



## December 2025 Council Meeting

**Tuesday, December 16 – Thursday, December 18, 2025**

Le Méridien Washington, DC – The Madison  
 (1177 15<sup>th</sup> St NW, Washington, DC 20005; 202-862-1600)  
or via Webex webinar

This meeting will be an in-person meeting with a virtual option. Council members, other meeting participants, and members of the public will have the option to participate in person at Le Méridien Washington DC – The Madison or virtually via Webex webinar. Webinar connection instructions and briefing materials will be available at: <https://www.mafmc.org/briefing/december-2025>.

### Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

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| <b>9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</b>  | <b>Atlantic Mackerel Framework including Rebuilding, 2026-2027 Specifications, and River Herring / Shad Cap</b><br>– Review joint Committee (Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish; and River Herring and Shad) recommendations<br>– Review recommendations from the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), Monitoring Committee, Advisory Panel, and staff<br>– Select preferred alternatives and take final action | <b>(Tab 1)</b> |
| <b>11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</b> | <b>Joint MAFMC-NEFMC Spiny Dogfish Framework (Including Accountability Measures Modifications and 2026-2027 Specifications)</b><br>– Review NEFMC final action and consider if any modifications to October 2025 MAFMC actions are warranted  | <b>(Tab 2)</b> |
| <b>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>  | ----- LUNCH -----<br><br><b><i>Council Convenes with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC's) Policy Board</i></b>   |                |
| <b>1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</b>   | <b>Recreational Sector Separation Amendment</b><br>– Review draft alternatives and recommendations from the Fishery Management Action Team/Plan Development Team, Advisory Panels, and Commission's Law Enforcement Committee<br>– Provide input to refine draft alternatives for inclusion in Draft Amendment/Public Hearing Document  | <b>(Tab 3)</b> |
- Council and ASMFC Policy Board Adjourn***
- Council Convenes with the ASMFC Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board***

- 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.      2026-2027 Summer Flounder Recreational Measures      (Tab 4)**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
  - Determine percent change in expected harvest required under the Percent Change Approach for 2026-2027
  - Recommend conservation equivalency or coastwide management and associated measures for 2026-2027
  - Provide preliminary guidance on development of state measures proposals if necessary

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**Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

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- 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.      2026-2027 Scup Recreational Measures      (Tab 5)**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
  - Determine percent change in expected harvest required under the Percent Change Approach for 2026-2027
  - Recommend 2026-2027 recreational management measures for federal waters
  - Provide preliminary guidance on development of state measures proposals if necessary

- 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.      2026-2027 Black Sea Bass Recreational Measures      (Tab 6)**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
  - Determine percent change in expected harvest required under the Percent Change Approach for 2026-2027
  - Recommend conservation equivalency or coastwide management and associated measures for 2026-2027
  - Provide preliminary guidance on development of state measures proposal if necessary

***ASMFC Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board Adjourns***

**12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.      ----- LUNCH -----**

- 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.      Recreational Tilefish Permitting and Reporting Framework      (Tab 7)**
- Review and provide input on the modified draft range of alternatives

- 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.      2026 Implementation Plan      (Tab 8)**
- Review and approve 2026 Implementation Plan

- 4:30 p.m.      Ricks E Savage Award Presentation**
- Presentation of the 2025 Ricks E Savage Award

## Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

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- 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.      Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Governance Projects      (Tab 9)**  
**Presentation**  
– Overview of East Coast Council governance projects and planned activities
- 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.      Business Session**
- Committee Reports:      (Tab 10)**  
– Scientific and Statistical Committee
- Executive Director’s Report – Dr. Chris Moore      (Tab 11)**
- Organization Reports:**  
– NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, NOAA Fisheries Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Office of General Counsel, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, US Coast Guard
- Liaison Reports:      (Tab 12)**  
– 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.