



Marine  
Resources  
Advisory  
Council

# BULLETIN

Marine Resources Advisory Council  
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Michael Craig

Robert Danielson

John Davi, Jr.

Melissa Dearborn

Paul Farnham

Thomas Jordan

Joseph Paradiso

John Renaldo

Paul Risi

Christopher Squeri

Charles Witek

Dean Yaxa

Michael Frisk  
Chairman

Kim Knoll  
Staff Assistant

Due to the importance of public input regarding the black sea bass regulations, this meeting was held in the evening and at Stony Brook University to best accommodate a large audience.

Introductions were made by the Councilors as well as Mr. James Gilmore, Director of the Marine Bureau of the DEC. Chairman Frisk then went over the evening's agenda as well as some of the more salient rules regarding the order of the meeting.

**Public Comment** – (non-agenda items)

John Mihale, a commercial hook & line fisherman, would like to have the topic of foodfish landing licenses brought up for discussion at the April meeting, as it pertains to the loophole that allows folks to purchase the license for \$500 and then go commercial fishing for blackfish in Federal waters. April's meeting is generally geared toward discussing and voting on bills in the Assembly and Senate regarding various fishing issues and Assemblyman Fred Thiele now has a bill in the hopper that prohibits using the landing license to take blackfish. He would like this as an agenda item specifically so there can be a broader discussion that will enable this bill to get passed since it didn't go anywhere last year. This bill has not even been introduced to the Environmental Conservation Committee so he worries this bill will continue to just float around without making any substantial progress. He feels this will be good for the recreational and commercial industry. There is no income requirement, anyone can get one and this makes economic sense - you receive a lot for your investment of \$500. Assemblyman Englebright who is the Chairman of the Environmental Conservation Committee has an office right here in Setauket; perhaps it would be worthwhile to visit with him to discuss this.

Jamie Quaresimo would like to have further discussions regarding pin hooking, specifically allowing more than one fisherman on a boat pin hooking at a time. Mr. Gilmore said this can be considered; there has been a movement toward this by some of the management plans where they were allowing multiple licenses/fishermen on a boat. What has been done at the Commission level so far has been handled as plan specific, not a generalization, it's been based upon species and not gear. We can add this as an agenda item in the future.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 19, 2016**

There are changes to note even though they could not be voted on due to a lack of a quorum.

Page 4, paragraph 1 – The Minutes should read: *Reed Riemer* and not Rich Reeder.

Page 2, paragraph 4 – should read: one year extension for *regional* management not recreational

Page 7, paragraph 6 – should read: 92 part time shares, 32 was an incorrect number given

This will be voted on officially at the April meeting.

**Black Sea Bass**

See the attachment for the complete presentation by John Maniscalco. The chart below represents one slide from the presentation that dominated most of the discussion.

OPTION	POSSESSION LIMIT	OPEN SEASON	SIZE
2015	8/10	July 15-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	14.0"
15.1	3/8/10	June 27-Aug. 31/Sept. 1-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	15.0"
15.2	4/8/10	July 3-Aug. 31/Sept. 1-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	15.0"
15.3	5/8/10	July 8-Aug. 31/Sept. 1-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	15.0"
14.1	3	July 16-Dec.31	14.0"
14.2	3/10	July 17-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	14.0"
14.3	4	July 23-Dec. 31	14.0"
14.4	4	July 22-Dec. 15	14.0"
14.5	4	July 15-Oct. 17	14.0"
14.6	4/10	July 24-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	14.0"
14.7	5/10	July 15-Sept. 21 and Oct. 22-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	14.0"
14.8	5/10	July 28-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	14.0"
14.9	2/8/10	July 12-Aug. 31/Sept. 1-Oct. 31/Nov. 1-Dec. 31	14.0"

Mr. Gilmore began the topic by saying that at the last meeting we did not have wave 6 data that needed to be taken into account, however, it is now included. Regardless, the DEC was hoping to maintain a 14" size limit for our region with a shorter season. However, Connecticut, in the last week in February, put in for a 15" fish so they can have a longer season. MA and RI have also asked for the same size limits. That is why the chart above now includes 15" options.

Mr. Maniscalco continued by reminding everyone that we will need to have a 23.2% reduction and since wave 6 data has come in (November & December), some of the options have changed. The above chart includes the additional options.

