

MID-ATLANTIC COUNCIL

2013 Planned Council Meeting Topics

February 12-14, 2013 -- Hampton, VA

- Ecosystem and Ocean Planning Committee review of alternatives for Amendment 16
- Amendment 16 to Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish (deep sea corals) Scoping Hearing
- Black Sea Bass Specifications for 2013 and 2014
- Special Management Zone recommendations for Delaware reefs
- Discuss approach to alternative development for Amendment 15 to Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish FMP
- Marine Recreational Information Program Update

April 9-11, 2013 -- Raleigh, NC

- Tilefish Specifications for 2014
- Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology Omnibus Amendment draft EA approval
- Omnibus Recreational Amendment alternatives for public hearing document
- Squid Workshop update from January 15-17, 2013
- Forage Fish Workshop

June 11-13, 2013 -- Eatontown, NJ

- Butterfish Specifications for 2014 and other Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish management measures
- *Illex* Control Date approval
- Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Specifications for 2014, 2015, and 2016
- Surfclam and Ocean Quahog data collection protocol review
- Research Set-Aside award recommendations for 2014
- Omnibus Recreational Amendment submission approval
- Draft Strategic Plan document public hearing approval
- Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology alternatives approval

August 13-15, 2013 -- Wilmington, DE

- Swearing-in of new and reappointed Council members
- Election of Officers
- Research Set-Aside 2015 Research and Information Priorities List
- Final Draft Strategic Plan document approval
- Deep Sea Coral Amendment alternatives for public hearing

October 8-10, 2013 -- Philadelphia, PA

- Spiny Dogfish Specifications for 2014
- Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Commercial Specifications for 2014 (and beyond)
- Bluefish Specifications for 2014
- Amendment 15 to MSB FMP - River Herring/Shad as Stocks in a Fishery
- Monkfish Framework 8 alternatives for further analysis
- Research Set-Aside Priorities for 2015 Request for Proposal
- SAW/SARC 57 Benchmark Assessment review of summer flounder and striped bass

December 10-12, 2013 --Annapolis, MD

- Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Recreational Specifications for 2014 (and beyond)
- SSCs 5-year Research Priority Recommendations
- Implementation Plan approval
- Adopt river herring and shad approach
- Framework 9 MSB FMP - river herring slippage issues

MID-ATLANTIC COUNCIL

2013 Schedule of Events

September

- 4-5 Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation Workshop on Short-Lived Species, URI, Kingston, RI
- 5-12 American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Little Rock, AR
- 9 Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Advisory Panel Meeting, Warwick, RI
- 10 Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Advisory Panel Meeting, Baltimore, MD
- 10 House Hearing on Magnuson, Washington, DC
- 16 Seismic Survey Panel, W. Long Branch, NJ
- 17 Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Amendment 15 (river herring/shad) FMAT Webinar
- 17 Senate staff briefing on Climate Change and Fisheries, Washington, DC
- 17-19 SSC Meeting - ABC recommendations for Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass, Bluefish and Dogfish, Baltimore, MD
- 19 Closed Area Technical Team Meeting, Taunton, MA
- 19-20 Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Monitoring Committees, Baltimore, MD

October

- 1-2 Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation Summit on Collaborative Research, Narragansett, RI
- 3-4 MARACOOS Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD
- 7-10 Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- 9-10 ACCSP Joint Operations & Advisors Committee, Hanover, MD
- 10 ICCAT Advisory Panel, Silver Spring, MD
- 15 Oceana Forum, Fairfax, VA
- ~~15-18 Butterfish SAW Modeling, Woods Hole, MA~~
- 17 Oceana Forum, Baltimore, MD
- ~~21-25 Tilefish Working Group (SARC 58), Woods Hole, MA (Moved to Dec. 2-6, 2013)~~
- 22-23 CCC Meeting, WEBINAR
- 22-23 National Fish Habitat Action Plan Board Meeting, Charleston, SC
- 22-24 New Council Member Training, Silver Spring, MD
- 27-31 Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting, Georgia
- 28 NC Fisheries Association Meeting, Washington, NC

