



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON COMMERCIAL SUMMER FLOUNDER NET MESH REGULATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) has announced a [public webinar](#) on Wednesday, November 1, from 2PM to 5PM to solicit input on several issues pertaining to commercial summer flounder net mesh regulations and exemptions. Specifically, the MAMFC is currently evaluating modifications to: (1) the trawl net mesh minimum size (5.5" diamond and 6" square), as a recent study demonstrates 6" square mesh is not equivalent to 5.5" diamond and the 6" square mesh may be retaining too many undersized fish; (2) a small mesh exemption that would allow vessels fishing east of 72° 30.0 west longitude to land more than 200 pounds when fishing with net mesh smaller than 5.5" diamond or 6" square; and (3) the flynet exemption to minimum net mesh requirements.

You may register for the webinar in advance [here](#). Written comment will be accepted through November 16, 2023 and may be submitted through their [online comment form](#) or e-mailed to MAFMC staff (hhart@mafmc.org or kdancy@mafmc.org). More information is available in the MAFMC's [Overview of Summer Flounder Mesh Size Requirements and Exemptions](#) and in their [announcement](#) for this webinar.

For more information regarding the management of fisheries in Massachusetts, please visit our website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.