Other states (although not finalized)

- New Jersey - 12.5" May 23 – June 19 – 10 fish
- July and August – 2 fish
- 13.0" October 22 – December 31 – 15 fish

Connecticut - 15.0" May – December – 5 fish  
Party/Charter option (8 fish)

Rhode Island - 15.0" late June – August – 3 fish  
September – December – 7 fish

Massachusetts - 15.0" May 21 – August 31 – 5 fish

Mr. Maniscalco voiced his concern and reservations because he believes that New York had the highest non-compliance rate with size limit amongst our neighbors. He knows that access to 15" fish varies when looking at different areas. We are setting ourselves up for a 2" size difference between NY & NJ. In addition, there will be more discards when folks are targeting black sea bass.

Mr. Maniscalco stated that from early feedback he has received, it appears opinion is split between having a smaller possession limit, early season start vs. a possession limit that allows targeting (and not just as by-catch) and accepting a later season start. Having a Federal closure was not a popular idea in general.

While it looks ridiculous to have a high bag limit for Wave 5 & 6, keep in mind that there is very little to be gained by reducing the number.

He apologized to the folks who gave input before he had a complete data package that included the 15" options but it couldn't be helped.

It was asked where the non-compliance figures had come from and Mr. Maniscalco answered they came from MRIP data to which the audience booed and added that they do not trust the data.

Mr. Maniscalco countered that MRIP does many things; it measures fish and expands catch. While he, himself, finds issues with catch expansion what he does find extremely valuable is raw length data which is something the MRIP data provides. This shows him that there are a lot of fish being harvested that are undersized. Those numbers show an even higher percentage of undersized lengths than what is later reported in the expanded catch report.

Councilor Paradiso questioned since New York now has their own data collectors, will it eventually circumvent MRIP data and wipe out the non-compliance issues? Mr. Maniscalco reiterated that even the raw data shows New York has issues with non-compliance, no matter what, that is not going to change. He agrees with comments that he reads on the DEC's website where people question the numbers and he agrees. When he read 10,000 fish per day in the summer – he knows that is not accurate, it's an impossible number.

Councilor Risi doesn't believe 30% is an outrageous number; he thinks it's a number folks have to live with. Mr. Paradiso said the point he was trying to make is that if we adopt the 15" size limit, vote on it, will the DEC accept it or will they go against the vote because of the non-compliance issue?

Mr. Gilmore said the Department welcomes the Council's input because they themselves are undecided as to the best way to move forward.

Councilor Danielson has concerns moving to a 15" fish because of compliance. He questioned, with the DEC doing the intercept surveys, is Wave 6 going to potentially impact their harvest rate in Wave 6 which right now is NOT counted against us? He worries with the intercept surveys, it will begin to

show harvest levels in wave 6 that as of right now aren't counted by MRIP. If we do go to 10 fish in wave 6, that really does have the ability to impact the recreational fisherman next year. Mr. Maniscalco said there are a few misconceptions that he would like to clear up. We DO sample in Wave 6 but because the data comes late and takes about 45 days to process, it's usually only available in February.

Mr. Danielson believes that Wave 6 data has been underestimated and he knows from reports that the Charter and party boats are leaning heavy toward scup and seabass in wave 6. He worries the data will be better for December and in turn it will have a negative effect on NY's harvest for next year. He thinks we should be more proactive, not just the people at the table, but the people in the room as well. Mr. Maniscalco hopes that the 2016 stock assessment will receive positive peer review and New York will be able to manage the fishery with a real biomass estimate. Mr. Danielson said that "hope" is not a plan.

Mr. Risi stated there isn't a lot of effort in wave 6 although success is high. If we triple our landings in Wave 6, because it will be handled regionally, it will **not** have a detrimental impact recreationally – correct? Mr. Maniscalco agreed, he wanted everyone to realize that "effort multiplies catch". **More** catches will have a smoother curve on the fishery.

Neal Delanoy, representing the Captree's Boatmen's Association feels the problems facing the seabass fishery all stem from the fact that the 2011 stock assessment did not pass peer review. This has subsequently led to all decisions being made based on a 2004 assessment which was the last one that did receive peer review. For the last few years, New York consistently goes over its quota and there can really only be several things that can be responsible. One reason being there is more effort along with a lot more success and if you are having more success doesn't that indicate that the seabass are plentiful? He truly believes that the next peer review will show us that there is a lot more seabass than we have been working with. He would like to see everyone make it through until next year when he believes things will be better. He and his Association would like to see the longest season possible.

