



August 2020 Council Meeting Webinar

Tuesday, August 10 – Thursday, August 13, 2020

Due to public health concerns related to the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus), the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s August meeting will be conducted by webinar only. This webinar-based meeting replaces the in-person meeting previously scheduled to be held in Philadelphia PA.

Briefing materials and webinar connection information will be posted on the Council’s website at <http://www.mafmc.org/briefing/august-2020>.

Agenda

Monday, August 10th

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| 1:00 p.m. | Council Convenes |
| 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Committee, Meeting as a Committee of the Whole – Butterfish, Longfin Squid, and Atlantic Mackerel Specifications <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review SSC, Advisory Panel, Monitoring Committee, and staff recommendations- Adopt 2021-2023 specifications for longfin squid including butterfish cap- Adopt 2021-2022 specifications for butterfish and mackerel |
| 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | River Herring/Shad (RH/S) Committee, Meeting as a Committee of the Whole – RH/S Cap for the Mackerel Fishery <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review RH/S cap operation- Adopt 2021-2022 RH/S cap for the mackerel fishery |
| 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. | Acknowledge Outgoing Council Members |
| 5:00 p.m. | Council Adjourns |

Tuesday, August 11th

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| 9:00 a.m. | Council Convenes |
| 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. | Swearing in of New and Reappointed Council Members and Election of Officers |
| 9:30 a.m. | Council Meeting with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass and Bluefish Boards |

- 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Bluefish Specifications**
- Review SSC, Monitoring Committee, Advisory Panel, and staff recommendations for 2021 specifications
 - Review previously implemented 2021 specifications and recommend changes if necessary
- 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Summer Flounder Specifications**
- Review SSC, Monitoring Committee, Advisory Panel, and staff recommendations for 2021 specifications
 - Review previously implemented 2021 specifications and recommend changes if necessary
- 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Scup Commercial Discards Report**
- Review commercial scup discards through 2019
- 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Scup Specifications**
- Review SSC, Monitoring Committee, Advisory Panel, and staff recommendations for 2021 specifications
 - Review previously implemented 2021 specifications and recommend changes if necessary
- 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Black Sea Bass Specifications and February Recreational Fishery**
- Review SSC, Monitoring Committee, Advisory Panel, and staff recommendations for 2021 specifications
 - Review previously implemented 2021 specifications and recommend changes if necessary
 - Consider revisions to the February recreational fishery opening for 2021
 - Consider North Carolina proposal to account for February 2020 harvest (Board action only)
- 4:00 p.m. Council and Board Adjourn**

Wednesday, August 12th

- 9:00 a.m. Council Meeting with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board**
- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Commercial/Recreational Allocation Amendment**
- Review FMAT recommendations for draft alternatives
 - Approve a range of alternatives for inclusion in a public hearing document
- 12:00 p.m. Council and Board Adjourn**
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. Council Convenes**
- 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Specifications and Updates**
- Review SSC, Advisory Panel, and staff recommendations
 - Adopt 2021 - 2026 specifications

- Update on Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Commingling/Discard Issue and Genetics Study

Thursday, August 13th

9:00 a.m. Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Business Session

Committee Reports

- Scientific and Statistical Committee Report

Executive Director's Report

Chris Moore

- Discuss Executive Order on Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth

Organization Reports

- NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Office
- NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- NOAA Office of General Counsel
- NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
- US Coast Guard

Liaison Reports

- New England Council
- South Atlantic Council

Continuing and New Business

August Council Motions

Black Sea Bass Commercial State Allocation Amendment

Move to remove the dynamic base allocation sub-option from the trigger option.

Council: Clark/Bolen (9/9)

Board: Clark/Bolen

Motion fails for lack of Council majority

Based on the recent MRIP data utilized and the increased commercial quota I make a motion to refer back to the PDT/FMAT re-evaluation of the triggers and including trigger levels of 3.5 million and 4.5 million pounds.

Council: Hughes/Cimino (14/3/1)

Board: Cimino/Clark (7/3/1/0)

Motion carries

Move to add a sub-alternative for in-season closures based on the coastwide quota plus a percent buffer.

