



# *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission*

## NEWS RELEASE

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*ASMFC Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 19, 2014

PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger  
703.842.0740

### **Atlantic Coastal States Schedule Public Hearings on Striped Bass Draft Addendum IV**

Arlington, VA – The Atlantic coastal states and jurisdictions have scheduled their hearings to gather public comment on Draft Addendum IV to Amendment 6 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass. The dates, times, and locations of the scheduled hearings follow.

#### **Maine Department of Marine Resources**

*September 4, 2014; 6-9 PM*

Orion Performing Arts Center  
MSAD#75, Mt. Ararat Middle School  
66 Republic Avenue  
Topsham, Maine  
Contact: [Terry Stockwell](mailto:Terry.Stockwell@maine.gov) at 207.624.6553

Contact: [Jared Silva](mailto:Jared.Silva@asmfc.org) at 617.626.1534

*\* MA DMF will also be seeking public comment on Spiny Dogfish Draft Addendum V at this hearing*

*September 3, 2014; 6 PM*

MA DMF Annisquam River Station  
30 Emerson Avenue  
Gloucester, Massachusetts

Contact: [Jared Silva](mailto:Jared.Silva@asmfc.org) at 617.626.1534

*\* MA DMF will also be seeking public comment on Spiny Dogfish Draft Addendum V at this hearing*

#### **New Hampshire Fish and Game**

*August 27, 2014; 7 PM*

Urban Forestry Center  
45 Elwyn Road  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire  
Contact: [Doug Grout](mailto:Doug.Grout@nh.gov) at 603.868.1095

*September 4, 2014; 6 PM*

Viking Club  
410 Quincy Avenue (Route 53)  
Braintree, Massachusetts

Contact: [Jared Silva](mailto:Jared.Silva@asmfc.org) at 617.626.1534

#### **Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries**

*September 2, 2014; 10 AM*

Nantucket Community Room  
4 Fairgrounds Road  
Nantucket, Massachusetts

Contact: [Jared Silva](mailto:Jared.Silva@asmfc.org) at 617.626.1534

#### **Rhode Island Division of Fish & Wildlife**

*September 17, 2014 at 6 PM*

University of Rhode Island, Corless Auditorium  
South Ferry Road  
Narragansett, Rhode Island

Contact: [Nicole Lengyel](mailto:Nicole.Lengyel@asmfc.org) at 401.423.1940

*September 2, 2014; 6 PM*

Massachusetts Maritime Academy  
Admiral's Hall, 101 Academy Drive  
Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts

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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 diadromous species.

**Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection**

*August 26, 2014; 7 PM*

Marine Headquarters, Boating Education Center  
333 Ferry Road  
Old Lyme Connecticut  
Contact [David Simpson](#) at 860.434.6043

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**

*September 16, 2014; 7 PM*

Stony Brook University Wang Center Theater  
Stony Brook, New York  
Contact: [Carol Hoffman](#) at 631.444.0476  
Click [here](#) for google map to Wang Center

*September 23, 2014; 7 PM*

NYSDEC Region 3 Office  
21 South Putt Corners Road  
New Paltz, New York  
Contact: [Kathy Hattala](#) at 845.256.3071

**New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife**

*September 4, 2014; 7-9 PM*

Galloway Twp. Branch of the Atlantic Co. Library  
306 East Jimmie Leeds Road  
Galloway, New Jersey  
Contact: [Russ Allen](#) at 609.748.2020  
*\* Will immediately follow the NJ Marine Fisheries Council meeting*

*September 15, 2014; 7-9 PM*

Toms River Town Hall  
L. M. Hirshblond Room  
33 Washington Street  
Toms River, New Jersey  
Contact: [Russ Allen](#) at 609.748.2020

*September 9, 2014; 7-9 PM*

Ridgefield Park Elks Lodge #1506  
Corner of Spruce Avenue and Cedar Street  
Ridgefield Park, New Jersey  
Contact: [Russ Allen](#) at 609.748.2020

**Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission**

*September 17, 2014 at 6:00 pm*

Silver Lake Nature Center  
(<http://www.silverlakenaturecenter.org/>)  
1306 Bath Road  
Bristol, Pennsylvania  
Contact: [Eric Levis](#) at 717.705.7806

**Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control**

*September 11, 2014; 6 - 8 PM*

DNREC Auditorium  
89 Kings Highway  
Dover, Delaware  
Contact: [John Clark](#) at 302.739.9914

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Service**

*September 25, 2014; 6-9 PM*

Cadby Theater, Kent Humanities Building  
Chesapeake College  
1000 College Circle  
Wye Mills, Maryland  
Contact: [Michael Luisi](#) at 410.260.8341

**Virginia Marine Resources Commission**

*September 22, 2014 at 6 PM*

Virginia Marine Resources Commission  
2600 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor  
Newport News, Virginia  
Contact: [Rob O'Reilly](#) at 757.247.2248

**Potomac River Fisheries Commission**

*September 23, 2014; 6 PM*

222 Taylor Street  
Colonial Beach, Virginia  
Contact: [Martin Gary](#) at 804.224-7148

**North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries**

*September 29, 2014; 6 PM*

Dare County Government Complex  
954 Marshall C. Collins Drive  
Manteo North Carolina  
Contact: [Michelle Duval](#) at 252.808.8011

The Draft Addendum proposes new fishing mortality (F) reference points, as recommended by the 2013 benchmark stock assessment, and associated management measures to reduce F to a level at or below the proposed target within one or three years. It responds to results of the 2013 Atlantic striped bass benchmark assessment indicating F in 2012 was above the proposed F target, and female spawning stock biomass (SSB) has been steadily declining below the target since 2006. This means even though the stock is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring, SSB is approaching its overfished threshold and stock projections show SSB will likely fall below the threshold in the coming years. In addition, a similar

decline has been observed in total harvest. In response to these factors, the Draft Addendum proposes management options to reduce fishing mortality to the target level.

The Draft Addendum includes a suite of management options to reduce recreational and commercial harvest along the coast and in the Chesapeake Bay under three reduction timeframes. The timeframes include (1) reducing F to its target in one year with a 25% reduction in 2013 harvest in 2015 (2) reducing F to its target within three years with a 17% reduction in 2013 harvest in 2015, and (3) reducing F to its target within three years with a 7% sequential reduction in harvest for three consecutive years starting in 2015. Specific options to be considered include bag, size, slot and trophy size limits for the recreational fishery and quota reductions for the commercial fishery.

Given the Albemarle Sound/Roanoke River (A/R) stock of striped bass contributes minimally to the coastwide complex when compared to the Chesapeake Bay, Delaware, and Hudson stocks, Draft Addendum IV proposes it be managed by the State of North Carolina using stock-specific biological reference points. These stock-specific reference points, which have been approved by the Board, would result in a separate quota that is set to maintain F for the A/R stock at its target level. The Board tasked the Technical Committee with the continued development of Chesapeake Bay-specific reference points for future use.

The Draft Addendum is available at [http://www.asmfc.org/files/PublicInput/StripedBassDraftAddendumIV\\_PublicComment.pdf](http://www.asmfc.org/files/PublicInput/StripedBassDraftAddendumIV_PublicComment.pdf) and can also be found on the Commission website ([www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org)) under Public Input. Fishermen and other interested groups are encouraged to provide input on the Draft Addendum either by attending state public hearings or providing written comment. Public comment will be accepted until 5:00 PM (EST) on September 30, 2014 and should be forwarded to Mike Waine, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, 1050 N. Highland St, Suite A-N, Arlington, VA 22201; 703.842.0741 (FAX) or at [mwaine@asmfc.org](mailto:mwaine@asmfc.org) (Subject line: Draft Addendum IV). For more information, please contact Mike Waine, at [mwaine@asmfc.org](mailto:mwaine@asmfc.org) or 703.842.0740.

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