Mr. Mihale said the one thing that hasn't been mentioned is that seabass are born female and become sexually mature when they are 2 years old and 10", when they are 3 years old, they are 13" and at some point in the process, they turn to male. At 15" you will be whipping out the male population and you will be creating a dilemma you didn't see coming. His other concern is discard mortality. He has been fishing for live fish since 1991 and the primary target at the time was sea bass and blackfish. He has fished in various depth for different reasons, once he started to fish for live fish he spent most of his time in the Rockaways in 35 – 40 feet of water because he had a high retention of fish. If you want to fish for 15", you have to figure out a way to vent a fish so they have a better chance of surviving. People will think they can catch bigger fish by going into deeper water but if they aren't vented properly, next year we will be talking about the problem of discard mortality.

Dr. Bruce Brownwell of Stony Brook University wondered if the non-compliance issue can be directly related to the fact that the size limit was changed mid-season. Mr. Maniscalco replied that they usually do see an increase in non-compliance when the size limit is changed, whether it's from ignorance of the change or people just want to take fish home, he's not sure.

39:17

Mr. John Mantione of the New York Fish Tackle Trade Association asked for clarification with regard to the next stock assessment; specifically, should it pass peer review is the correct model number 110% to rebuild? Mr. Maniscalco said that because the 2011 stock assessment failed peer review,

under the Council rules, we cannot use the biomass estimate for management. What we are currently operating on is not the 2004 stock assessment but numbers that the Science and Statistical Committee came up with based on an intermediate level of catch and no matter what the population was doing, that number did not change. Mr. Mantione wondered if perhaps the model could change going forward and that regulations might lighten up to which Mr. Maniscalco replied he believes that if any stock assessment passes, he believes there will be positive changes. How positive, he's not sure because there are new factors that need to be addressed with regard to the black sea bass biology that has never been addressed before in a stock assessment.

Mr. Jordan questioned why the 2011 stock assessment failed peer review. Mostly, Mr. Maniscalco said they questioned the use of inshore trawling as viable for black sea bass they also didn't like that you can't find a year class and then track it through the survey data. Part of that is because what they are focusing on is the spatial differences. The methodology moving forward will be different.

Mr. Frisk said as one of the scientists who sit on the Science and Statistical Committee for the Mid-Atlantic Council, he sees the assessments from the other side. The productivity increase that is being seen in the Northern states is simply not being seen in the Southern states so he isn't sure what the next stock assessment will say, however, if they move to other stock considerations, potentially, you could start to see a change.

James Schneider stated that he was a vendor at the Somerset Fishing Show. He was the only vendor from New York and he couldn't even book a trip for May because he didn't know what the seasons were yet. He asked if it was the goal of the DEC to bring massive economic hardship on the fishing community in this state. He continued that the reason there is so much non-compliance is because people are tired of being burdened with more rules. We are embarrassed against other states. Mr. Gilmore countered that the DEC is bound by the data they receive from the Federal Government, the Council and the Commission; they do the best they can and they fight hard for New York State. Most of the time the plan is simply bestowed upon them and the DEC is merely a messenger from the federal government. This doesn't make them happy but their hands are bound. Mr. Schneider ended by saying that we need a gray area, there needs to be a more common sense approach.

Mr. Paradiso believes the people he represents in the marine district want the longest season possible and if going to 15" will give that then he would recommend going with 15.3 with a fall back of 15.2. Mr. Witek said there really isn't a good answer but would like to find something that makes everyone a little bit miserable but gives everyone what they need (not what they want) so he agrees with Mr. Paradiso.

Mr. Risi – said initially he thought 15" was ludicrous but after thinking about it, he would go along with 15.1 or 15.3 because he agrees that the longer the season the better.

Mr. Witek thinks that we would be better off with a larger bag limit because the longer the season the more apt we are to become non-compliant.

Mr. Jordan would vote for 15.3. He thinks it's the fairest option and doesn't believe we should be overly conservative.

Mr. Squeri said he represents "Joe Boater" and is thinking of 15.1. If fishing for fluke is slow (catching 1 or 2), they can switch to sea bass and salvage the trip. Mr. Witek agrees but thinks it takes some of

the economic advantage away from the fishery by basically making this a by-catch fishery thereby minimizing the bait and tackle shop sales as well as fuel sales.

