



# ***Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission***

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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*Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 21, 2019

PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger  
703.842.0740

### **States Schedule Public Hearings on Atlantic Striped Bass Draft Addendum VI**

Arlington, VA – The Commission's Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board releases Draft Addendum VI to Amendment 6 of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass for public comment. Atlantic coastal states from Maine through North Carolina, including Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, have scheduled their hearings to gather public input on Draft Addendum VI. The details of those hearings follow. Massachusetts is still scheduling its hearings; a subsequent release will announce the details of those hearings once they are finalized.

#### **Maine Department of Marine Resources**

*October 1, 2019 at 6 PM*

Kennebunk Town Hall – Room 300  
1 Summer Street  
Kennebunk, Maine  
Contact: [Megan Ware](mailto:Megan.Ware@maine.gov) at 207.446.0932

*October 2, 2019 at 6:30 PM*

Yarmouth Town Hall - Log Cabin  
196 Main Street  
Yarmouth, Maine  
Contact: [Megan Ware](mailto:Megan.Ware@maine.gov) at 207.446.0932

#### **New Hampshire Fish and Game**

*October 1, 2019 at 7 PM*

Urban Forestry Center  
45 Elwyn Road  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire  
Contact: [Doug Grout](mailto:Doug.Grout@nh.gov) at 603.868.1095

#### **Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries**

*October 2 and 3, 2019*

Location to be determined  
Contact: [Mike Armstrong](mailto:Mike.Armstrong@dmf.mass.gov) at 978.282.0308, ext. 109

#### **Rhode Island Division of Fish & Wildlife**

*September 24, 2019 at 6 PM*

University of Rhode Island Bay Campus  
Corless Auditorium  
South Ferry Road  
Narragansett, Rhode Island  
Contact: [Nicole Lengyel Costa](mailto:Nicole.Lengyel@ri.gov) at 401.423.1940

#### **Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection**

*September 23, 2019 at 7 PM*

Marine Headquarters, Boating Education Center  
333 Ferry Road  
Old Lyme, Connecticut  
Contact: [Justin Davis](mailto:Justin.Davis@dep.state.ct.us) at 860.434.6043

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The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and diadromous species.

**Connecticut Department of Energy  
and Environmental Protection**

*September 25, 2019 at 7 PM*  
Port 5 Hall  
69 Brewster Street  
Bridgeport, Connecticut  
Contact: [Justin Davis](#) at 860.434.6043

**New York State Department of Environmental  
Conservation (NYSDEC)**

*September 4, 2019 from 6 to 9 PM*  
Division of Marine Resources  
205 North Belle Meade Road, Suite 1  
East Setauket, New York  
Contact: [John Maniscalco](#) at 631.444.0430

*September 12, 2019 from 6 to 9 PM*  
NYSDEC Region 3 Office  
21 South Putt Corners Road  
New Paltz, New York  
Contact: [Gregg Kenney](#) at 845.256.3199

**New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife**

*September 3, 2019 from 6 to 8:30 PM*  
Roselle Park Borough Hall  
110 East Westfield Avenue  
Roselle Park, New Jersey  
Contact: [Heather Corbett](#) at 609.748.2020

*September 4, 2019 from 6 to 8:30 PM*  
Ocean City Public Library  
1725 Simpson Avenue  
Ocean City, New Jersey  
Contact: [Heather Corbett](#) at 609.748.2020

*September 12, 2019 from 6 to 8:30 PM*  
Bay Avenue Community Center  
775 East Bay Avenue  
Manahawkin, New Jersey  
Contact: [Heather Corbett](#) at 609.748.2020

**Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission**

*August 28, 2019 from 7 to 9 PM*  
Silver Lake Nature Center  
1306 Bath Road  
Bristol, Pennsylvania  
Contact: [Andrew Shiels](#) at 814.359.5181

**Delaware Department of Natural Resources  
and Environmental Control**

*August 29, 2019 at 6 PM*  
DNREC Auditorium  
89 Kings Highway  
Dover, Delaware  
Contact: [John Clark](#) at 302.739.9914

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources,  
Fisheries Service**

*September 25, 2019 from 6 to 8 PM*  
Calvary United Methodist Church (Basement Room)  
301 Rowe Boulevard  
Annapolis, Maryland  
Contact: [Michael Luisi](#) at 410.260.8341

**Virginia Marine Resources Commission**

*September 9, 2019 at 6:30 PM*  
Virginia Marine Resources Commission  
380 Fenwick Road, Fort Monroe  
Hampton, Virginia  
Contact: [Alex Aspinwall](#) or [Pat Geer](#) at 757.247.2200

**Potomac River Fisheries Commission**

*September 10, 2019, at 6 PM*  
222 Taylor Street  
Colonial Beach, Virginia  
Contact: [Martin Gary](#) at 804.224.7148

**District of Columbia Department of Energy and  
Environment**

*September 12, 2019, at 6 PM*  
Aquatic Resources Education Center  
1900 Anacostia Drive  
Washington, District of Columbia  
Contact: [Julia Robey Christian](#) at 202.450.7878

**North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries**

*September 11, 2019 at 6:30 PM*  
Dare County Administration Building  
Commissioners Meeting Room  
954 Marshall C. Collins Drive  
Manteo, North Carolina  
Contact: [Chris Batsavage](#) at 252.808.8009

Draft Addendum VI was initiated in response to the 2018 Benchmark Stock Assessment, which indicates the resource is overfished and experiencing overfishing. The Draft Addendum explores a range of management alternatives designed to end overfishing and reduce fishing mortality to the target level in 2020.

The Draft Addendum proposes management options for both commercial and recreational sectors in the ocean and in Chesapeake Bay in order to reduce total fishery removals by 18% relative to 2017 levels. The proposed measures include reduced quotas for commercial fisheries, and changes in bag limits, minimum sizes, and slot size limits for the recreational sector. Since catch and release practices represent a significant component of overall fishing mortality, the Draft Addendum also explores the mandatory use of circle hooks when fishing with bait to reduce release mortality in recreational striped bass fisheries.

Draft Addendum VI is available at

[http://www.asmfc.org/files/PublicInput/StripedBassDraftAddVI\\_PublicComment\\_Aug2019.pdf](http://www.asmfc.org/files/PublicInput/StripedBassDraftAddVI_PublicComment_Aug2019.pdf) or via the Commission's website at <http://www.asmfc.org/about-us/public-input>. Fishermen and other stakeholders are encouraged to provide input on Draft Addendum VI either by attending state public hearings or providing written comment. Public comment will be accepted until **5 PM (EST) on October 7, 2019** and should be sent to Max Appelman, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, 1050 N. Highland St, Suite A-N, Arlington, VA 22201; 703.842.0741 (FAX) or at [comments@asmfc.org](mailto:comments@asmfc.org) (Subject line: Striped Bass Draft Addendum VI).

If your organization is planning to release an action alert related to the Draft Addendum, please contact Max Appelman at [mappelman@asmfc.org](mailto:mappelman@asmfc.org) prior to its release. The Board will meet at the Commission's Annual Meeting in October to review public comment and consider final approval of the Addendum.

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