



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 22, 2022

PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger
703.842.0740

States Schedule Public Hearings on Atlantic Striped Bass Draft Addendum I

Arlington, VA – The Atlantic coastal states of Maine through North Carolina have scheduled hearings to gather public input on Draft Addendum I to Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan, which considers allowing voluntary transfers of striped bass ocean commercial quota between states that have ocean quota. Some hearings will be conducted via webinar and some hearings will be conducted in-person, or in a hybrid format. Additional details on participating in the webinars can be found later in this release.

The public hearing details are as follows:

Date and Hearing Format	State/Agency	Contact
Wednesday, December 7 In-person Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation Hearing Location: NYSDEC Division of Marine Resources 123 Kings Park Blvd (inside Nissequogue River State Park), Kings Park, NY 11754 <i>Note: NYSDEC will provide a listen-only livestream link to be posted on the NYSDEC calendar.</i>	John Maniscalco , 631.444.0437
Thursday, December 8 Webinar Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	North Carolina Dept. of Marine Fisheries	Chris Batsavage , 252.808.8009
Wednesday, December 14 Webinar Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Rhode Island Dept. of Environmental Management	Jason McNamee , 401.222.4700 x2772414

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 diadromous species.

Date and Hearing Format	State/Agency	Contact
Thursday, December 15 Hybrid Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife <i>Note: This is a hybrid meeting (both in-person and virtual). Please visit the Delaware website to register for virtual webinar participation.</i> In-person Hearing location: Kent County Conservation District 1679 S. Dupont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901	John Clark , 302.739.9108
Monday, December 19 Webinar Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries	Michael Armstrong , 978.619.0012
Tuesday, December 20 Webinar Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	New Jersey Dept. of Environmental Protection	Joe Cimino , 609.748.2063
Thursday, January 5 Webinar Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources, Virginia Marine Resources Commission, Potomac River Fisheries Commission & District of Columbia Dept. of Energy and Environment	Michael Luisi (MD), 443.758.6547 Pat Geer (VA), 757.247.2236 Martin Gary (PRFC), 804.224.7148 Daniel Ryan (DC), 202.597.1244
Monday, January 9 Hybrid Hearing 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Maine Dept. of Marine Resources, New Hampshire Fish and Game Dept. <i>Note: This is a hybrid meeting (both in-person and virtual). Please follow the below webinar registration instructions to attend virtually.</i> In-person Hearing location: Urban Forestry Center 45 Elwyn Road, Portsmouth, NH 03801	Megan Ware (ME), 207.446.0932 Cheri Patterson (NH), 603.868.1095

The Board initiated Draft Addendum I in August 2021 after deciding that changes to the striped bass commercial quota system would not be considered during the ongoing development of Amendment 7. With the adoption of Amendment 7 earlier this year, the Board re-initiated discussions on Draft Addendum I to consider voluntary ocean quota transfers, which could provide some relief to states seeking additional quota. The Draft Addendum proposes a range of options that would permit voluntary transfers of ocean commercial quota, including options based on stock status and options allowing the Board to set criteria for transfers on a regular basis.

Webinar Instructions

For all virtual hearings (except Delaware), please note that in order to comment during virtual webinar hearings you will need to use your computer or download the GoToWebinar app for your phone. Those joining by phone only will be limited to listening to the presentation and will not be able to provide input. In those cases, you can send your comments to staff via [email](#) or U.S. mail at any time during the public comment period. To attend the webinar in listen only mode, dial 213.493.0005 and enter access code 199-116-984.

For all virtual hearings (except Delaware), please click [HERE](#) and select the hearing(s) you plan to attend from the dropdown menu to register for a public hearing webinar. Hearings will be held via GoToWebinar, and you can join the webinar from your computer, tablet or smartphone. If you are new to GoToWebinar, you can download the software by ([clicking here](#)) or via the App store under GoToWebinar. We recommend you register for the hearing well in advance of the hearing since GoToWebinar will provide you with a link to test your device's compatibility with the webinar. If you find your device is not compatible, please contact the Commission at info@asmfc.org (subject line: GoToWebinar help) and we will try to get you connected. We also strongly encourage participants to **use the computer voice over internet (VoIP)** so you can ask questions and provide input at the hearing.

For virtual participation at the Delaware public hearing, please visit the Delaware website to register for the webinar at <https://publicmeetings.delaware.gov/#/meeting/73610>.

For the listen-only livestream of the New York public hearing, the livestream link will be posted to the NYSDEC calendar at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/calendar/>.

Hearing Presentation Recording

For those who cannot attend any in-person or virtual hearings, the Commission will also post a recording of the hearing presentation on the Commission's YouTube page so that stakeholders may watch the presentation and submit comment at any time during the comment process. This recording will be available in early December.

Submitting Comments

The Draft Addendum is available at http://www.asmfc.org/files/PublicInput/AtlStripedBass_DraftAddendumI_PublicComment_Nov2022.pdf or via the Commission's website at <http://www.asmfc.org/about-us/public-input>. All those interested in the management of Atlantic striped bass are encouraged to provide input either by participating in public hearings, which may be conducted via webinar, or providing written comment. Public comment will be accepted until **11:59 PM (EST) on January 13, 2023** and should be sent to Emilie Franke, FMP Coordinator, at 1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, Virginia 22201; or at comments@asmfc.org (Subject line: Striped Bass Draft Addendum I).

If your organization is planning to release an action alert in response to the Draft Amendment, please contact Emilie Franke at efranke@asmfc.org or 703.842.0740, so she can work with you to develop a unique subject line to enable us to better organize and summarize incoming comments for Board review.

###

PR22-34