APRIL 2019 MEETING AGENDA
April 8-11, 2019
Icona Avalon Resort
7849 Dune Dr.
Avalon, NJ 08202
Telephone 609-368-5155

Monday, April 8th

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Law Enforcement, HMS, and Tilefish Committees (Tab 1)
Batsavage, Cimino, DiLernia, Elliott, Gwin, Heins, Hemilright, Luisi, Mann, Nolan, Nowalsky, O’Reilly, Pentony, Shiels, Stutt, Townsend, Winslow
   - Review recommendations from the Law Enforcement/For-Hire Workshop (November 13-14, 2018)
   - Develop recommendations on further Council actions

6:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.  NEFMC Listening Session for the Recreational Groundfish (Northeast Multispecies) Party/Charter Fishery (Tab 2)
   - The NEFMC may develop an amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for Northeast Multispecies and is seeking public input on the possibility of developing a limited access program for the recreational groundfish party and charter fishery

Tuesday, April 9th

9:00 a.m.  Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Excessive Shares Amendment (Tab 3)
   - Approve Public Hearing Document

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  Atlantic Surfclam 2019 and 2020 Specifications (Tab 4)
   - Review and possibly revise 2019 and 2020 specifications based on SSC revision of OFL/ABC

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Catch Share Program Review (Tab 5)
   - Presentation of final report (Northern Economics, Inc.)
   - Initiate Public Comment Period

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  Blueline Tilefish 2020 Specifications (Tab 6)
   - Review SSC, Advisory Panel, Monitoring Committee, and staff recommendations for 2020 specifications
Golden Tilefish 2020 Specifications (Tab 7)
- Review SSC, Advisory Panel, Monitoring Committee, and staff recommendations for 2020 specifications

Council Adjourns

Wednesday, April 10th

9:00 a.m. Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Commercial eVTR Omnibus Framework (Tab 8)
- Framework Meeting 1

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Mid-Atlantic State of the Ecosystem Report (Tab 9)
Dr. Sarah Gaichas - NEFSC

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. EAFM Updates (Tab 10)
- 2019 Risk Assessment Report
- Summer Flounder Conceptual Model update

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Update on Habitat Activities (Tab 11)
- Update on Northeast Regional Fish Habitat Assessment
- Update on Projects of Interest in Region
Karen Greene - GARFO

3:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m. Illex Permitting and Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan Goals Amendment (Tab 12)
- Additional Scoping Hearing

April 11th

9:00 a.m. Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. RODA Update and Meeting with UK Fisherman (Tab 13)
Annie Hawkins
- Updates regarding regional science and monitoring for offshore wind energy and fisheries interactions
- Discussion with UK fishermen regarding British offshore wind experiences

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Business Session

Committee Reports (Tab 14)
- Scientific and Statistical Committee Report
- Law Enforcement, HMS, and Tilefish Committees

Executive Director's Report (Tab 15)
Chris Moore
Organization Reports (Tab 16)
- NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Office
- NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- NOAA Office of General Counsel
- NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
- US Coast Guard
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Liaison Reports (Tab 17)
- New England Council
- South Atlantic Council

Continuing and New Business

MARCH 2019 COUNCIL MOTIONS
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Summer Flounder 2019-2021 Specifications with Board
Move that in each year 2019-2021, the recreational ACL=ACT=11.51 mil lb and the commercial ACL = ACT = 13.53 mil lb. This results in a recreational harvest limit of 7.69 mil lb and a commercial quota of 11.53 mil lb.
Council: DiLernia/Nowalsky
Board: Nowalsky/Hasbrouck

Move to substitute in each year 2019-2021, the recreational ACL=ACT=10.83 mil lb and the commercial ACL = ACT = 12.69 mil lb. This results in a recreational harvest limit of 7.19 mil lb and a commercial quota of 10.79 mil lb.
Board: Meserve/Clark
Council: Motion fails for lack of Council motion

Main motion
Move that in each year 2019-2021, the recreational ACL=ACT=11.51 mil lb and the commercial ACL = ACT = 13.53 mil lb. This results in a recreational harvest limit of 7.69 mil lb and a commercial quota of 11.53 mil lb.
Council: DiLernia/Nowalsky (20/0/0/0)
Board: Nowalsky/Hasbrouck (10/1/0/0) roll call vote
Motion passes