Mr. Risi is against any option that is con-current with a Federal closure. If you think you're for an option with a con-current closure – ask yourself what will all of Long Island fish for in those 3 weeks? Scup and striped bass are the only fish and not everyone can fish for them.

Mr. Jordan said the average Joe fisherman fishes from Memorial Day to Labor Day and believes they deserve a reasonable piece of the pie and he supports 15.3.

Since this is a critical issue and the DEC is counting on a decision/vote from the Council, Mr. Gilmore recommended that the Council make a motion, second it, and then conduct a vote via email to expedite matters.

Mr. Paradiso made a motion to adopt option 15.3, Mr. Witek seconded.

***Official Motion: Adopt 15.3 (possession limit 5/8/10, open season July 8 – August 31/September 1 – October 31/November 1 – December 31, Size 15")***

Discussion including audience –

Ken Davies of the Captree Pride, Captree Princess, stated over the last several years the South Shore has taken a hit. The best sea bass fishing is mid-May until July 1<sup>st</sup> and whether its 14", 15" or 16", it doesn't matter for the in-shore fisherman on the South Shore, timing is more important and for that reason he would like to see a season that includes early spring and summer.

Arnold Leo, representing East Hampton's Fishery Advisory Committee would like to support the motion on the table 15.3. He also feels that New York needs to make a point that there is a growing perception that fishery management has lost its credibility. Case in point – black sea bass. Everyone who fishes knows that it is a healthy stock and yet the recreational sector is being forced to reduce harvest; we need to do something about this. In addition, having neighboring states with conflicting size limits creates a great burden. We all know that there are plenty of fish yet we are forced to reduce our quota. Having conflicting size limits with our neighbors creates a great burden.

Neal Delanoy of the Captree Boatman's Association wanted to address the sea bass discard mortality issue. He stated the greatest trauma to sea bass is barra trauma which usually occurs in water over 100'. The summer fishery is almost all in 40, 50 or 80' of water, with very little discard mortality. The deeper the water the least likely the fish are to survive. If you want to reduce discard mortality, you are much better off fishing in the summer. He supports option 15.1.

Rick Etzel of the Montauk Boatman's Association supports option 15.3.

Richard Jenson of the Northfork Captains Association supports option 15.3.

Dave Brennan said there will always be disparity between the different sectors. Has any thought ever been given to days at sea? You could shorten the season but soften it with days at sea. Mr. Maniscalco said (and Mr. Gilmore concurred) that the DEC is really looking for a regulation that is broader based. Mr. Brennan said he understands it wouldn't work for the general public but what about for the party/charter boat industry since they are regulated? Mr. Maniscalco thought perhaps in the future but definitely not at this time. Mr. Brennan also wanted to know what percentage of non-compliance issues come from angler intercept surveys vs. enforcement records? Mr. Maniscalco said

all non-compliance records come from angler intercept surveys. There is a very specific set of questions that are answered – it's a formalized survey. Mr. Brennan says he has a hard time believing that fishermen are going to willingly give information that will put them in a bad light. It was then determined that since these surveys are conducted dockside, the fish can be measured in addition to answering the questions, it was understood.

Tom Weiz agrees that for the South Shore the best fishing is in May and June, it's the only time they have to catch a 14" or 15" fish. Beginning the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in July, most of their fish are discarded. If they are shut out from fishing early in the season, they don't stand a chance. He would like option 15.1 or 15.3.

Jamie Quaresimo from the Miss Montauk believes there needs to be a separate category for party and charter boats. They need to know beforehand what the regulations will be in order to book cruises. Their livelihood depends on it. Mr. Gilmore said the problem with this is – where will their fish come from? Recreational? Commercial? This will be a very difficult thing to do. Perhaps in the future, there could be a workgroup that would be able to look into this but this is not something that is being considered right now.

John Schoenig, Conservation Chairman from Imperial Sportfishing for Senior Citizens Fishing Club said that he and his club members had discussed this topic prior to these particular options coming out, however, from their discussions he knows they would go with option 15.3. If venting is a possibility for lowering the discard mortality rate, information regarding venting tools and how they work should be made available to the fishing community.

Mr. Delanoy referred to Mr. Quaresimo's comments regarding a separate category for party and charter boats. He said there was a pilot program in the Gulf of Mexico that was highly successful, there were no losers, no one was penalized, its name was gulfheadboat.com if anyone would like to read about it.

