

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

ISFMP Policy Board

May 11, 2017
8:00-10:30 a.m.
Alexandria, Virginia

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.

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. Grout*) 8:00 a.m.
2. Board Consent (*D. Grout*) 8:00 a.m.
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Proceedings from February 2017
3. Public Comment 8:05 a.m.
4. Update from Executive Committee (*D. Grout*) 8:15 a.m.
5. Review and Consider New Jersey Appeal of Addendum XXVIII to the Summer Flounder Fishery Management Plan **Final Action** 8:20 a.m.
6. Update on Climate Change Working Group (*T. Kerns*) 8:55 a.m.
7. Review and Discuss 2017 Commissioner Survey Results (*D. Tompkins*) 9:00 a.m.
8. Committee Report on Safe Harbor Landings (*J. Gilmore*) **Possible Action** 9:15 a.m.
9. Update on the Marine Recreational Information Program Transition of the Fishing Effort Survey and APAIS (*D. Van Voorhees*) 9:30 a.m.
10. Review and Consider Approval of Standard Meeting Practices (*T. Kerns*) **Action** 9:50 a.m.
11. Progress Update on the 2017 Sturgeon Benchmark Stock Assessment (*K. Drew*) 9:55 a.m.
12. Review and Consider Approval of the Assessment Schedule (*S. Madsen*) **Action** 10:00 a.m.
13. Standing Committee Reports 10:05 a.m.
 - Law Enforcement Committee (*M. Robson*)
 - Habitat and Artificial Reefs (*L. Havel*)
 - Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership (*L. Havel*)
14. Review Non- Compliance Findings (if necessary) **Final Action** 10:20 a.m.
15. Other Business/Adjourn 10:25/10:30 a.m.

The meeting will be held at the Westin, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, Virginia; 703-253-8600

Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

MEETING OVERVIEW

ISFMP Policy Board Meeting
Thursday May 11, 2017
8:00-10:30 a.m.
Alexandria, Virginia

Chair: Doug Grout (NH) Assumed Chairmanship: 10/15	Vice Chair: Jim Gilmore (NY)	Previous Board Meeting: February 1, 2017
Voting Members: ME, NH, MA, RI, CT, NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, DC, PRFC, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, NMFS, USFWS (19 votes)		

2. Board Consent

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Proceedings from February 1, 2017

3. Public Comment – At the beginning of the meeting public comment will be taken on items not on the agenda. Individuals that wish to speak at this time must sign-in at the beginning of the meeting. For agenda items that have already gone out for public hearing and/or have had a public comment period that has closed, the Board Chair may determine that additional public comment will not provide additional information. In this circumstance the Chair will not allow additional public comment on an issue. For agenda items that the public has not had a chance to provide input, the Board Chair may allow limited opportunity for comment. The Board Chair has the discretion to limit the number of speakers and/or the length of each comment.

4. Executive Committee Report (8:15-8:20 a.m.)

Background

- The Executive Committee will meet on May 10, 2017

Presentations

- D. Grout will provide an update of the committees work

Board action for consideration at this meeting

- none

5. Review and Consider New Jersey Appeal of Addendum XXXVIII to the Summer Flounder Fishery Management Plan (8:20-8:55 a.m.) Final Action

Background

- Summer Flounder Addendum XXVIII was approved in February 2017 (**briefing materials**). The addendum established a regional management approach for the recreational summer flounder fishery in 2017.
- New Jersey is appealing the approval of the addendum (**briefing materials**).
- Following the Appeal Process (briefing materials), Commission leadership reviewed the appeal and determined the appeal should be considered by the ISFMP Policy Board under criterion 2, failure to follow process, specifically New Jersey's claim regarding the error in the text of the Draft Addendum (**briefing materials**).

Presentations

- T. Kerns will present a background on the development of the management program as well as a summary of the justification provided in the record for the management board's action. The ISFMP Director will also present the potential impacts of the appeal on other affected states
- New Jersey will present their rationale for appealing the decision under criterion 2, specifically New Jersey's claim regarding the error in the text of the Draft Addendum, and provide a suggested solution.

