



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 20, 2015

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Council Meeting in Raleigh, NC: February 10-12, 2015

The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's February 2015 meeting to be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Raleigh Brownstone-University, 1707 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27605: telephone 919-828-0811. Below is the meeting agenda.

NOTE: For online access to the meeting, enter as a guest at: <http://mafmc.adobeconnect.com/february2015/>

Tuesday, February 10

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Research Set-Aside (Cooperative Research) Committee

- Discuss goals for a MAFMC cooperative research program and criteria for evaluating success
- Review and decide on a plan of action, including whether the following are needed: additional committee members, a Fishery Management Action Team (FMAT), and/or an advisory panel
- Discuss workshop and potential invitees

3:00 p.m.

Council Convenes

3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Climate Change and Fisheries – Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management

- NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy
Roger Griffis - NMFS
- Review Climate White Paper
- Discuss incorporation of climate change and variability into Council fishery science and management programs

Wednesday, February 11

9:00 a.m.

Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Cost Recovery Amendment

- Review public hearing comments
- Select preferred alternatives for submission to NMFS

10:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

Omnibus Observer Amendment

- Review and approve document for public comment and hearings

11:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Ricks E Savage Award

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Deep Sea Coral Amendment

- Review public hearing comments
- Select preferred alternatives for submission to NMFS

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Listening Session - MRIP New Effort Estimation Methodology
Rob Andrews - NMFS

Thursday, February 12

8:00 a.m.

Council Convenes

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

ACCSP Presentation – Recent Data Collection Improvements
Mike Cahall – ACCSP

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Electronic Technology Implementation Plan - Update
Dan Morris - NMFS

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Business Session

Organization Reports

- NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Office
- NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center
 - Stock Assessment Program Review and Follow-up
- 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

Executive Director's Report

- Review and approval of revised SOPPs

Science Report

Committee Reports

- RSA (Cooperative Research) 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.