

**Atlantic States Marine  
Fisheries Commission**

1050 N. Highland Street  
Arlington, VA 22201

*Robert E. Beal, Executive Director*



**New York State Division  
of Marine Resources**

205 N. Belle Mead Road  
East Setauket, NY 11733

*James J. Gilmore, Jr., Director*

**MEMORANDUM**

October 10, 2018

**TO:** Commissioners; Proxies; American Eel Management Board; American Lobster Management Board; Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council; Atlantic Herring Management Board; Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board; Coastal Sharks Management Board; Executive Committee; Horseshoe Crab Management Board; ISFMP Policy Board; Law Enforcement Committee; South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board; Spiny Dogfish Management Board; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board; Tautog Management Board; Weakfish Management Board

**FROM:** Robert E. Beal  
Executive Director

**RE:** **77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission**  
October 21-25, 2018

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held October 21-25, 2018 at The Roosevelt Hotel, Madison Avenue @ 45th Street, New York, NY. Meeting materials are available on the Commission website <http://www.asmfc.org/home/2018-annual-meeting>. Supplemental materials will be posted to the website on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Board meeting proceedings will be broadcast daily via webinar beginning October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 a.m. and continuing daily until the conclusion of the meeting (expected to be 1:00 p.m.) on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. The webinar will allow registrants to listen to board/section deliberations and view presentations and motions as they occur. No comments or questions will be accepted via the webinar. Should technical difficulties arise while streaming the broadcast the boards/sections will continue their deliberations without interruption. We will attempt to resume the broadcast as soon as possible. Please go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4350173068754736387> to register.

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

Enclosures: Final Agenda  
TA # 18-114



## Public Comment Guidelines

With the intent of developing policies in the Commission's procedures for public participation that result in 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 use a speaker sign-up list in deciding 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 3 weeks prior to the start of a meeting week will be included in the briefing materials.
2. Comments received by **5:00 PM on the Tuesday, October 16, 2018** will be distributed electronically to Commissioners/Board members prior to the meeting and a limited number of copies will be provided at the meeting.
3. Following the Tuesday, **October 16, 2018 5:00 PM** deadline, the commenter will be responsible for distributing the information to the management board prior to the board meeting or providing enough copies for the management board consideration at the meeting (a minimum of 50 copies).

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, fax, and email.

# Final Agenda

The agenda is subject to change. 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.

## Sunday, October 21

2:00 – 7:00 p.m.      **Registration**

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.      **Hosts' Reception at the Roosevelt Hotel**

## Monday, October 22

7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.      **Registration**

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.      **American Lobster Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia

*Other Members:* NEFMC, NMFS

*Chair:* Train

*Other Participants:* Perry, Reardon, Cloutier, Asaro

*Staff:* Ware

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*S. Train*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Review NOAA Technical Memorandum on North Atlantic Right Whale Status and Recovery Challenges (*M. Asaro*)
5. Report on October 2018 Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team Meeting (*M. Asaro, M. Ware*)  
**Possible Action**
6. Discuss American Lobster Addendum XXVII Timeline (*M. Ware*)
7. Discuss Protocol for Identifying Bait Sources (*P. Keliher, M. Ware*) **Possible Action**
8. Update from the Electronic Tracking and Reporting Subcommittees (*M. Ware*)
9. Consider Approval of 2018 American Lobster and Jonah Crab Fishery Management Plan Reviews and State Compliance Reports (*M. Ware*) **Action**
10. Review and Populate Jonah Crab Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
11. Other Business/Adjourn

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.      **Welcome Tea for Spouses/Guests**

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.      **Lunch (*On Your Own*)**

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

**Atlantic Herring Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey

*Other Members:* NEFMC

*Chair:* Keliher

*Other Participants:* Zobel, Eastman

*Staff:* Ware

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Keliher*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from August 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Review 2018 Atlantic Herring Benchmark Assessment Peer Review Report (*P. Campfield*)  
**Final Action**
  - Review and Consider Approval of Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review Report for Management Use
5. Review and Discuss White Paper on Atlantic Herring Spawning Protections (*M. Ware*) **Possible Action**
6. Update on 2019-2021 Fishery Specifications Process (*M. Ware*)
7. Set 2019 Specifications for Area 1A (*M. Ware*) **Final Action**
8. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
9. Other Business/Adjourn

