13-15, 2010

The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's April 2010 meeting to be held at the Sanderling Hotel, 1461 Duck Road, Duck, NC 27949 (telephone: 252-261-4111). Below is the meeting agenda. **NOTE:** Log onto www.ustream.tv and type mafmc in the search block to view and listen to the meeting.

Tuesday, April 13

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish Committee

- Review Amendment 11 Public Comments
- Select preferred Alternatives regarding proposed measures for:
 - Cap on Capacity via limited access
 - Update SMB species' essential fish habitat (EFH) descriptions
 - Evaluate fishing-related gear impacts on *Loligo* egg EFH
 - Establish recreational mackerel allocation
 - Avoid at-sea processing problems
- Review Amendment 14 Scoping Document

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

Lunch

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

Joint Dogfish Committee

- Review and respond to updated Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee (TRAC) assessment
 - Review stock status relative to biological reference point (BRP) update
 - Address / develop a specific quota recommendation as necessary
- Review and discuss DEIS for smooth dogfish (HMS Amendment 3)

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Research Set-Aside Committee

- Discuss possible ways to improve RSA program
- Consider developing research priorities for 2012

Wednesday, April 14

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Executive Committee

- Review update from Ad Hoc Search Committee regarding the search process for Council's next Executive Director
- Review and consider SSC's recommended changes to Council's SOPPs
- Discuss Catch Share Workshop results and potential next steps

9:00 a.m.

Council Convenes

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

Business Session

- Approval of December 2009 and February 2010 Minutes

Organizational Reports

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

Liaison Reports

- New England Council
- South Atlantic Council

Executive Director's Report

Status of MAFMC FMPs

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

Approve Monkfish Amendment 5

- Review Monkfish Advisory Panel and Oversight Committee recommendations
- Select and approve final measures for:
 - Implementation of annual catch limits (ACL) and accountability measures (AMs) to prevent overfishing
 - Management reference points in accordance with the revised Guidelines
 - Specifications for FY 2011-2013 and beyond, if necessary including trip limits and DAS for the directed fishery, adjustments to the Research Set Aside (RSA) program, or other revisions

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

Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Approve Public Hearing Document for ACL / AM Omnibus Amendment

Thursday, April 15

8:30 a.m.

Council Convenes

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Receive Update on Endangered Species Act (ESA) Listing Status of Loggerhead Sea Turtle - Proposed Change from Threatened to Endangered

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

Committee Reports

- Highly Migratory Species (HMS)
- Scientific and Statistical Committee
- Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish (Possible final action on Amendment 11)
- Dogfish (Possible action on quota modification for spiny dogfish)
- Research Set-Aside (RSA)
- Executive Committee (Possible action on SOPPs and Catch Share Workshop results / next steps)

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Continuing and New Business

- Discuss status of 2010 Black Sea Bass recreational measures; i.e., review Commission's current position and our Council's February recommendation (the two management authorities have provided divergent recommendations to the NMFS RA)
- Presentation of SARC 49 Butterfish outcome by SAR Chair Rob Latour
- Discuss NOAA GC Opinion on SMB Amendment 10 Rulemaking and address Council options

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.