Council: Heins/Clark

Board: Meserve/McNamee

Motion approved by consensus by Board and Council

Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Commercial/Recreational Allocation Amendment

Move that the Council and Board accept all the FMAT's recommendations for this amendment.

Council: DiLernia/Heins

Board: Clark/Batsavage

Move to substitute to remove options 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 4.2, 8.1, and 8.2 from further consideration and add 10 for further consideration.

Council: Nolan/Wilke (9/10/0)

Board: Reid/Hasbrouck

Motion fails for lack of Council majority

Move to amend the original motion to add "the Council and Board will consider initiating an action by the end of 2020 to develop a recreational accountability and accounting joint action."

Council: Hughes/Nolan (10/9/1)

Board: Hasbrouck/Reid (8/2/1)

Motion carries

Amended motion become main motion:

Move that the Council and Board accept all the FMAT's recommendations for this amendment. The Council and Board will consider initiating an action by the end of 2020 to develop a recreational accountability and accounting joint action.

Council: 16/2/0

Board: 10/1/0/0

Motion carries

Bluefish Allocation and Rebuilding Amendment

Move to remove from the bluefish allocation and rebuilding amendment: 2.06-2.09 (Allocations based on catch data, NEFSC discards), 2.10-2.13 (Allocations based on landings data), 6.2.08-6.2.10 (For-hire sector separation allocations based on catch data, NEFSC discards).

Council - Heins/DiLernia:

Board - Hart/Meserve:

Motion to amend to remove 2.10-2.13 from the motion.

Council - Nowalsky/Clark: 17/3/0

Board - Nowalsky/Reid: 12/2/0

Motion carries

Amended motion become main motion:

Move to remove from the bluefish allocation and rebuilding amendment: 2.06-2.09 (Allocations based on catch data, NEFSC discards), 6.2.08-6.2.10 (For-hire sector separation allocations based on catch data, NEFSC discards).

Council: 19/0/0

Board: 14/0/0/0

Motion carries

Move to exclude the Florida regional allocation proposal and add an option for a minimum default allocation.

Council - Gwin/Cimino

Board - Meserve/Patterson

Move to substitute to add an option for a minimum default allocation.

Council - DiLernia/Nowalsky: 9/7/1

Board - Nowalsky/Haymans: 12/2/1/0

Motion carries

Substituted motion becomes main motion:

Move to add an option for a minimum default allocation.

Council: 18/0/1

Board: 15/0/0/0

Motion carries

MSB Committee of the Whole - *Illex* 2020-2021 Specifications

Move to adopt *Illex* specifications for 2021,

ABC = 30,000MT, IOY = DAH = DAP = 28,644 MT to account for discards.

Nolan/Reid

Motion passes by consent.

Move to adopt a 48-hours after-landing dealer reporting requirement for 2021 for *Illex* trips after July 15 until the directed closure.

Nolan/deFur

Motion passes by consent with an abstention from NMFS.

Move to lower the closure threshold to 94% starting in 2021.

Nolan/deFur

Motion passes by consent

THEN AFTER FOR 2020:

Move that the Council recommend that GARFO use their in-season authority to change the 2020 specifications to those just adopted for 2021 and use their improved projection approaches to avoid quota overages with the current closure and reporting provisions (since those can't be changed that quickly).

Nolan/Reid

Motion passes by consent with an abstention from NMFS.

Move that the Council communicate to *Illex* dealers that they voluntarily report within 48-hours beginning July 15, 2020 to help avoid overages (and thus avoid potentially more constraining measures in the future).

Nolan/Davidson

Motion passes by consent

I move that the Council adopt the motions passed by the Committee of the whole.

Hughes on behalf of the Committee of the whole

Motion passes by consent with an abstention from NMFS

Thursday, June 18

Committee Reports

Move to approve the SSC recommended changes to the OFL CV guidance document
Elliott/DiLernia – motion carries by consent

Organization Reports:

Move to task Council staff to write a letter expressing the Council's concern regarding the reestablishment of the observer program on July 1.
DiLernia/Nolan
Motion carries by consent with two abstentions

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.