



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Spud Woodward (GA), Chair

Joe Cimino (NJ), Vice-Chair

Robert E. Beal, Executive Director

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

MEMORANDUM

December 20, 2022

TO: Commissioners; Proxies; American Eel Management Board; American Lobster Management Board; Atlantic Herring Management Board; Atlantic Menhaden Management Board; Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board; Executive Committee; ISFMP Policy Board; Shad and River Herring Management Board; Spiny Dogfish Management Board; Winter Flounder Management Board

FROM: Robert E. Beal
Executive Director

RE: ASMFC Winter Meeting: January 31 - February 2, 2023 (TA 23-003)

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Meeting will be January 31-February 2, 2023 at **The Westin Crystal City**. This will be a hybrid meeting (both in-person and remote) to allow for remote participation by Commissioners and interested stakeholders; the details of which will be provided two weeks prior to the meeting. A brief, preliminary agenda and public comment guidelines are included with this memorandum. Materials will be available January 19th on the Commission website at <http://www.asmfc.org/home/2023-winter-meeting>.

A block of rooms is being held at The Westin Crystal City, 1800 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. Cindy Robertson will make Commissioner/Proxy reservations and will contact you regarding the details of your accommodations. **Please notify Cindy of any changes to your travel plans that will impact your hotel reservations, otherwise you will incur no-show penalties.** We greatly appreciate your cooperation.

For all other attendees, please reserve online via our group link: [book your group rate for Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission \(ASMFC\), Jan30-Feb02, 2023](#) or call Marriott Reservations directly at 888.627.8209 as soon as possible and mention the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to obtain the group room rate of \$188.00 plus tax single/dbl. Please be aware you must guarantee your room reservation with a major credit card or one night's advance payment. **Hotel reservations must be made by Wednesday, January 4, 2023. Room availability will not be guaranteed beyond this date.** If you are being reimbursed by ASMFC for your travel, please make your reservation directly with the hotel. Reservations made through travel websites do not apply toward our minimum number of required reservations with the hotel. **Please note, cancellations at The Westin must be made by 4:00 p.m. two days prior to arrival to avoid penalty and an early departure fee of \$100 will apply when checking out prior to the confirmed date.** If you have any problems at all regarding accommodations please contact Cindy at 703.842.0740 or at crobertson@asmfc.org.

We look forward to seeing you at the Winter Meeting. If the staff or I can provide any further assistance to you, please call us at 703.842.0740.

Enclosed: Preliminary Agenda, Hotel Directions, TA 23-003, and Travel Reimbursement Guidelines

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Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission



Winter Meeting

January 31-February 2, 2023

The Westin Crystal City

Arlington, Virginia

Public Comment Guidelines

To provide a fair opportunity for public input, the ISFMP Policy Board has approved the following guidelines for use at management board meetings:

For issues that are not on the agenda, management boards will continue to provide opportunity to the public to bring matters of concern to the board's attention at the start of each board meeting. Board chairs will ask members of the public to raise their hands to let the chair know they would like to speak. Depending upon the number of commenters, the board chair will decide how to allocate the available time on the agenda (typically 10 minutes) to the number of people who want to speak.

For topics that are on the agenda, but have not gone out for public comment, board chairs will provide limited opportunity for comment, taking into account the time allotted on the agenda for the topic. Chairs will have flexibility in deciding how to allocate comment opportunities; this could include hearing one comment in favor and one in opposition until the chair is satisfied further comment will not provide additional insight to the board.

For agenda action items that have already gone out for public comment, it is the Policy Board's intent to end the occasional practice of allowing extensive and lengthy public comments. Currently, board chairs have the discretion to decide what public comment to allow in these circumstances.

In addition, the following timeline has been established for the **submission of written comment for issues for which the Commission has NOT established a specific public comment period** (i.e., in response to proposed management action).

1. Comments received three weeks prior to the start of a meeting week (January 10th) will be included in the briefing materials.
2. Comments received by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, January 24th will be included in supplemental materials.
3. Comments received by 10:00 AM on Friday, January 27th will be distributed electronically to Commissioners/Board members prior to the meeting.

The submitted comments must clearly indicate the commenter's expectation from the ASMFC staff regarding distribution. As with other public comment, it will be accepted via mail and email.

Preliminary Agenda

The agenda is subject to change. Bulleted items represent the anticipated major issues to be discussed or acted upon at the meeting. The final agenda will include additional items and may revise the bulleted items provided below. The agenda reflects the current estimate of time required for scheduled Board meetings. The Commission may adjust this agenda in accordance with the actual duration of Board meetings. Interested parties should anticipate Boards starting earlier or later than indicated herein.

Tuesday, January 31

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Atlantic Herring Management Board

- Set Specifications for 2023-2025

10:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **American Lobster Management Board**

- Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team Update from NOAA Fisheries
- Consider Draft Addendum XXVII on Increasing Protection of Spawning Stock Biomass of the Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Stock for Public Comment
- Update from Work Group on Implementation of Addendum XXIX on Electronic Vessel Tracking for Federal Permit Holders

12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

Lunch Break (on your own)

1:45 – 3:15 p.m.

Winter Flounder Management Board

- Review 2022 Management Track Assessments for Gulf of Maine and Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic Winter Flounder Stocks
- Set Specifications for 2023-2025
- Consider Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for the 2021 Fishing Year

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board

- Consider Final Action on Draft Addendum I on Voluntary Transfers of Commercial Quota in the Ocean Fishery

Wednesday, February 1

8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Executive Committee

(A portion of this meeting may be closed for Committee members and Commissioners only)

- CARES Act Update

9:45 – 11:15 a.m.

American Eel Management Board

- Review and Consider 2022 Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report for Management Use and Respond If Necessary
- Consider Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for the 2021 Fishing Year
- Elect Vice-Chair

- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Atlantic Menhaden Management Board**
- Consider State Implementation Plans for Addendum I to Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan
- 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. Lunch Break** *(provided)*
- 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. Spiny Dogfish Management Board**
- Set Specifications for 2023
- 2:15 – 5:15 p.m. Parliamentary Training**
- Thursday, February 2**
- 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Shad and River Herring Management Board**
- Consider Update to North Carolina Shad Sustainable Fishery Management Plan
 - Update on 2023 River Herring Benchmark Stock Assessment
 - Consider Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for the 2021 Fishing Year
 - Elect Vice-Chair
- 9:45 – 11:15 a.m. Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board**
- Executive Committee Report
 - Review Commissioner Survey Results
 - Progress Report on Changes to the Conservation Equivalency Guidance Document
 - Review Noncompliance Findings (if necessary)
- 11:15 – 11:30 a.m. Business Session**
- Consider Noncompliance Recommendations (if necessary)