



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

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.Costa@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@ct.gov) at 860.434.6043

-more-

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 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 (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 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.

###