
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Council to Hold Public Hearings on Amendment 11 to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP in February 2010

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold hearings on Amendment 11 to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) to receive public input on management actions under consideration in the Amendment. There are 7 proposed management actions that could:

- 1-4: Create a tiered limited access system in the Atlantic mackerel fishery
- 5 : Update Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) designations for all species in the MSB FMP.
- 6 : Establish a percentage allocation between the recreational and commercial mackerel sectors
- 7 : Establish limitations on at-sea processing via at-sea transfers in the mackerel fishery (i.e., processing by mother ships)

The scheduled public hearing dates and locations are as follows:

- February 9; 7-9 pm; Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort
100 Heron Blvd at Route 50, Cambridge, MD 21613; (410-901-1234).
- February 16; 5-7 pm; Annisquam River Marine Fisheries Station
30 Emerson Ave, Gloucester, MA 01930; (978-282-0308)
- February 17; 5-7 pm; Radisson Hotel Providence Airport
2081 Post Road, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886; (401-739-3000)
- February 18; 5-7 pm; Congress Hall Hotel
251 Beach Ave, Cape May, NJ 08204; (609-884-8421)
- February 24; 5-7 pm; Virginia Marine Resources Commission
2600 Washington Avenue, Newport News, VA 23607; (757-247-2200)

A public hearing summary document, which is the Executive Summary of the Amendment's draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), will be available at the public hearings. The DEIS is available on the internet at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/com.html>. The document can also be obtained on request from the Council office at the address and telephone number below.

Oral comments can be provided at any of the public hearings. Written comments should be directed to Mr. Daniel T. Furlong, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115 Federal Building, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904 (telephone 302-674-2331). Written comments may also be sent via fax to 302-674-5399, or by e-mail to info@mafmc.org. Please include in the subject line of your e-mail "MSB Amendment 11 Comments." All forms of written comments must be received by close of business on March 1, 2010.