



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 16, 2015

PRESS CONTACT: Mary Clark  
(302) 674-2331 (ext. 261)

### Council Meeting in Annapolis, MD: December 7-10, 2015

The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's December 2015 meeting to be held at the O'Callaghan Annapolis Hotel (ON MONDAY DECEMBER 7), 174 West St., Annapolis, MD: telephone 410-263-7700 and at the Westin Annapolis (TUESDAY DEC 8 – THURSDAY DEC 10), 100 Westgate Circle, Annapolis, MD: telephone 410-972-4300. Below is the meeting agenda.

NOTE: For online access to the meeting, enter as a guest at: <http://mafmc.adobeconnect.com/december2015/>

#### Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> (O'Callaghan Annapolis Hotel)

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| 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  | <b>Executive Committee (CLOSED)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Ricks E Savage Award nominees and other awards</li></ul>  |
| 10:00 a.m.              | <b>Council Convenes</b>   |
| 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | <b>Comprehensive 5-year Research Priority Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Review and approve plan</li></ul>  |
| 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | <b>Non-Fishing Activities that Impact Fish Habitat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Review and approve policies</li></ul>  |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  | <b>Lunch</b>  |
| 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.   | <b>Golden Tilefish Framework 2 – Meeting 1</b>  |
| 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.   | <b>Blueline Tilefish Alternatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Review public hearing document</li></ul>  |
| 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.   | <b>Spiny Dogfish Committee Meeting as a Committee of the Whole</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Review findings from SSC meeting</li><li>— Adjust specification recommendations as appropriate</li></ul> |

#### Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> (Westin Annapolis)

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| 8:30 a.m.               | <b>Council Convenes</b>   |
| 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.   | <b>Unmanaged Forage – The Pacific Council Experience - Rich Lincoln</b>   |
| 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  | <b>Unmanaged Forage Species Amendment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Review and approve list of species for inclusion in the public hearing document</li><li>— Review and approve management alternatives for NEPA analysis and public hearing document</li></ul>                                      |
| 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | <b>Scup GRA Framework – Meeting 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Discuss and adopt alternatives</li></ul>  |
| 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  | <b>Lunch</b>  |
| 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.   | <b>Summer Flounder Goals and Objectives Workshop - Fisheries Forum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Review feedback from Fisheries Forum project</li><li>— Discuss priorities for revised FMP goals and objectives</li><li>— Identify draft goals and objectives for Summer Flounder Amendment</li></ul> |

#### Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> (Westin Annapolis)

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| 9:00 a.m. | <b>Demersal Committee Meeting as a Committee of the Whole with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Boards</b> |
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- 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**                    **2016 Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Commercial Management Measures**
- Review recommendations from the Monitoring and Technical Committees
  - Recommend changes to commercial management measures if appropriate
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**                    **Summer Flounder 2016 Recreational Management Measures**
- ASMFC Addendum for summer flounder (Board Action)
  - Review Monitoring Committee & Advisory Panel recommendations for 2016
  - Adopt recommendations for 2016 management measures
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.**                    **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**                    **Summer Flounder Recreational Management Measures (continued)**
- 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**                    **Summer Flounder Amendment**
- Discuss timeline and update on progress
- 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**                    **Black Sea Bass 2016 Recreational Management Measures**
- ASMFC Addendum for black sea bass (Board Action)
  - Review Monitoring Committee & Advisory Panel recommendations for 2016
  - Adopt recommendations for 2016 management measures
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**                    **Scup 2016 Recreational Management Measures**
- Review Monitoring Committee & Advisory Panel recommendations for 2016
  - Adopt recommendations for 2016 management measures

**Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> (Westin Annapolis)**

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- 8:00 a.m.**                                    **Council Convenes**
- 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**                    **GARFO Recreational Implementation Plan - *Mike Pentony***
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**                    **NEFSC Strategic Plan - *Bill Karp***
- 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**                    **2016 Implementation Plan**
- Review and approve Implementation Plan
- 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**                    **Business Session**
- Organization Reports**
- NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Office
  - NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center
  - NOAA Office of General Counsel
  - NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
  - U.S. Coast Guard
  - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
- Liaison Reports**
- New England Council
  - South Atlantic Council
  - Regional Planning Body
- Executive Director's Report - *Chris Moore***
- Review and approve change to SOPPs
- Science Report - *Rich Seagraves***
- Committee Reports**
- Executive Committee
  - Collaborative Research Committee
  - River Herring/Shad Committee
- Continuing and New Business**

The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary. Other items may be added, but the Council cannot take action on such items even if the item requires emergency action without additional public notice. Non-emergency matters not contained in this agenda may come before the Council and / or its Committees for discussion, but these matters may not be the subject of formal Council or Committee action during this meeting. Council and Committee actions will be restricted to the issues specifically listed in this agenda. Any issues requiring emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act that arise after publication of the Federal Register Notice for this meeting may be acted upon provided that the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. The meeting may be closed to discuss employment or other internal administrative matters.