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Commonwealth of Massachusetts

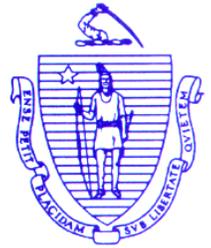
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December 30, 2014

Marine Fisheries Advisory

ASMFC Public Hearing on Fluke Recreational Management: January 8

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries will host an Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) public hearing on Draft Addendum XXVI to the interstate management plan for summer flounder (fluke). Draft Addendum XXVI proposes alternate management approaches for the 2015 summer flounder recreational fishery, including regional management options that are intended to provide more equity in recreational harvest opportunities along the coast. The details of the hearing are:

Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 6 PM

Bourne Fire Station #3, Meeting Room

53 Meetinghouse Lane

Sagamore, Massachusetts 02561

Draft Addendum XXVI was initiated to consider the continuation of the adaptive regional management approach for the recreational summer flounder fishery as established in Addendum XXV, which allowed for the use of regional management for the 2014 fishing season only. Regional management measures required states within a region to utilize the same size limit, bag limit, and season length. Addendum XXV was developed to address a growing concern that summer flounder management measures prior to 2014 were not providing recreational fishermen along the coast with equitable harvest opportunities to the resource. Its adaptive regional management approach was designed to allow the management program to adjust to past, current, and future changes to the resource and the fishery.

Fishermen and other interested groups are encouraged to provide input on Draft Addendum XXVI either by attending the public hearing or providing written comment. The Draft Addendum is available [here](#) and can also be accessed on the ASMFC website (www.asmfc.org) under *Public Input*.

Written public comment will be accepted until **5:00 PM (EST) on January 23, 2015** and should be forwarded to Kirby Rootes-Murdy, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, 1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, Virginia 22201; 703.842.0741 (fax) or at krootes-murdy@asmfc.org (Subject line: Draft Addendum XXVI).

For more information, please contact Kirby Rootes-Murdy at krootes-murdy@asmfc.org or 703.842.0740; or David Pierce at david.pierce@state.ma.us or 617.626.1532.