Joe Maresca of Freeport said you are asking if we would rather be shot or stabbed. However, as far as the charter boats are concerned, he would prefer going with a 14" fish rather than make his customers criminals. He would go with option 14.1

Brian who owns the Island Princess out of Captree would like to see the earliest possible opening – option 15.1.

Ken Higgins wonders if there was any way to split the fishery up (from Shinnecock to Sheepshead Bay and Montauk to around the North Shore) because you are always pitting one region against another. The difference in sea bass sizes varies from region to region so it's really not fair to have one straight across the board size. What's available in one body of water might not be what can be caught in another. The regulations need to be more fine-tuned.

This will be voted on via email within a week.

**FYI: *Since the meeting the vote went: Yays (6), Nays (4), Abstentions (2), No vote (1), Motion passes.***

Mr. Witek said the one thing that has been brought out at this meeting and that we need to start looking at is that New York has a compliance problem. He believes that as part of the regulatory process, we need to start looking at approaches that will cut down on the compliance problem. We

should start looking at measures such as those in the fluke industry, for example: no filet at sea unless the racks are retained. Private boats – no filet at sea, at all. Lt. Reilly of DEC's Law Enforcement agreed that this would be a good idea especially if we go to a 15" fish. Mr. Risi agreed with Mr. Witek as well but felt it should be handled at a later time. To add this to the newest reduction would be like rubbing salt in a wound.

#### Discussion of H.R. 3070, Bill by NY Rep. Zeldin

Mr. Gilmore gave a little history surrounding this bill. Senator Lee Zeldin held a meeting in the Shinnecock area last spring/summer to get input from the fishing community. In between Block Island and Montauk, there is an area in the EEZ that is off limits for striped bass harvest. Within this area there is a "transit area" where you may have fish on board while traveling from another area, however, you cannot fish in those waters. Because of public outcry to have access to that area for fishing, Mr. Zeldin came up with Bill 3070, which essentially redefined the EEZ. His Bill was a little hard to decipher and contained many problems. There was a hearing held in February, unfortunately no one from the State was invited nor was anyone from ASMFC asked to attend. Fortunately, the DEC was able to put together a document that raised the most problematic points. Several issues were raised at his hearing, the first one pointing out the problem that if you split this area up, there was no delineation of which state owns it at that point. You also can't extend the state jurisdiction beyond 3 miles without legislation which in turn will bring about constitutional issues. Secondly because these are Federal waters, you have federally permitted fishermen in other fisheries such as lobster. So if you have a lobsterman from Rhode Island and you now say these are NY waters, he can no longer fish there. You are now impacting other fisheries with this bill. One of the most important points is that we just went through a 25% reduction because we're trying to rebuild the biomass for striped bass and here we are opening up an area to increase fishing. The final point the DEC saw was this might be nice for the folks up in this area but the folks in Chesapeake are not going to be happy and might want to start redefining the EEZ.

Senator Zeldin realized the Bill needed work and after the hearing there was another version that straightened out the boundaries, however, it didn't define which state would get which water nor did it fix the issue surrounding fishing with Federal permits.

The latest version of this Bill will allow the Secretary of Commerce (with consultation with ASMFC) to come out with new regulations to allow access to this area for the striped bass fishery. This does not solve the problem because again, you would have to have all the states agree that we would allow access to increase harvest but at least it's focusing in on the real issue which is to allow access to striped bass in the area. It also gets rid of the problems about state jurisdiction.

As it is right now, the most current language strictly focuses in on addressing a regulatory change by the Federal Government. This would stay EEZ area and perhaps allow some sort of fishing access into that area by certain states, particularly Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York. Mr. Gilmore said he doesn't want to sound pessimistic but worries this is opening up a can of worms with regard to our more southern states.