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Registration**

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

**American Eel Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Chair:* Gary

*Other Participants:* Zimmerman, Cloutier, Leuteritz, Noguchi

*Staff:* Rootes-Murdy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*M. Gary*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from August 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Presentation on Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species Workshop and Discuss Next Steps (*T. Leuteritz, L. Noguchi*) **Possible Action**
5. Other Business/Adjourn

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

**Welcome Reception at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum**

**Tuesday, October 23**

7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Registration**

8:00 – 10:15 a.m.

**Strategic Planning Workshop**

***Purpose: Thorough discussion by Commissioners, proxies, and federal partners regarding the Commission’s 2019-2023 Strategic Plan and annual action planning process***

9:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Spouse and Guest Tour**

10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

**Business Session**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Chair:* Gilmore

*Staff:* Beal

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Gilmore*)
2. Committee Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from October and November 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Review and Consider Approval of 2019 Action Plan (*R. Beal*) **Action**
5. Elect Chair and Vice-Chair (*R. Beal*) **Action**
6. Recess

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Coastal Sharks Management Board**

*Member States:* Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* NMFS

*Chair:* Miller

*Other Participants:* Frazier, Garner

*Staff:* Rootes-Murdy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Miller*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from August 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Addendum V for Final Approval (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Final Action**
  - Review Options and Public Comment Summary
  - Advisory Panel Report
5. Set 2019 Specifications (*K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Final Action**
6. Other Business/Adjourn

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

**Lunch (*On Your Own*)**

12:30 – 5:00 p.m.

**Law Enforcement Committee**

***(A portion of this meeting will be a closed session for Law Enforcement Committee members only to discuss ongoing enforcement activities. Only members of the LEC, authorized law enforcement personnel and the LEC Coordinator may attend)***

*Members:* Anthony, Blanchard, Chapelle, Cloutier, Donovan, Eastman, Furlong, Gadomski, Garner, Hettenbach, Hogan, Kersey, King, Lauderman, Lynn, Messeck, Moore, Moran, Noel, Pearce, Snellbaker, Williams

*Chair:* Anthony

*Other Participants:* Loftus

*Staff:* Robson

1. Call to Order/Roll Call of the Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) Representatives (*S. Anthony, M. Robson*)
2. Approval of Agenda and May 2018 Minutes (*S. Anthony*)
3. Public Comment
4. Review and Discuss Federal Transit Zone for Striped Bass in Block Island Sound (*M. Appelman*)
5. Review and Discuss Transit Zones in Block Island Area for Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass (*C. Starks*)
6. Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Enforcement For-Hire Workshop (*A. Loftus*)
7. Review and Discuss Ongoing Enforcement Activities (**Closed Session**)
8. Discuss Enforcement Issues with Dual Landings/Landings Flexibility
9. Review 2018 Action Plan Results and New 2019 Tasks (*M. Robson*)
10. Recess

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**Spiny Dogfish Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina

*Other Members:* NMFS

*Chair:* O'Reilly

*Other Participants:* Newlin, Moran, Didden

*Staff:* Rootes-Murdy

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. O'Reilly*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from October 2017
3. Public Comment
4. Review 2018 Stock Assessment Update (*J. Didden*)
5. Discuss Adjustments to Federal Commercial Trip Limit (*K. Rootes-Murdy*)
6. Review and Set 2019-2021 Specifications **Final Action**
  - Review Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Recommended 2019-2021 Specifications (*K. Rootes-Murdy*)
  - Set 2019-2021 Specifications (*R. O'Reilly*)
7. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
8. Other Business/Adjourn

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.           **Registration**

2:45 – 4:00 p.m.           **Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina

*Other Members:* DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Chair:* Armstrong

*Other Participants:* Lengyel, Blanchard

*Staff:* Appelman

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*M. Armstrong*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from August 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Review Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Regarding Lifting the Ban on Atlantic Striped Bass Fishing in the Federal Block Island Sound Transit Zone (*D. Orner*) **Possible Action**
5. Update on North Carolina Cooperative Winter Tagging Program (*M. Appelman*)
6. 2018 Benchmark Stock Assessment Progress Update (*K. Drew*)
7. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
8. Other Business/Adjourn

7:00 – 10:00 p.m.           **Annual Dinner - Bateaux New York**

***Wednesday, October 24***

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.           **Executive Committee**

**Breakfast Buffet will be available at 7:30 a.m.           *(A portion of this meeting may be a closed session for Committee members and Commissioners only)***

*Members:* Abbott, Blazer, Bowman, Boyles, Jr., Cimino, Clark, Estes, Gilmore, Grout, Haymans, Keliher, McNamee, Miller, Miner, Murphey, Pierce, Shiels

*Chair:* Gilmore

*Staff:* Leach

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Gilmore*)
2. Committee Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Meeting Summary from August 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Approval of Fiscal Year 2018 Audit (*P. Keliher, L. Leach*) **Action**
5. Discuss Priorities for Use of Plus-up Funding (*R. Beal*)
6. Discuss Changes to the Appeals Process (*J. McNamee*)
7. Discuss Appointment of Aquaculture Committee (*R. Beal*)
8. Review Quarterly Meeting Schedule (*R. Beal*)
9. Report from the Awards Committee (*S. Woodward*)
10. Other Business/Adjourn

8:30 a.m. – Noon

**Law Enforcement Committee (continued)**

11. Social
12. Reconvene/Review Agenda Adjustments or Change (*S. Anthony*)
13. Discuss Enforcement Issues with Sale of Undersized Product from Other States
14. Discuss Offshore Enforcement for American Lobster
15. Review and Discuss ASMFC-managed Species as Needed
16. Federal and State Agency Reports
17. Other Business or Emerging Issues for Future Meetings
18. Adjourn

10:15 – 11:00 a.m.

**Weakfish Management Board**

*Member States:* Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Chair:* O'Reilly

*Other Participants:* Levesque, Anthony

*Staff:* Schmidtke

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. O'Reilly*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from February 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Technical Committee Report on Commercial Discards (*K. Drew, M. Schmidtke*)
5. Consider Approval of 2018 Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance Reports (*M. Schmidtke*) **Action**
6. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
6. Elect Vice-Chair **Action**
7. Other Business/Adjourn

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**Horseshoe Crab Management Board**

*Member States:* Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Chair:* Rhodes (Kerns will Serve as Chair for this Meeting)

*Other Participants:* Sysak, Messeck

*Staff:* Schmidtke

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*T. Kerns*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from October 2017
3. Public Comment



4. Set 2019 Harvest Specifications **Final Action**
  - Review Horseshoe Crab and Red Knot Indices of Abundance for 2018 Adaptive Resource Management (ARM) Model Runs (*K. Anstead*)
  - Review Results of 2018 ARM Model Runs (*K. Anstead*)
  - Set 2019 Harvest Specifications (*M. Schmidtke*)
5. Progress Update on Horseshoe Crab Benchmark Stock Assessment (*K. Anstead*)
6. Consider 2018 Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance Reports (*M. Schmidtke*) **Action**
7. Elect Vice-Chair **Action**
8. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
9. Other Business/Adjourn

12:15 – 1:30 p.m.

