



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 4, 2015

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ASMFC American Lobster Board Approves Draft Addendum XXIV for Public Comment

Alexandria, VA – The Commission’s American Lobster Management Board approved Draft Addendum XXIV to Amendment 3 to the Interstate Lobster Fishery Management Plan for public comment. Draft Addendum XXIV responds to recently finalized trap transfer regulations for the federal waters of Lobster Conservation Management Areas 2, 3, and Outer Cape Cod. While the majority of the implemented federal water measures are based on Commission recommendations and are consistent with the Commission plan, there are a few measures which are either inconsistent or are not addressed by the Commission plan. Specifically, the Draft Addendum includes options to better align state and federal measures regarding the conservation tax on trap allocations when whole fishing businesses are transferred, trap allocation transfer increments, and restrictions on trap allocation transfers among permit holders who are authorized to fish both state and federal waters within a single lobster management area.

States are not anticipated to conduct hearings on the Draft Addendum, since NOAA Fisheries has already held hearings on the same issues. Fishermen and other interested groups are encouraged to provide input on Draft Addendum XXIV, which can be obtained at http://www.asmfc.org/files/PublicInput/AmLobsterDraftAddendumXXIV_PublicComment.pdf or via the Commission’s website, www.asmfc.org, under *Public Input*. Public comment will be accepted until 5:00 PM (EST) on March 20, 2015 and should be forwarded to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, 1050 N. Highland St, Suite A-N, Arlington, VA 22201; 703.842.0741 (FAX) or at comments@asmfc.org (Subject line: Lobster Draft Addendum XXIV).

For more information, please contact Toni Kerns, ISFMP Director, at tkerns@asmfc.org or 703.842.0740.

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PR15-03

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and anadromous species.

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