Summer Flounder 2019 Recreational Measures with Board
Move to manage the recreational summer flounder fishery under regional Conservation Equivalency in 2019, with non-preferred coastwide measures consisting of a 19-inch TL minimum fish size, 4 fish possession limit, and an open season from May 15-September 15. In addition, the precautionary default measures would consist of a 20-inch TL minimum fish size, 2 fish possession limit, and an open season from July 1-August 31.
Council: Davidson/Townsend (19/0/1)
Board: Meserve/Hasbrouck (11/0/0/0)
Motion passes

Summer Flounder Amendment with Board
Move to allow the Board and Council to develop a strategy to allow additional options to be added to the document.
Board: Hasbrouck/Meserve
Council: Davidson/Heins (5/12/0)
Motion fails

Move to approve a variation of alternative 2C and establish a 9.55 million-pound trigger point, with distribution of additional quota above the 9.55 million-pound trigger as 12.375% for all states, except Maine, New Hampshire and Delaware which would receive 0.333% of additional quota above the trigger.
Council: O'Reilly/Cimino
Board: O'Reilly/Batsavage

Move to substitute to approve Alternative 2B-2 with the following modifications: 1) ME, NH, DE and MD allocations are held status quo; and 2) the 9.39% of the coastwide quota released by VA and NC is distributed in 1/2 shares to RI and NJ; 3/4 shares to MA and CT; and a 1 1/2 share to NY.
Board: Meserve/Gates (3/6/1)
Council: Elliott/Pentony
Motion fails for lack of Board majority
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Status quo state allocation (%)</th>
<th>Status quo regional alloc. (%)</th>
<th>Revised state allocation (%)</th>
<th>Revised state % of regional alloc.</th>
<th>Percent change relative to current share</th>
<th>Change in share of coastwide quota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ME</td>
<td>0.04756</td>
<td>32.46</td>
<td>0.04756</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.00000</td>
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<tr>
<td>NH</td>
<td>0.00046</td>
<td>0.00142</td>
<td>0.00046</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>6.82046</td>
<td>21.01479</td>
<td>8.58017</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
<td>1.75971</td>
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<tr>
<td>RI</td>
<td>15.68298</td>
<td>48.32144</td>
<td>16.85612</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>1.17314</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT</td>
<td>2.25708</td>
<td>6.95438</td>
<td>4.01679</td>
<td>78.0%</td>
<td>1.75971</td>
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<tr>
<td>NY</td>
<td>7.64699</td>
<td>23.56144</td>
<td>11.16641</td>
<td>46.0%</td>
<td>3.51942</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJ</td>
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<td>24.76145</td>
<td>17.89813</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>1.17314</td>
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<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>0.01779</td>
<td>0.02634</td>
<td>0.01779</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.00000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MD</td>
<td>2.03910</td>
<td>3.01890</td>
<td>2.03910</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.00000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA</td>
<td>21.31676</td>
<td>31.55959</td>
<td>17.21401</td>
<td>-19.2%</td>
<td>-4.10275</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>27.44584</td>
<td>40.63373</td>
<td>22.16345</td>
<td>-19.2%</td>
<td>-5.28239</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Main motion
Move to approve a variation of alternative 2C and establish a 9.55 million-pound trigger point, with distribution of additional quota above the 9.55 million-pound trigger as 12.375% for all states, except Maine, New Hampshire and Delaware which would receive 0.333% of additional quota above the trigger.
Council: O'Reilly/Cimino (14/5/1)
Board: O'Reilly/Batsavage (6/4/1)
Motion passes

Move to support use of Alternative 1B-7 to requalify federal commercial moratorium permits for summer flounder.
Board: Maniscalco/Clark
Council: Heins/Gwin

Move to substitute to approve Alternative 1A, status quo.
Board: Gates/Batsavage (10/0/0/1)
Council: Batsavage/Cimino (17/2/1)
Motion passes

Move to approve Alternative 1A, status quo, for federal commercial moratorium permits for summer flounder.
Council: (17/2/1)
Board: (10/0/0/1)
Motion passes

Move to approve Alternative 3A, no action for landings flexibility framework provisions.
Council: Batsavage/O'Reilly (14/3/0)
Motion passes

