

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 25, 2017 PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger 703.842.0740

ISFMP Policy Board & Business Session Schedule June 1 Conference Call to Consider a Noncompliance Recommendation

Arlington, VA – The Commission's Interstate Fisheries Management Policy (ISFMP) Board and Business Session will meet via conference call on Thursday, June 1 at 9:30 a.m. to consider a recommendation from the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board (Board) to find New Jersey out of compliance regarding the state's 2017 summer flounder recreational measures.

On May 22, the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board considered New Jersey's Conservation Equivalency Proposal for 2017 summer flounder recreational measures. The Board found the proposal's measures were not conservationally-equivalent to Addendum XXVIII's measures. As a result, the Board recommended to the ISFMP Policy Board that New Jersey be found out of compliance for not fully and effectively implementing and enforcing the measures of Addendum XXVIII. The ISFMP Policy Board will consider this recommendation on June 1. If the Policy Board agrees with the recommendation, the Business Session will meet immediately following the Policy Board, on the same call, to consider any recommendations from the ISFMP Policy Board.

Addendum XXVIII, approved by the Board in February 2017, requires a one-inch increase in size limit and a reduction in possession limits to no more than four fish to constrain coastwide harvest to the 2017 recreational harvest limit (RHL). These measures are broadly applied across all states to reduce harvest and provide for more coastwide consistency in regulations. The measures approved in the Addendum seek to achieve the 2017 RHL.

The public is welcome to listen to the discussion by phone (888.394.8197; passcode 499811) and view the webinar using the following link: <u>https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8790318770047891969</u>. The meeting agenda and materials are available at <u>http://www.asmfc.org/files/Meetings/ISFMPpolicyBoardMaterials_June2017.pdf</u>. Time permitting, there will be a limited opportunity to provide comments at the end of the agenda. The Board Chair will outline the procedures for accepting public comment at the beginning of the conference call. We ask the public and other nonparticipating attendees to please mute their phones in order to minimize distractions to the Board's deliberations.

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

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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.