

PRESS RELEASE

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Mid-Atlantic Council Seeking Applications for Advisory Panel Members

Deadline to Apply: February 27, 2015

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council is soliciting applications from qualified individuals to serve on seven advisory panels. Advisory panels provide information and recommendations to the Council during the development of fishery management plans, amendments, specifications, and management measures. One of the chief responsibilities of advisory panels is the annual development of Fishery Performance Reports. These reports provide the Council and SSC with information about the factors that influenced fishing effort and catch within each fishery during the previous year.

Advisory panels are composed of individuals with diverse experience and interest in Mid-Atlantic fisheries. Members include commercial fishermen, recreational anglers, for-hire operators, dealers, scientists, environmentalists, and other members of the interested public. Most advisory panels meet 1 - 2 times per year. Members are compensated for travel and per diem expenses for all meetings. Individuals who are appointed to advisory panels serve for three-year terms. All current advisory panel members must reapply in order to be considered for reappointment.

The Council is accepting applications for the following advisory panels:

- Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass
- Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish
- Surfclam and Ocean Quahog
- Tilefish
- Bluefish
- Ecosystems, Habitat, and Ocean Planning
- Dogfish (Jointly managed with New England Council)

Anyone interested in serving on an advisory panel may apply online or download an application at <u>www.mafmc.org/forms/advisory-panel-application</u>. Applications can also be obtained by calling the Council office at (877) 446-2362 or emailing jsaunders@mafmc.org. Completed applications should be submitted using one of the following methods:

- Online using the form at the web address above;
- Mail to Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901;
- Email to jsaunders@mafmc.org; or
- *Fax* to (302) 674-5399.

Please include "ADVISORY PANEL" in the subject of your fax or email.

Completed applications must be received by February 27, 2015.