November

- 6 Fish & Wildlife River Herring Workshop, Hadley, MA
- 12-16 Fisheries Leadership Forum 2013, Monterey, CA
- 14-15 AFS Annual Meeting, Tuckerton, NJ
- 18-21 Butterfish SAW Modeling, Woods Hole, MA
- 19-20 MRIP, Jacksonville, FL
- 21 NRCC Meeting, Newport, RI
- 25 NEFSC Council Training, Woods Hole, MA
- 26 NERO Council Training, Gloucester, MA
- 25-28 Win.Mon.BE 2013 Conference, Brussels, Belgium
- 22 Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Monitoring Committee, Baltimore, MD
- 25 Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Advisory Panel WEBINAR

December

- ~~2-6 Butterfish and Tilefish SARC (58), Woods Hole, MA (Moved to Jan. 27-31, 2014)~~
- 3 NMFS HMS Amendment 7 Public Hearing, Toms River, NJ
- 3-4 Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team, Solomons, MD
- 9-12 Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting, Annapolis, MD

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Specifications

(As of December 1, 2013)

Fishery Management Plans	2013				2014				2015			
	Council Approved	Specs Package Submitted	NMFS Proposed Rule	NMFS Final Rule	Council Approved	Specs Package Submitted	NMFS Proposed Rule	NMFS Final Rule	Council Approved	Specs Package Submitted	NMFS Proposed Rule	NMFS Final Rule
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass · Commercial · Recreational	08/15/12 12/13/12	10/04/12 03/14/13	11/16/12 ^b 04/29/13 ^e	12/31/12 ^d 06/21/13	10/09/13							
Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish	06/12/12	07/31/12	11/19/12 ^c	01/16/13	06/12/13	08/15/13						
Dogfish	10/17/12	02/08/13	03/12/13	05/03/13 ^f	10/08/13							
Bluefish	08/15/12	12/02/12	02/20/13	05/07/13 ^g	10/09/13							
Surfclam, Ocean Quahog		12/27/10 ^a			06/12/13	08/16/13	11/07/13 ^h					

^a Final rule applies for surfclam and ocean quahog fishing years 2011-2013.

^b Proposed rule applies for summer flounder and scup fishing years 2103 and 2014 and black sea bass fishing year 2013.

^c Proposed rule applies for mackerel fishing years 2013-2015 and butterfish fishing year 2013 (longfin and Illex squids were set in 2012 for fishing years 2012-2014).

^d Final rule applies for summer flounder and scup fishing years 2013 and 2014 and black sea bass fishing year 2013.

^e Proposed rule applies to 2013 and 2014 black sea bass catch limits and 2013 recreational measures.

^f Final rule applies for spiny dogfish fishing years 2013-2015.

^g Final rule applies for bluefish fishing years 2013-2014.

^h Proposed rule applies for surfclam and ocean quahog fishing years 2014-2016.

*Status of Open Amendment/Framework Actions
(as of December 1, 2013)*

<u>FMP</u>	<u>AMD\FW</u>	<u>Issues Addressed</u>
Mackerel / Squid Butterfish	Amendment 14	<i>Alosine</i> incidental catch
	Amendment 16	Deep sea corals
	Framework 8	Trimester 2 butterfish cap closure Quota transfer between landings at end of year
	Framework 9	Slippage issues
Summer Flounder/ Scup/Black Sea Bass	Amendment 18	Black sea bass recreational management
	Amendment 20	Scup allocation
Dogfish	Amendment 3	Authorize RSA program Consider alternatives to seasonal quotas Limited access Quota rollover EFH definitions
Surfclam/ Ocean Quahog	Amendment 17	Cost recovery EFH updates Ocean quahog overfishing definition
	Amendment 18	Excessive shares
Omnibus Recreational Accountability Measures		Recreational AMs: Includes Amendment 17 to Mackerel/Squid/Butterfish; Amendment 19 to Summer Flounder/ Scup/Black Sea Bass; and Amendment 4 to Bluefish
Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology		Bycatch Monitoring: Includes Amendment 18 to Mackerel/Squid/Butterfish; Amendment 17 to Summer Flounder/ Scup/Black Sea Bass; Amendment 4 to Dogfish; Amendment 15 to Surfclam/Ocean Quahog; Amendment 5 to Bluefish; and Amendment 3 to Tilefish

