



October 2023 Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 3 – Thursday, October 5, 2023

Yotel New York
(570 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY, 10036; 646-449-7772)
or via Webex webinar

This meeting will be an in-person meeting with a virtual option. Council members, other meeting participants, and members of the public will have the option to participate in person at the Yotel New York or virtually via Webex webinar. Webinar connection instructions and briefing materials will be available at: <https://www.mafmc.org/briefing/october-2023>.

Tuesday, October 3rd

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| 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Executive Committee – Open Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Review progress on 2023 Implementation Plan– Review and approve draft 2024 deliverables | (Tab 1) |
| 3:00 p.m. | Council Convenes | |
| 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Monkfish and Dogfish Joint Framework to Reduce the Bycatch of Atlantic Sturgeon <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Review joint Dogfish and Monkfish Committee recommendations– Review and approve range of Dogfish and Monkfish alternatives | (Tab 2) |
| 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | Illex Hold Framework #2: Final Action <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Review recommendations from the Committee and Advisory Panel– Select preferred alternatives and take final action | (Tab 3) |

Wednesday, October 4th

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| 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Northeast Fishery Science Center (NEFSC) Federal Surveys: Survey Performance, Issues, and Planning for the Future – Dr. Kathryn Ford and Peter Chase, NEFSC <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Overview of NOAA Ship Henry B. Bigelow bottom trawl survey, R/V Hugh R. Sharp Scallops Survey, and other NEFSC surveys– Past survey performance, 2023 survey issues, contingency plans, and future scheduling | (Tab 4) |
| 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Policy/Process for Reviewing Exempted Fishing Permit Applications for Unmanaged Forage Amendment Ecosystem Component Species <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Review draft policy/process document– Review recommendations from EOP Committee and Advisory Panel– Approve policy/process | (Tab 5) |

- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Offshore Wind Energy Development (Tab 6)**
- Updates from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
 - Updates from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) – Offshore Wind Master Plan 2.0 (Deepwater)
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. ----- LUNCH -----**
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Risk Assessment Review (Tab 7)**
- Review recommendations from EOP Committee and Advisory Panel
 - Approve modifications to EAFM risk assessment
- 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Private Recreational Tilefish Permitting and Reporting (Tab 8)**
- Receive update from GARFO on recreational tilefish permitting and reporting
 - Discuss communication and outreach efforts
- 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Habitat Activities Update – Karen Greene, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office Habitat and Ecosystem Services Division (Tab 9)**
- Presentation on activities of interest (aquaculture, wind, and other projects) in the region
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. NEFSC Observer Program Update – Katherine McArdle, NEFSC (Tab 10)**
- Review recent program performance and modifications
 - Review recent changes in tasked seadays resulting from the first Standardized Bycatch Reduction Methodology (SBRM) discard analysis conducted since COVID-19 disruptions
 - Review planned outreach
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. NEFSC Cooperative Research Update – Dr. Anna Mercer, NEFSC (Tab 11)**
- Review the Cooperative Research Branch's portfolio, focusing on new research and outreach initiatives
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Assessment and Peer Review Overviews – Spiny Dogfish and Atlantic Mackerel (Tab 12)**
- Review recent developments that will inform Council actions in December 2023
- 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. NEFSC Presentation on Maternal Effects (i.e. the potential importance of larger females for resilient fisheries) - Mark Wuenschel and Richard McBride, NEFSC (Tab 13)**
- Review relevant NEFSC research activities
 - Consider potential implications for assessment and management

Thursday, October 5th

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Business Session

Committee Reports:

(Tab 14)

- Scientific and Statistical Committee
- Monkfish Committee
- Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Committee
- Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel (NTAP)

Executive Director's Report – Dr. Chris Moore

(Tab 15)

Organization Reports:

- NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, NOAA Fisheries Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Office of General Counsel, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, US Coast Guard

Liaison Reports:

(Tab 16)

- New England Council, South Atlantic Council

Other Business and General Public Comment

This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 USC 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

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.