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## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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**Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.**  
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**Mary B. Griffin**  
*Commissioner*

**April 13, 2011**

### **Marine Fisheries Advisory**

#### ***ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION NEWS RELEASE***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, APRIL 13, 2011  
PRESS CONTACT, TINA BERGER, 703/842-0740

#### **States Schedule Hearings on Northern Shrimp Amendment 2 Public Information Document Public Comment Accepted Until May 20**

Arlington, VA – Atlantic coastal states from Maine through Massachusetts have scheduled their hearings to gather public comment on the Public Information Document (PID) for Amendment 2 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Northern Shrimp. The dates, times, and locations of the scheduled meetings follow:

##### Maine Department of Marine Resources

May 2, 2011; 6:00pm

Ellsworth City Hall

1 City Hall Plaza

Ellsworth, Maine

Contact: Terry Stockwell at (207) 624-6553

May 4, 2011; 6:00pm

Portland High School Library

284 Cumberland Avenue

Portland, Maine

Contact: Terry Stockwell at (207) 624-6553

May 5, 2011; 6:00pm

Rockland Middle School

30 Broadway

Rockland, Maine

Contact: Terry Stockwell at (207) 624-6553

##### New Hampshire Fish and Game

May 3, 2011; 7:00pm

Urban Forestry Center

45 Elwyn Road

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Contact: Doug Grout at (603) 868-1095

##### Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

May 2, 2011; 6:00pm

Annisquam River Station

30 Emerson Avenue

Gloucester, Massachusetts

Contact: Nichola Meserve at (617) 626-1531

The PID and subsequent amendment are being developed to provide managers greater flexibility in managing this fishery and maximizing its overall benefits. Since Amendment I, approved in

2004, management measures have been limited to season length and gear restrictions. Potential management options have been drafted from the concerns of managers and stakeholders and are outlined in the PID include, but are not limited to, (1) trip limits, (2) clarification of the fishing mortality target, (3) limited entry, (4) timely and comprehensive reporting system, (5) gear modifications to protect small shrimp and reduce bycatch, and (6) implementation of a harvest quota.

Following this initial phase of information gathering and public comment, the Commission will evaluate potential management alternatives and develop a Draft Amendment 2 for public review. Following the second public comment period, the Commission will specify management measures to be included in the final amendment. A tentative schedule for completion of Amendment 2 is included in the PID.

Fishermen and other interested groups are encouraged to provide input on the PID, by either attending public hearings or providing written comments. Copies of the PID can be obtained via the Commission's website at [www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org) under Breaking News or by contacting the Commission at (703) 842-0740. Public comment must be received by 5:00 PM (EST) on May 20, 2011 and should be forwarded to Michael Waine, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, 1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, VA 22201 (703) 842-0741 (FAX) or at [mwaine@asmfc.org](mailto:mwaine@asmfc.org) (Subject line: Northern Shrimp Amend 2 PID). For more information, please contact Michael Waine at (703) 842-0740.

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