



## Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

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Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | P. Weston Townsend, Vice Chairman

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

# MEMORANDUM

**Date:** January 26, 2021  
**To:** Council  
**From:** José Montañez, staff  
**Subject:** Upcoming February Council meeting – Aquaculture update

On Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. an aquaculture update will be made to the Council.

We will have a presentation from Danielle Blacklock on aquaculture topics in E.O. 13921 (Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth), including Aquaculture Opportunities Areas (AOAs; an AOA is a small defined geographic area that has been evaluated to determine its potential suitability for commercial aquaculture. NOAA will use a combination of scientific analysis and public engagement to identify areas that are environmentally, socially, and economically appropriate for commercial aquaculture. For additional background information on AOAs visit: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/aquaculture-opportunity-areas>). Danielle Blacklock oversees the aquaculture component of NOAA's sustainable seafood portfolio. She leads the office's work on regulation and policy, science, outreach, and international activities in support of U.S. aquaculture. She received her M.S. in Marine Affairs from the University of Washington, and her B.S. in Marine Science from the University of Maine.

Then, Kevin Madley will provide a regional EEZ aquaculture status update. Kevin is an Aquaculture Coordinator for the Greater Atlantic Region, based in Gloucester, Massachusetts. He works with federal and state agencies, industry, and members of the scientific, academic, and NGO communities on a variety of marine aquaculture issues. Kevin earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biological Sciences from the University of South Florida.