FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ASMFC Spring Meeting Cancelled

Arlington, VA – The leadership of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission has decided to cancel its Spring Meeting (May 4-7) in Arlington, VA. This action is taken in response to the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to cancel or postpone gatherings of 50 people or more over the next eight weeks because of the coronavirus pandemic. As a result of the cancellation, our August Meeting may be extended to 4 days (August 3-6) and Commissioners and proxies are being asked to keep their calendars open for May 5 & 6 in order to conduct any necessary Commission or species management board business via webinars/conference calls. The details of any scheduled webinars will be announced as they become available.

The Spring Meeting agenda included a number of important issues. Commission staff, Board Chairs, and Commission leadership will develop plans to address each of the agenda items. It is anticipated that non-urgent items will be postponed until the Summer Meeting, and items that require action prior to August will either be handled through via webinars/conference calls or through email votes, depending on stakeholder interest. Conducting meetings via webinars/conference calls makes public comment somewhat difficult. Therefore, members of the public are encouraged to submit comments in advance of a meeting to be included in briefing materials.

For more information, contact Tina Berger, Director of Communications, at tberger@asmfc.org or 703.842.0740.

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