**Captain David H. Hart Award Luncheon**

**Commissioner Photo Shoot:** *If time permits, the photo will be taken immediately following the luncheon*

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

**Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board**

*Member States:* New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina

*Other Members:* NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Other Participants:* Wojcik, Snellbaker

*Chair:* Ballou

*Staff:* Rootes-Murdy, Starks

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*R. Ballou*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from August 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Review Ongoing Board Activities and Actions (*C. Starks*)
5. Consider Approval of Draft Addendum XXXII (Black Sea Bass and Summer Flounder Recreational Management) for Public Comment (*C. Starks, K. Rootes-Murdy*) **Action**
6. Progress Update on Black Sea Bass Commercial Working Group (*C. Starks*) **Possible Action**
7. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (*T. Berger*) **Action**
8. Other Business/Adjourn

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

**Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council**

*Partners:* ASMFC, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, MAFMC, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, NEFMC, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, NMFS, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, PRFC, Rhode Island, SAFMC, South Carolina, USFWS, Virginia

*Chair:* Fegley

*Staff:* Cahall

1. Welcome/Introductions (*L. Fegley*)
2. Council Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Minutes from May 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Program/Committee Updates (*M. Cahall*)
5. Progress Report on SAFIS Redesign (*M. Cahall*)
6. Consider Recommendations of FY2019 Submitted Proposals (*L. Fegley*) **Action**
7. Clarify Funding Decision Process (*M. Cahall*) **Possible Action**
8. Discuss Formation of Data Reporting Committee on Data Accountability (*M. Cahall*) **Possible Action**
9. Other Business/Adjourn

**Thursday, October 25**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

**Tautog Management Board**

*Member States:* Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia

*Other Members:* NMFS, USFWS

*Other Participants:* Barry, Snellbaker

*Chair:* McKiernan

*Staff:* Starks

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*D. McKiernan*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from May 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Review Technical Committee Report on Biological Sampling Requirements (*L. Barry*) **Possible Action**
5. Discuss Commercial Harvest Tagging Program Implementation (*C. Starks*)
6. Consider Approval of 2018 Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance Reports (*J. Kuesel*) **Action**
7. Other Business/Adjourn

9:15 – 11:00 a.m.

**Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board**

*Member States:* Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* DC, NMFS, PRFC, USFWS

*Chair:* Gilmore

*Other Participant:* Lengyel

*Staff:* Kerns

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Gilmore*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from August 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Update from the Executive Committee (*J. Gilmore*)
5. Update on the October 2018 Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team Meeting and Possible Impacts to Commission-managed Species
6. Update on the Risk and Uncertainty Policy (*J. McNamee*)
7. Update on the Northeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (*N. Lengyel*) **Action**
8. Update on River Herring Technical Expert Working Group (*C. Starks*)
9. Standing Committee Reports
  - Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership (*L. Havel*)
  - Habitat Committee (*L. Havel*) **Action**
    - Consider Approval of Living Shorelines Factsheet
  - Law Enforcement Committee (*M. Robson*)
  - Assessment Science Committee (*S. Murray*) **Action**
    - Consider Approval of Stock Assessment Schedule
10. Progress Update on Benchmark Stock Assessments
  - Shad (*K. Drew*)
  - Atlantic Menhaden and Ecological Reference Points (*K. Drew*)
11. Review Noncompliance Findings, If Necessary **Action**
12. Other Business/Adjourn

11:00 – 11:15 a.m.

**Business Session (continued)**

7. Consider Noncompliance Findings, If Necessary **Final Action**
8. Other Business/Adjourn

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board**

*Member States:* New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

*Other Members:* DC, PRFC, NMFS, SAFMC, USFWS

*Other Participants:* McDonough, Rickabaugh, Lynn, Powers

*Chair:* Geer

*Staff:* Schmidtke

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*P. Geer*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Proceedings from August 2018
3. Public Comment
4. Review Public Comment Summary for Cobia Draft Amendment 1 Public Information Document (*M. Schmidtke*)
5. Provide Guidance to the Cobia Plan Development Team on Options for Inclusion in Draft Amendment 1 (*P. Geer*) **Possible Action**
6. Consider 2018 Fishery Management Plan Reviews and State Compliance Reports for Black Drum, Spotted Seatrout, and Spanish Mackerel (*M. Schmidtke*) **Action**
7. Other Business/Adjourn