



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 27, 2024
TO: Joint Monkfish and Spiny Dogfish Advisory Panel
FROM: NEFMC and MAFMC Staff
SUBJECT: Meeting on March 5, 2024

The **Monkfish and Spiny Dogfish Advisory Panels** will meet jointly by **webinar** on **Tuesday, March 5, 2024**, starting at **1:00 pm**. Please see the meeting webpage or below for webinar details: <https://www.mafmc.org/council-events/2024/march-5/joint-dogfish-monkfish-ap>.

Ways to join:

<https://midatlanticfisheriesmc.webex.com/midatlanticfisheriesmc/j.php?MTID=m9a7f596364b382e57450ef0ead4344db>

Meeting number (access code): 2349 782 0807 Password if needed: NZaAH9kKc37

Join by phone +1-415-655-0001 US Toll - Tap to join from a mobile device:

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Agenda Topics

1. The repackaged range of alternatives recommended by the Sturgeon Bycatch Fishery Management Action Team (FMAT)/Plan Development Team (PDT),
2. The preliminary draft impact analysis of alternatives,
3. Recommendations from the Sturgeon Bycatch FMAT/PDT,
4. Any Joint Advisory Panel recommendations for final preferred alternatives for the Joint Monkfish and Spiny Dogfish Committee to consider during their March 13th Committee meeting, and
5. Other business, as necessary.

Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of this meeting is for the Joint Monkfish and Spiny Dogfish Advisory Panel to recommend a final preferred alternative for the Joint Monkfish and Spiny Dogfish Committee to consider during their March 13th meeting. The goal of this action is to reduce sturgeon

interactions in the monkfish and spiny dogfish gillnet fisheries consistent with Endangered Species Act (ESA) requirements.

Please review the materials provided prior to the meeting and be prepared to discuss the repackaged range of alternatives, the draft impact analyses, and provide input on any preferred alternatives. The Joint Monkfish and Spiny Dogfish Committee will meet on March 13th to make preferred recommendations for the Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Councils to consider during their April 2024 meetings, where final Council action is expected.

Meeting Materials

See the meeting webpage for the meeting materials. Contact Jenny Couture (jc couture@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 ext. 111), Robin Frede (rfrede@nefmc.org; (978) 465-0492 (ext. 124), or Jason Didden (jdid den@mafmc.org; 302-526-5254) with questions about documents.

1. Meeting overview memo from NEFMC and MAFMC staff (this document)
2. Agenda
3. Presentation, Council Staff
4. Draft Framework Adjustment, February 27, 2024
5. Sturgeon Bycatch FMAT/PDT DRAFT meeting summary, February 22, 2024
6. Sturgeon Risk Assessment (Closures) Final Report, February 20, 2024
7. BREP Proposal Narrative low-profile gear
8. Correspondence (if any)

Upcoming Meetings

March 13, 2024 – The Joint Monkfish and Spiny Dogfish Committee via webinar:
<https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/mar-13-2023-joint-monkfish-and-dogfish-committee-webinar>

April 9-11, 2024 - The MAFMC via hybrid meeting in Atlantic City, NJ and by webinar:
<https://www.mafmc.org/council-events/2024/april-council-meeting>

April 16-18, 2024 - The NEFMC via hybrid meeting in Mystic, CT and by webinar:
<https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/april-2024-council-meeting>