



December 2022 Council Meeting

Monday, December 12, 2022 – Thursday, December 15, 2022

Hybrid Meeting:

The Westin Annapolis
(100 Westgate Circle, Annapolis, MD, 21401, 410-972-4300)
or via Webex webinar

This meeting will be conducted as a hybrid meeting. Council members, other meeting participants, and members of the public will have the option to participate in person at The Westin Annapolis or virtually via Webex webinar. Webinar connection instructions and briefing materials will be available at: <https://www.mafmc.org/briefing/december-2022>.

Monday, December 12th

- 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Executive Committee (*Closed Session*) (Tab 1)**
- Ricks E Savage Award
- 2:00 p.m. ***Council Convenes***
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Habitat Activities Update (Tab 2)**
- Presentation from Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office Habitat and Ecosystem Services Division on activities of interest (aquaculture, wind, and other projects) in the region
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Offshore Wind Updates (Tab 3)**
- Updates from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (Karen Baker, BOEM Chief - Office of Renewable Energy Programs)
 - Updates on state working group on a fisheries compensation fund
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Species Separation Requirements Amendment Final Action (Tab 4)**
- Review public hearing comments
 - Review Committee and Staff recommendations
 - Consider final action

Tuesday, December 13th

- 9:00 a.m. ***Council Convenes with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board***

- 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Harvest Control Rule Framework / Addendum Percent Change Approach and Recreational Fishery Models (Tab 5)**
- Review the Percent Change Approach approved by the Council and Policy Board for setting recreational measures for summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass
 - Review Accountability Measures under the Percent Change Approach
 - Overview of recreational fishery statistical models to inform setting of 2023 measures
- 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. 2023 Scup Recreational Measures (Tab 6)**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
 - Adopt target level of coastwide harvest based on the Harvest Control Rule Framework/Addendum Percent Change Approach
 - Recommend 2023 recreational management measures for federal waters, as well as any considerations for adjustments to state/regional measures
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 2023 Black Sea Bass Recreational Measures (Tab 7)**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
 - Adopt target level of coastwide harvest based on the Harvest Control Rule Framework/Addendum Percent Change Approach
 - Recommend conservation equivalency or coastwide management and associated measures for 2023
 - Review and consider approval of Virginia’s proposal for February 2023 recreational fishery (Board only)
- Lunch 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. -----
- 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. 2023 Summer Flounder Recreational Measures (Tab 8)**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
 - Adopt target level of coastwide harvest based on the Harvest Control Rule Framework/Addendum Percent Change Approach
 - Recommend conservation equivalency or coastwide management and associated measures for 2023
- 3:00 p.m. Council and Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board Adjourn**
- 3:00 p.m. Council Convenes with the ASMFC Interstate Fishery Management Program Policy Board**
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Previously Initiated Recreational Reform Actions (Tab 9)**
- Review issues to be addressed under Recreational Reform Initiative Technical Guidance Document and Recreational Sector Separation and Catch Accounting Amendment
 - Discuss and provide guidance on next steps
- 4:30 p.m. Council and Policy Board Adjourn**

Wednesday, December 14th

- 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** **Climate Change Scenario Planning: Review Final Scenarios and Discuss Applications (Tab 10)**
(Jonathan Star, Scenario Insight)
- Review final scenarios
 - Review and discuss initial challenges, opportunities, and potential actions identified at Manager Brainstorming Sessions
 - Discuss recurring ideas and main takeaways, and identify key discussion topics for February summit meeting

----- Lunch 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. -----

- 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.** **Monkfish Framework 13: 2023-2025 Specifications and Management Measures (Tab 11)**
- Review Framework 13, including recommendations from the Advisory Panel, New England SSC, Joint Committee, and PDT
 - Review motions from the New England Fishery Management Council
 - Approve Framework 13

- 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** **Protected Resources Updates (Tab 12)**
- Review Protected Resources Committee Meeting Report and November/December ALWTRT meeting outcomes
 - Discuss final Sturgeon Bycatch Action Plan recommendations and potential joint action with NEFMC

- 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** **2023 Implementation Plan (Tab 13)**
- Review and approve 2023 Implementation Plan

Thursday, December 15th

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.** **Proposed Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary (Tab 14)**
- Presentation from LeAnn Hogan (Regional Operations Coordinator for NOAA Sanctuaries Eastern Region) on the proposed sanctuary and the NMSA section 304(a)(5) consultation process with Councils
 - Develop Council recommendations to NOAA Sanctuaries on whether it is necessary to develop fishing regulations in the EEZ to implement the proposed sanctuary

- 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** **Business Session**
- Committee Reports (Tab 15)** – SSC, Ecosystem and Ocean Planning Committee, Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Committee (*Illex* Permit Action disapproval follow-up)

Executive Director's Report (Tab 16) (Dr. Chris Moore)

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 (Tab 17) – New England Council, South Atlantic Council

Other Business and General Public Comment

This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 USC 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

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.