Mr. Joseph McBride of the Montauk Boatman's Captain Association said this anomaly (15 miles from New York's Montauk Point to Block Island and from Block Island to Point Judith, Rhode Island) only exists in this geographic area. Not only does it take away from the Montauk fisherman, it takes away from the state of New York – 150 square miles of geographic areas that we had historically. Other states have a 3 mile line running up until you get to Montauk Point and then we run into the 15 and of course from Block Island to Point Judith, Rhode Island you run into the other 15. Since 911, you have Coast Guard cutters going after everyone, most people not even knowing this prohibition even



existed. These maps are handmade with errors that have been expressed and they have been rectified over the years. In addition, the MBCA met with the Commandant of New York, New London and Boston in Congressman Bishop's office so they could express their concern. They were told, "Gentlemen, we are cops and we enforce the law because we were told to." So it was believed they had to change the law. Congressman Bishop did try to help; however, the Bills he created did not go anywhere. In 2012 Senator Zeldin tried to do something no one has been able to do – get the Bill to move forward. It is a bi-partisan bill stating that there are certain areas where they can fish for striped bass which doesn't encompass the 150 square miles, about 10% of that area. Most of the rips from midway to all the way north to what is known as the Alaskan rips are practically legal anyway. NY state should be fighting alongside the Montauk Boatman's Captains Association for the benefit of New York State and expect the DEC to work together with us. They are looking for a regulatory change.

Mr. Risi researched this and from what he understands this goes back to the 1800s when it was actually Federal territorial waters, things just sort of morphed into state waters; he agrees this isn't right and would like to see it changed. You will be catching more striped bass and not everyone is going to be happy – harvest is going to go up at a time when we are getting stricter regulations.

Mr. Jordan said this is his backyard and doesn't believe catch will go up. It's really all about being able to spread out. There isn't going to be an increase in effort but it will give boats more room so they are not on top of one another which really does happen.

Mr. Danielson agreed with Mr. Jordan, he doesn't believe there will be a difference in catch, however, he feels we do need to figure out whose state water it actually is; he would support this.

What concerns Mr. Witek is that we say this is an anomaly and in Virginia they feel it's an anomaly that their fish are six miles off the beach. If you think Montauk has been hurt by this consider Virginia where they used to run tournaments in the winter where it wasn't unusual for boats to come in with fish over 40" all caught in the EEZ and then they enforced the fishing ban. It made a tremendous impact. Last year they had to raffle off the prize money because they couldn't get a single striped bass in State waters. If we approve this in New York, there is going to be a ripple effect. Mr. Witek said enforcement of the fishing ban was so strict in Virginia that people went to jail over it. Penalties included giving up their Captain's licenses, losing their boats and very serious fines. Mr. Witek worries that this could be a very slippery slide – downward.

Mr. Gilmore said if this bill gets put forward, we will be requesting comments from New Yorkers. There is basically two issues at stake – 1) are we going to redefine the boundary of the EEZ vs. State waters or 2) we will be doing this through regulatory change in Federal management. This particular bill is stating that we will be doing this through Federal management.

One other point Mr. Witek would like to make is that the Secretary of Commerce has the right to pass regulations so this bill basically does nothing because the Secretary of Commerce can adopt this at any time. This applies to recreational fishing only.

Mr. Marc Hoffman said it was his understanding that we closed the EEZ to possession of striped bass so commercial boats wouldn't come in to raid NY waters; he believes it was created to keep the fish in state waters.

Mr. McBride said the reason behind this bill is to benefit NY State **as well as** for the east end. The fish are a public resource for the State of NY and it doesn't make sense to have 60% of the geographic area in this state denied to the citizens of the State. This anomaly needs to be corrected.

This bill will be discussed further at the annual Legislative Review meeting in April.

### ***Annual report to the Commissioner***

Mr. Frisk asked the Council if they were comfortable with the updated language in the latest report.

Councilors present accepted the latest report as written.

### ***2016 Meeting Dates***

The following are the meeting dates for the 2016 calendar year. However, everyone should check the Council's webpage prior to a meeting in the event changes have been made.

April 19<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 – 5:00 DEC – Legislative Review meeting

May 10<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 – 5:00 DEC

July 12<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 – 5:00 DEC

September 13<sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 5:00 DEC

November 15<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 – 5:00 DEC

For agenda items and any pertinent graphs, charts or data, please check the Council's web page prior to a meeting. <http://you.stonybrook.edu/mrac/meetings/>

For further information about the Marine Resources Advisory Council or items covered in this bulletin, to make arrangements for addressing the Council on an agenda item or submitting written comments on an agenda item, or to suggest an agenda item, contact: Chairman, Michael Frisk, Marine Resources Advisory Council ([michael.frisk@stonybrook.edu](mailto:michael.frisk@stonybrook.edu)); phone 631/632-8656; secretary, [kim.knoll@stonybrook.edu](mailto:kim.knoll@stonybrook.edu)