Board discussion for consideration at this meeting

- Consider the Appeal of Addendum XXVIII to the Summer Flounder FMP

6. Update on Climate Change Working Group (8:55-9:00 a.m.)**Background**

- The Climate Change Work Group was tasked with developing science, policy and management strategies to assist the Commission with adapting its management to changes in species abundance and distribution resulting from climate change impacts.
- In fall of 2016 the Work group met via conference call to brainstorm how to address the Policy Board task.
- On January 2017 the working group met to make recommendations to include in the white papers to address the Policy Boar task
- In May the working group met to continue to develop drafts of science and policy white papers.

Presentations

- T. Kerns will review the Climate Change Workgroup Progress

Board action for consideration at this meeting

- none

7. ASMFC Commissioner Survey Results (9:00-9:15 a.m.)**Background**

- The Commissioners completed a survey of Commission performance for the eighth year as included in the ASMFC Action Plan (**briefing materials**)
- The survey measures the Commissioners' opinions regarding the progress and actions of the Commission in the previous year

Presentations

- D. Tompkins will present a summary of the survey results highlighting significant changes from previous years' surveys

Board actions for consideration at this meeting

- Determine if any action is required given the survey results

8. Committee Report on Safe Harbor Landings (9:15-9:30 a.m.) Possible Action

Background

- New York has developed a guidance document for vessels requesting safe harbor landings in New York.
- A subcommittee met to review other state practices related to safe harbor and safe harbor landing practices. The subcommittee suggested a guidance document be drafted for states to assist in setting guidelines for safe harbor and quota transfers related to safe harbor (**supplemental materials**).

Presentations

- J. Gilmore will present the recommendations from the subcommittee.

Board action for consideration at this meeting

- Consider establishing general guidelines for safe harbor and quota transfers related to safe harbor

9. Update on Marine Recreational Information Program Transition of the Fishing Effort Survey and APAIS (9:30-9:50 a.m.)

Background

- A study indicated mail based surveys do a better job than the current Coastal Household Telephone Survey (CHTS) to capture recreational fishing trips (fishing effort) by reaching a broader population of anglers, getting more accurate information from respondents, and delivering higher response rates. NOAA Fisheries developed a Transition Plan to move from the CHTS to mail based survey. The FES Transition Plan ensures the new numbers are incorporated into stock assessments and management in a timely fashion, but also in a way that is scientifically sound, statistically robust, and ensures the sustainability of recreational fishing.

Presentations

- D. Van Voorhees will present an update on the progress of the MRIP transition and the APAIS calibrations

Board action for consideration at this meeting

- None

10. Review and Consider Approval of Standard Meeting Practices (9:50-9:55 a.m.) Action

Background

- Following Commissioner training on meeting practices, the Policy Board directed staff to develop draft operating procedures to make Commission meetings more effective and efficient.
- The draft standard meeting practices were reviewed by the Executive Committee and recommended for consideration by the ISMFP Policy Board (**briefing materials**).

Presentations

- T. Kerns will present the SOPPs

Board action for consideration at this meeting

- Approve the Standard Meeting Practices

11. Progress Update on the 2017 Sturgeon Benchmark Stock Assessment (9:55-10:00 a.m.)**Background**

- The Benchmark stock assessment for sturgeon is schedule to undergo peer review in the fall of 2017.

Presentations

- K. Drew will present a progress report for the assessment

Board action for consideration at this meeting

- None

12. Review and Consider Approval of the Assessment Schedule (10:00-10:05 a.m.) Action**Background**

- The ASC has recommendations to the ISFMP Policy Board regarding the ASMFC Stock Assessment Peer Review Schedule (**briefing materials**).

Presentations

- S. Madsen will review the stock assessment schedule

Board action for consideration at this meeting

- Approve the stock assessment schedule

13. Standing Committee Reports (10:05-10:20 a.m.)**Background**

- The Law Enforcement Committee met on May 9, 2017.
- The Habitat Committee met on May 2-3, 2017
- The Artificial Reef Committee met on February 7-8, 2017 with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's Artificial Reef Committee
- The Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership met on May 4-5, 2017.

Presentations

- An overview of LEC activities will be presented by M. Robson and an overview of Habitat Committee, Artificial Reef Committee and the ACFHP will be presented by L. Havel

Board action for consideration at this meeting

- None

9. Review Non-Compliance Findings (if necessary) Final Action**10. Other Business****11. Adjourn**