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Status of FMPs, Amendments and Frameworks
(As of December 1, 2013)

FMP/Amendment	Date Approved by Council	Lapse	Date submitted to NMFS/NERO	Lapse	FR Notice of Plan Availability	Lapse	Proposed Rule Publication Date	Lapse	Plan Approval/ Disapproval Letter	Lapse	Final Rule Publication Date
Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Framework 8	12/12/12	212	07/12/13								
Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Amendment 14	06/14/12	257	02/26/13	166	08/12/13	17	08/29/13	70	11/07/13		
Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Amendment 16 (Deep Sea Corals)											
Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Amendment 17											
Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Amendment 18											
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Amendment 18											
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Amendment 20											
Spiny Dogfish Amendment 3	10/17/12	289	08/02/13								
Omnibus Recreational AM Amendment*	06/12/13	29	07/23/13	43	09/04/13	14	09/18/13				

* Includes Amendment 17 to Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish FMP; Amendment 19 to Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass FMP; and, Amendment 4 to Bluefish FMP.

"Lapse" is the amount of time in days from Council approval to column-heading action.

**Draft Timeline for Development/Review/Implementation of Amendment 17 to the
Surfclam and Ocean Quahog FMP**
(Cost Recovery, BRP Updates, OY Range, EFH Updates)

Note: This timeline will be reviewed by the newly formed FMAT at its first meeting in January 2014; therefore, it may be modified based on FMAT member advice. NMFS-NERO staff indicated a new cost recovery program would require more time to implement than typical actions; this is reflected in the timeline.

2014-2015 Development Track	
Action	Timeline, based on current Council meeting schedule
First FMAT Meeting	January 2014
Develop Description of the Alternatives (may include additional meetings of the Committee and/or FMAT as needed)	February - May 2014
MAFMC Meeting (Council Review Alternatives)	June 2014
Document Development: EA (may include additional meetings of the Committee and/or FMAT as needed)	July 2014 - September 2015
MAFMC Meeting (Adopt public hearing draft)	October 2015
Public Hearings and Summarization of Comments (need at least 23 days of FR notice and 30 days comment period with hearings)	November/December 2015
MAFMC Meeting (Review comment summary)	February 2015
MAFMC Meeting (Approve/adopt amendment)	April 2015
Final Rule Effective	January 1, 2016

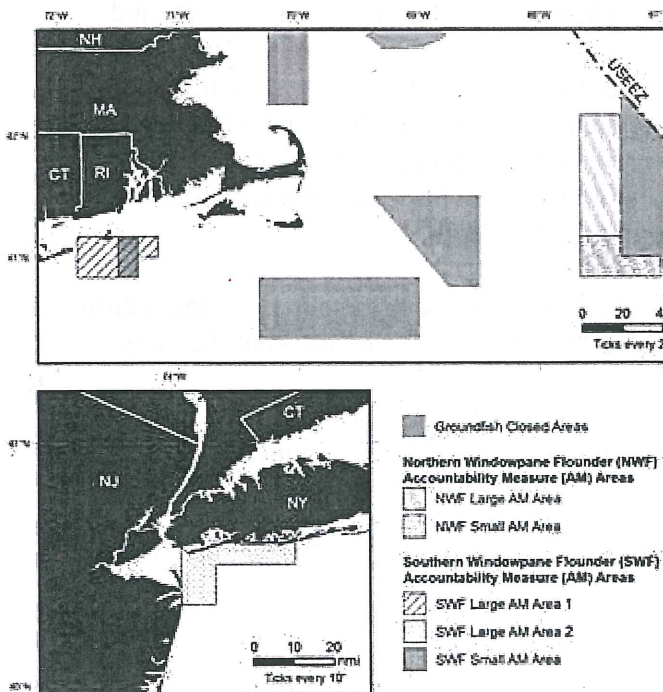
Didden, Jason T.

