

**Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
and  
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission**

**Joint Law Enforcement Committee Meeting**

*November 4, 2015 (8:30a.m-5:45pm)  
St. Augustine, Florida*

**Draft Agenda**

The times listed are approximate; the order in which these items will be taken is subject to change;  
other items may be added as necessary.

**NOTE: A portion of this meeting will be closed to the public to discuss ongoing enforcement activities. Only members of the Law Enforcement Committees, authorized law enforcement personnel and the LEC Coordinators can be in attendance.**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Coffee Social/Call to Order/Roll Call of the LEC Representatives | 8:30 a.m. |
| 2. Approval of Agenda   | 9:00 a.m. |
| 3. ASMFC LEC Business   | 9:05 a.m. |
| Approval of May 5-6, 2015 Minutes                                   |           |
| Review of 2016 Action Plan Items                                    |           |
| Other Business (as needed)  |           |
| 4. GSMFC LEC Business   | 9:25 a.m. |
| Approval of March 17, 2015 Joint LEAP/LEC Minutes                   |           |
| Other Business (as needed)  |           |

**Joint Meeting Agenda Items**

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 5. ASMFC Discussion of 2016 Striped Bass Compliance Report Needs | 9:40 a.m.  |
| 6. Break   | 9:55 a.m.  |
| 7. Joint Enforcement Agreement Issues                            | 10:10 a.m. |
| Aerial Enforcement Activities                                    |            |
| NOAA TED Reporting Requirements                                  |            |
| Other JEA Discussion   |            |

The meeting will be held at the World Golf Village Renaissance Resort, 500 S. Legacy Trail, St. Augustine, FL

8. Federal vs. State Citations and Case Dispositions 10:45 a.m.  
Review State Questionnaire Results  
State Licenses and Saltwater Registry in Federal Waters  
Transit Issues  
Extending State Rules into Federal Waters
9. Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Issues 11:15 a.m.  
GOM-Mexican and Domestic Launches  
AS-Safe Harbor and Multi-State Quota Harvest
10. Enforcement Cases of Interest/Media Issues 11:45 a.m.
11. Recess for Lunch 12:00 p.m.
12. Reconvene Joint LEC Meeting 1:45 p.m.
13. Review and Discussion of ongoing enforcement activities---**NOTE:**  
**This portion of the meeting will be closed to the public** 1:50 p.m.
14. Species Overview, Management and Enforcement for Horseshoe Crab 2:20 p.m.
15. Officer Retention Issues (Review Questionnaire Results) 3:00 p.m.
16. Break 3:30 p.m.
17. Other ISFMP Species Issues (as needed) 3:45 p.m.
18. Federal Agency Report Highlights 4:00 p.m.
19. State Agency Report Highlights 4:30 p.m.
20. Public Comment 5:20 p.m.
21. Other Business 5:30 p.m.
22. Adjourn 5:45 p.m.

# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Law Enforcement Committee

## Draft Minutes

May 5-6, 2015

Alexandria, Virginia

### Participants:

CHAIRMAN: Lloyd Ingerson (MD DNR, Natural Resource Police)  
VICE CHAIR: Michael Eastman (NH Fish & Game Department)  
Steve Anthony (NC DMF, Marine Patrol Section)  
Kurt Blanchard (RI DEM, Division of Law Enforcement)  
Elizabeth Buendia (USCG, Living Marine Resources)  
Jon Cornish (ME DMR, Maine Marine Patrol)  
Larry Furlong (PA Fish & Boat Commission, Bureau of Law Enforcement)  
Jamie Green (VA MRC, Division of Law Enforcement)  
Wayne Hettenbach, (US Department of Justice)  
Bob Hogan (NOAA Fisheries, Office of General Counsel)  
Tim Huss (NY DEC, Division of Law Enforcement)  
Rob Kersey (MD DNR, Natural Resource Police)  
Doug Lewis (GA DNR, Law Enforcement Section)  
Doug Messeck (DE DNREC, Enforcement Section)  
Pat Moran (MA Environmental Police)  
Kyle Overturf (CN DEEP, State Environmental Conservation Police)  
Jay Pilgrim (USFWS)  
Rama Shuster (FL FWCC, Division of Law Enforcement)  
Jason Snellbaker (NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Law Enforcement)

Staff: Mark Robson, Committee Coordinator  
Toni Kerns  
Megan Ware

Guests: Dan McKiernan (MA); David Borden (RI); Lou Goodreau (NEFMC)

### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call of the LEC Representatives**

Chairman Lloyd Ingerson called the meeting to order, welcomed members and guests. Mark Robson called the roll of LEC members.

