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## Energy and Environmental Affairs

EEA Home > Agencies > Department of Fish & Game > Marine Fisheries > Marine Fisheries Notices > Public Meetings: Whelk (Conch) Fishery and Management

### 3/16/12 Public Meetings: Whelk (Conch) Fishery and Management March 23, 2012 and March 27, 2012

#### Media Contact

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The Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) has scheduled two public meetings at the end of March to discuss the status of the conch fishery and its management in Massachusetts. The meeting will be hosted by Deputy Director Dan McKiernan and Senior Biologist Robert Glenn. The purpose of the meeting is to begin a dialogue among fishery participants and stakeholders with the goal of better managing this valuable resource.



At these meetings *MarineFisheries* will provide an overview of the biology and management of the fishery. Current fishery participation will be discussed, with *MarineFisheries* providing data on landings and effort. *MarineFisheries* is also looking to address compliance issues such as trap limits and tags, and gauging and undersized tolerance; fishery participants are encouraged to bring their gauges to aide in a conversation on methods for measuring conch. Additionally, *MarineFisheries* will provide a review of the recent multi-state workshop held in Connecticut to discuss the conch fishery and its management.

#### Two public meetings have been scheduled:

- **March 23, 2012 at 9:30 AM at the Catherine Cornell Theater, Tisbury Town Hall**  
**51 Spring Street, Tisbury, Massachusetts 02568.**
- **March 27, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the Jonathan Bourne Public Library Community Room**  
**19 Sandwich Road, Bourne, Massachusetts 02532**

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