PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 26, 2013

Council Seeks Public Input on Omnibus Recreational Amendment

Next week the Council will hold five public hearings throughout the Mid-Atlantic region to gather public input on the Draft Omnibus Recreational Accountability Measure Amendment. The amendment was initiated in December 2012 to evaluate alternatives to the existing accountability measures for 5 recreational fisheries—summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, bluefish, and Atlantic mackerel.

Current regulations require that a recreational overage (when the catch exceeds the Annual Catch Limit) be paid back in a subsequent year. The amendment will consider a range of alternatives, including both proactive management measures and reactive measures. Combinations of proactive and reactive measures can be used to prevent overages from occurring and address overages when they do occur.

Additional information about the alternatives being considered is available in the Draft Public Hearing Document.

Public Hearing Schedule

All hearings begin at 7:00 p.m.

April 29- Warwick, RI
The Crowne Plaza
801 Greenwich Ave.
Warwick, RI 02886
Phone: 401-732-6000

April 30- Riverhead, NY
Hyatt Place Long Island/East End
431 East Main Street
Riverhead, NY 11901
Phone: 631-574-8008

May 1- Manahawkin, NY
Holiday Inn- Manahawkin, NJ
151 Route 72 East
Manahawkin, NJ
Phone: 609-481-6100

May 2- Ocean City, MD
Clarion Fontainebleau
10100 Coastal Highway
Ocean City, MD 21842
Phone: 800-638-2100

May 3- Virginia Beach, VA
The Hilton VA Beach
3001 Atlantic Ave.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
Phone: 757-213-3000

Submit Written Comments

Written comments must be received on or before 5 p.m., EST, on May 15, 2013. Comments may be submitted in one of the following ways:

1. Emailed to info1@mafmc.org with "RECREATIONAL AMENDMENT" included in the subject line.
2. Mailed to the Council office at: 800 North State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901 should be mailed to the Council office at the address below and marked "RECREATIONAL AMENDMENT"
3. Online through our website HERE

Please direct questions to Jim Armstrong, Fishery Management Specialist, through email (jarmstrong@mafmc.org) or telephone (302) 526-5250.