



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 17, 2017

Council Meeting in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina: February 14-16, 2017

The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's February 2017 meeting to be held February 14-16, 2017 in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Kitty Hawk, 5353 N. Virginia Dare Trail, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949, Telephone 252-261-1290.

Webinar: For online access to the meeting, enter as a guest at: <http://mafmc.adobeconnect.com/february2017>.

Meeting Materials: Briefing documents will be posted at <http://ww.mafmc.org/briefing/february-2017> as they become available.

Agenda

Tuesday, February 14th

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| 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | River Herring/Shad Committee Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Discuss criteria to assess progress in river herring/shad conservation |
| 2:30 p.m. | Council Convenes |
| 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Meeting as a Committee of the Whole <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Review and approve public hearing document for Squid Amendment |
| 4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Law Enforcement Report |
| 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | Presentation on National Marine Sanctuary Nomination Process
<i>Paul Ticco - NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries</i> |

Wednesday, February 15th

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| 9:00 a.m. | Meeting with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Boards |
| 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | 62nd Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop (62nd SAW)
<i>Jim Weinberg, NMFS, NEFSC</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Overview of black sea bass benchmark stock assessment findings and peer review panelist findings |
| 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | Black Sea Bass 2017-2019 Specifications <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Overview and staff recommendation– SSC recommendation– Review Monitoring Committee and Advisory Panel recommendations– Adopt recommendations for 2017-2019 |
| 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Black Sea Bass Research Update
<i>Brad Stevens - UMES</i> |
| 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | LUNCH |

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Black Sea Bass Recreational Specifications

- Review Monitoring Committee and Advisory Panel recommendations
- Adopt recommendations for 2017 management measures
- Review Recreational Working Group recommendations and regional/state proposals (possible Board action)

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Black Sea Bass Commercial AM Framework

- Review background, issues, and draft alternatives

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Summer Flounder Amendment

- Update on progress and timeline

Thursday, February 16th

9:00 a.m.

Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Business Session

Organization Reports

- NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Office
- NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- NOAA Office of General Counsel
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Liaison Reports

- New England Council
- South Atlantic Council
- Regional Planning Body

Executive Director's Report

Chris Moore

Science Report

Rich Seagraves

Committee Reports

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.