### **3. Approval of Agenda and October 2014 minutes**

### **4. Review of Draft Jonah Crab Management Options**

Toni Kerns reviewed the draft management plan for Jonah Crab that was discussed at the American lobster management board. LEC members were updated on possible management of this fishery and the range of options for permits, reporting requirements, minimum sizes and possible tolerance allowances for minimum size requirements in large batches of harvested crabs. Dan McKiernan, current chairman of the American lobster management board, reviewed some of the history leading to development of a Jonah crab plan, and the relationship of this fishery to the American lobster fishery. LEC members offered some initial reactions to the plan and concerns about trip ticket reporting, consistency with the lobster fishery permitting and reporting systems and the need for a uniform size limit requirement. A number of members expressed opposition to allowing any tolerance for harvest of undersized crabs. To facilitate more complete review and input on the draft plan, the LEC appointed a sub-committee to work with staff

in advance of the August 2015 ASMFC meeting. Kurt Blanchard, Pat Moran, Jon Cornish, Kyle Overturf and Mike Eastman volunteered to serve on this sub-committee. Members representing USCG and USFWS offered to assist.

**5. Outside Advisory Committee Activities (AFWA/NACLEC/Councils)**

Committee members shared information on the most recent AFWA/NACLEC meetings, and the second enforcement Leadership Academy that is underway. A few members of the LEC participate in AFWA, and will likely be attending the annual meeting this September, in Arizona.

**6. Review and update of Species Board Reps and Alternates**

To better support ASMFC management boards, the LEC appointed alternate representatives to the various species boards. This will allow newer members to learn more about the ASMFC process, and be available to fill in for primary LEC representatives. Mark Robson will update the list of Species Board Representatives and make that available to members and ASMFC staff.

**7. Discussion of other ISFMP Species (tentative)**

No discussion.

**8. Discussion of possible joint meeting with GSMFC LEC (tentative)**

The LEC also discussed a possible joint meeting of the ASMFC and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) during the fall 2015 meeting in Florida. There is interest in a possible joint meeting with the GSMFC LEC, and some common agenda items will be developed for that meeting. Mark Robson and Rama Shuster will coordinate planning for joint discussions with Steve Vanderkooy and others at GSMFC. It was suggested that discussion of the Joint Enforcement Agreement and federal coordination would be a good topic. If possible a joint session of one-half day could occur, with an additional half-day for individual LEC business.

**9. Break**

**10. Review and discussion of ongoing enforcement activities---closed session.**

Members discussed ongoing enforcement operations and coordination.

**11. JEA Update/Federal Agency Reports**

Several members reviewed ongoing coordination of JEA activities and reporting. North Carolina still is not a participant in the JEA. Representatives of federal agencies gave brief updates on their organizations and activities.

**12. Review recent Safe Harbor Issues**

Members shared information regarding their states' processes and procedures for evaluating safe harbor requests, and whether these procedures were satisfactory for addressing safety concerns while minimizing potential abuse of such policies.

**13. Recess for the day**

**14/15. Morning Social and Reconvene**

## **16. Update on State Implementation Plans for Striped Bass**

Mark Robson briefed committee members on the latest conservation equivalency measures being adopted by the states. The committee noted the effort of states to adopt the same or similar size and bag limits, in partial response to LEC comments for consistency and simplicity.

## **17. State Agency Reports**

LEC representatives from each state provided updates on staffing, equipment and current issues or cases in their jurisdictions.

## **18. 2015 Action Plan Issues**

Mark Robson reminded LEC of our assigned tasks as found under Goal 3 of the 2015 ASMFC Action Plan. He reviewed our recent work to update the Enforceability Guidelines as an example of our completion of a major task assigned in 2014.

## **19. Discussion of Closed Area configurations and enforcement**

Based on discussions during development of revised Enforceability Guidelines, members reviewed recommendations for establishing boundaries of closed or protected areas. All agreed that the recommendations contained in the revised guidelines are adequate to address improvements in tracking and mapping technology and enforcement tools. Rama Shuster provided materials and information regarding new mapping and tracking tools.

## **20. Break**

## **21. Review of Management Options for Atlantic Herring (Amendment 3)**

Mike Eastman briefed the committee on draft measures for an empty-hold provision and his recommendation that the language in the draft document is sufficient to address any enforcement concerns about checking or certifying empty holds.

## **22. Other Business**

Kurt Blanchard suggested that at a future meeting we have a review of ASMFC operations and procedures, to better inform many of the newer members of the LEC. It was agreed to develop agenda items to address this, including presentations from staff or species subject matter experts.

Due to the retirement of Lloyd Ingerson, the LEC elected Mike Eastman as Chairman, and Steve Anthony as Vice Chair.

## **23. Adjournment**