From: Didden, Jason T.
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2013 10:04 AM
To: Moore, Christopher
Subject: RE: Southern Windowpane Issue for ED Report

Chris,

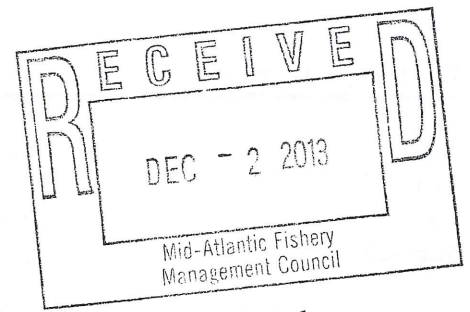
I had a call into Sarah Heil (NMFS NERO) and she clarified a few timing issues today. There are apparently no AMs for windowpane for 2012 ACLs. If 2013 Southern windowpane ACLs are exceeded, then any AMs would probably be triggered May 2015.

The "other" Southern windowpane sub-ACL for 2013 includes fluke, scup, squid, squid/whiting, and unknown. Scallops were in this group in 2012 but have been removed for 2013. In 2012 this "other" group caught 250 mt and in 2013 their sub-ACL is 186 mt. If this "other" category is exceeded by 21% or more in 2013, then my understanding is that starting in May 2015, vessels using mesh 5" or greater in the following areas (the hatched area south of Block Island and the cross-hatched area south of W Long Island) would have to use "a haddock separator trawl, as specified in §648.85(a)(3)(iii)(A); a Ruhle trawl, as specified in §648.85(b)(6)(iv)(J)(3); a rope separator trawl, as specified in §648.84(e); or any other gear approved consistent with the process defined in §648.85(b)(6)." (<http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&SID=1e9802ffddb05d0243d9c657fade956c&rgn=div5&view=text&node=50:12.0.1.1.5&idno=50#50:12.0.1.1.5.6>).



Getting clarification on the gear-approval process and double checking my interpretation of the potential SNE/Mid-Atlantic consequences of Southern windowpane sub-ACL overages (and their timelines) could be useful to discuss with NERO. I will print this email out for your ED's Report.

800 North State St., Suite 201
Dover, DE 19901-3910
11/21/13



Dear Dr. Moore,

My name is Jackie Molina. I am just one of the many people who want to protect the beauty of our ocean. I want to thank the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council for initiating this action to help protect the region's unique and vulnerable deep sea coral communities. This is the moment to act -- bottom trawling currently does not occur in the Atlantic's submarine canyons and at the depths that most of the corals are found. We have a unique window to protect the deep sea corals and the ecosystems they help support before irreversible damage is done.

Over the past three years a concerted effort has been put forth by scientists and coral experts to document deep sea coral habitat and to design protective measures as part of a parallel deep sea coral protection initiative by the New England Fishery Management Council. Staff and members of the Mid-Atlantic Council participated in this process, which was originally intended to encompass the entire Northeast region. I urge you to use this detailed body of work as you begin developing your own management plan.

I also strongly recommend that this Council adopt the following approach for its deep sea coral protection plan:

1. Prohibit bottom trawling and other destructive fishing gear in the undersea canyons and inter-canyon areas that are known or considered likely by scientists to contain deep sea corals; and
2. "Freeze the footprint" for bottom trawling so that, as recommended by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, destructive fishing gear is not allowed to expand into deeper, untrawled areas until it is determined that coral communities are not present. As part of plan development, the Council should identify where most bottom trawling occurs (i.e., 90-95%) and set the landward boundary for this coral protection area at this depth.