Move to adopt the revised FMP goals and objectives described in the public hearing document, applicable only to summer flounder.
Council: deFur/Mann (15/4/0)
Board: Meserve/O'Reilly (9/2/0/0)
Motion passes

Move to submit the Summer Flounder Commercial Issues Amendment, with the identification of preferred alternatives selected today, to the National Marine Fisheries Service.
Council: O'Reilly/Elliott (15/4/1) roll call vote
Motion passes

Move to recommend to the Commission the approval of the Summer Flounder Commercial Issues Amendment to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan as modified today. The effective date of any FMP modifications would be consistent with the effective date published in the final rule in the Federal Register.
Board: Reid/Miller (6/4/0/1) roll call vote
Motion passes

**ASMFC Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board Only Meeting**
Move to approve the Massachusetts conservation equivalency proposal for black sea bass 2019 recreational measures.
Board: Meserve/Hasbrouck
Motion passes by consent
Move to allow for a 3.5% liberalization in summer flounder measures for 2019 relative to preliminary 2018 MRIP harvest estimates, in pounds. Regional proposals will be submitted to ASMFC staff by March 20th, 2019. The technical committee will review proposals, methodologies used, and provide recommendations to the Board during the week of March 25th, 2019. The Board will consider final approval of regional proposals in early April 2019.
Board: Nowalsky/Clark (4/7/0/0)
Motion fails

Move to allow regional proposals to establish the 2019 summer flounder recreational measures as specified under Addendum XXXII. Regions may submit proposals that maintain status quo harvest relative to preliminary 2018 MRIP recreational harvest in pounds. Regional proposals will be submitted to ASMFC staff by March 20th, 2019. The technical committee will review proposals, methodologies used, and provide recommendations to the Board during the week of March 25th, 2019. The Board will consider final approval of regional proposals in early April 2019.
Board: Meserve/Reid (8/3/0/0) roll call vote
Motion passes

**Interim 2020 Specifications for Black Sea Bass, Scup, and Bluefish with Board**

Move to adopt the status quo 2020 interim specifications and management measures as specified in the table below for black sea bass, scup and bluefish until revised values are available in early 2020:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Black Sea Bass</th>
<th>Scup</th>
<th>Bluefish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mil lb</td>
<td>mt</td>
<td>mil lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFL</td>
<td>10.29</td>
<td>4,669</td>
<td>41.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC</td>
<td>8.94</td>
<td>4,057</td>
<td>36.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACL</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial ACL</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>1,974</td>
<td>28.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial ACT</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>1,974</td>
<td>28.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Quota</td>
<td>3.52</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>23.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational ACL</td>
<td>4.59</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>8.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational ACT</td>
<td>4.59</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>8.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHL</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>1,661</td>
<td>7.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Council: Heins/Batsavage
Motion passes by consent

**Black Sea Bass Management Reform with Board**

Move to initiate an amendment today to address commercial black sea bass issues.
Council: Nolan/DiLernia (16/1/0)
Motion passes

Move to postpone until the next joint meeting following the operational black sea bass assessment.
Council: Nowalsky/
Motion fails for lack of second

**Chub Mackerel Amendment**

On behalf of the Committee, I move to recommend that the Council approve the staff recommendations as described in the February 15, 2019 staff memo.
Hughes for MSB Committee

Move to amend to reduce discard set aside to 6% and add a 4% management uncertainty buffer.
Pentony/Cimino
Motion passes by consent

Move to amend to change the overfishing status determination criterion to 7.44 million pounds or 3,376 mt, being the average of the two alternatives in the document.
Nolan/Nowalsky (3/17/0)
Motion fails
Main motion as amended:
Move to recommend that the Council approve the staff recommendations as described in the February 15, 2019 staff memo, with modifications for a 6% discards buffer and 4% management uncertainty.
Motion carries by consent

Move to submit the Chub Mackerel Amendment, with the identification of preferred alternative selected today, to the National Marine Fisheries Service.
deFur/Elliott
Motion passes by consent with one abstention
Executive Director's Report
Move to approve the SSC membership as listed by Dr. Moore today.
deFur/Davidson
Motion passes by consent

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.