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December 2021 Council Meeting

Monday, December 13 – Thursday, December 16, 2021

Hybrid Meeting:

Westin Annapolis (100 Westgate Circle Annapolis, MD 21401, 410-972-4300) or via Webex webinar

This meeting will be conducted as a hybrid meeting. Council members, other meeting participants, and members of the public will have the option to participate in person at the Westin Annapolis or virtually via Webex webinar. Webinar connection instructions and briefing materials will be available at:

[https://www.mafmc.org/briefing/december-2021.](https://www.mafmc.org/briefing/december-2021)

Agenda

Monday, December 13th

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| 1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Executive Committee (<i>Closed Session</i>)
– Ricks E Savage Award |
| 1:30 p.m. | Council Convenes |
| 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Wind Updates
– Consider revisions to the Council's policy on offshore wind energy development
– Updates from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
– Update on Kitty Hawk Wind Project (Rick Robbins)
– Update from US Wind |
| 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Omega Net Mesh Measurement Gauge
(Spencer Talmage, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office
LCDR Matthew Kahley, USCG)
– Presentation on the current status of the rulemaking process regarding the use of this device |

Council Meeting with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Bluefish Board

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| 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. | 2022-2023 Bluefish Recreational Measures
– Review Monitoring Committee recommendations
– Adopt recommendations for 2022-2023 federal waters recreational management measures |
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5:00 p.m.

Council and Bluefish Board Adjourn

Tuesday, December 14th

Council Meeting with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board

- 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Recreational Summer Flounder Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)**
- Review outcomes and recommendations from November 8 – 9 core stakeholder group workshop
 - Update on project timeline and tasks
- 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **2022 Summer Flounder Recreational Measures**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
 - Recommend conservation equivalency or coastwide management and associated measures for 2022
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **2022 Scup Recreational Measures**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
 - Recommend 2022 recreational management measures for federal waters
- Lunch 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. -----
- 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **2022 Black Sea Bass Recreational Measures**
- Review Advisory Panel and Monitoring Committee recommendations
 - Recommend conservation equivalency or coastwide management and associated measures for 2022
- 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Final Action on Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Commercial / Recreational Allocation Amendment**
- Review alternatives
 - Review staff recommendations
 - Consider final action
- 5:30 p.m. **Council and Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board Adjourn**

Wednesday, December 15th

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Biennial Review of 2020-2024 Research Priorities Document**
- Review proposed research priority changes and Research Steering Committee recommendations
 - Approve updated research priorities document
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Species Separation Requirements**
- Review white paper and identify next steps
- Lunch 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. -----

- 1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Climate Change Scenario Planning**
 - Summary of scoping input and update on next steps

- 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ocean City, MD Video Project**
 - Update on data collection and next steps

- 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Habitat Activities**
 - Update from Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office Habitat Conservation Division on activities of interest (aquaculture, other projects) in the region

- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Sea Turtle Bycatch in Trawl Fisheries**
 (Carrie Upite, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office,
 Sea Turtle Recovery Coordinator)
 - GARFO presentation on outreach process for development of bycatch reduction measures to reduce takes of sea turtles in trawl fisheries

- 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Acknowledgements and Awards**

Thursday, December 16th

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. 2022 Implementation Plan**
 - Review and approve 2022 Implementation Plan

- 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Business Session**
 - Committee Reports** – SSC, Research Steering Committee, Executive Committee

 - Executive Director's Report** (Dr. Chris Moore)

 - Organization Reports** – NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Office, NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Office of General Counsel, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, US Coast Guard

 - Liaison Reports** – 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.