This layered approach provides flexibility to both protect deep sea coral resources in the region while minimizing any possible financial impacts on fishermen. It also mirrors what the New England Council is considering.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to help shape this historic move by the Council to protect some of our ocean's most endangered resources

Sincerely, Jackie Molina
803 ¾ Stimson Ave
La Puente, CA 91746

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jackie Molina".

<http://www.nrdc.org/oceans/canyons/default.asp> this is where I got my information if you'd like to take a look at it.

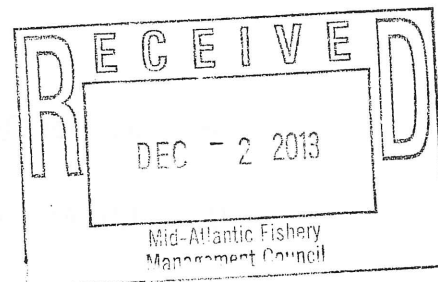
R. E. MAYO SEAFOOD
Box 100
Hobucken, N. C. 28537

Phone 252-745-5331

Fax 252-745-4929

November 19, 2013

Executive Director Christopher Moore
Mid Atlantic Fisheries Management Council
800 North State St, Suite 201
Dover, Delaware 19901



Re: Flounder Reallocation

Dear Sir;

With reference to the above mentioned reallocation, this is to advise you I think reallocation would be very unfair. New York has expressed their desire to have some of North Carolina's flounder quota. North Carolina earned the quota, it is ours, and we want to keep it. We do not want to give up one pound of it. The quota that New York has, was earned mainly By North Carolina boats and they should appreciate it without wanting our quota.

Due to inclement weather, North Carolina has had the unfortunate luck of Oregon Inlet shallowing up and boats not being able to navigate through the inlet and having to go to Virginia to pack their boats. The owners of the North Carolina boats were mistakenly under the impression that when they packed in Virginia that the quota would be credited to North Carolina. We had no idea it was being credited to the Virginia quota.

The Oregon Inlet is now being dredged and we hope to pack our boats in North Carolina this year.

With all of this in mind we respectfully request that you do NOT reallocate the quota.

Assuring you of our cooperation at all times, I remain,

Sincerely,



Birdie Potter

cc to : Council Members



Michael D. Potter
404 Cowell Lane
Bayboro, N. C. 28515

November 25, 2013

Re: Flounder Quota

Dear Mr. Moore

In reference to the flounder quota and New York requesting part of North Carolina's quota, I would like to request that you do NOT Reallocate the quota. The North Carolina boats worked very hard to Earn this quota and they should be allowed to keep it. Since this quota Was earned several years ago, it would be very disappointing for it To change now just because Oregon being impassable last year, and the North Carolina boats had to pack in Virginia.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Potter".

Mike Potter, Captain
F/V Jane Carolyn

Climate Science Workshop

February 11 or 14, 2014

Hilton Doubletree

New Bern, NC

Draft

Workshop Purpose

Inform the Council about the state of climate science relative to prediction of climate change and the expected ecosystem impacts/changes which may occur over the next two decades. The intent is to provide the Council with the current state of knowledge relative to climate change and the expected range of impacts on living marine resources to assist the Council in the development of an adaptive fishery management framework that will effectively deal with ecosystem responses related to climate change.

Program Outline

- Description of physical oceanography of Atlantic Coast ecosystem(s) with emphasis on MAB
- Identification of key climate drivers affecting MAB ecosystem (warming, acidification, circulation patterns, etc.)
- Description of the state of climate science and identify range of responses of environment/ecosystem to climate change over next 5-15 years
- Description of expected impacts on species distributions, production, assemblages and fleet dynamics
- Discuss framework for incorporation of environmental covariates in stock assessments
- Develop advice to Council on best management practices to react to climate related ecosystem changes