



Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council

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RIMFC: Molly Moran-Ogren, *Chair*; David Bethoney, Ph.D.; Andy Dangelo; Katie Eagan; Melva Treviño Peña, Ph.D.; Mike Roderick; Greg Vespe

MEETING NOTICE

March 26, 2025 – 6:00 PM

In person:

URI Bay Campus, Corless Auditorium
215 South Ferry Road
Narragansett, RI

Zoom webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84251491284?pwd=zG97WBcHqvXiZrT3bVRtL7u2LQ0pfi.1>

Meeting ID: 842 5149 1284

Passcode: 165864

Dial in: 1-929-205-6099 (listen only)

AGENDA

Agenda item (<i>items italicized include links to the meeting material</i>)	Recommended action(s)
1. Tonight's agenda	Approval of agenda
2. <i>Meeting minutes – December 2, 2024</i>	Approval of meeting minutes
3. Public comment on any matters not on the agenda	Discussion and/or recommendations for future action (<i>opportunity for public comment will be provided</i>)
4. 2024 RIMFC Annual Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">2024 draft reportGuiding statute	FYI or advice for content
5. <u>Shellfish Advisory Panel (SAP) meeting minutes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Draft meeting minutes 2/19/2025</i><i>SAP presentation 2/19/2025</i><i>Draft meeting minutes 3/5/2025</i><i>SAP presentation 3/5/2025</i>	Approval of minutes
6. <u>Providence River Shellfish Management Area (Area "E") commercial harvest schedule:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">SAP and Division recommendations<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Commercial boat harvest</i><i>Commercial shoredigging</i><i>Recreational harvest</i>	Provide recommendations to the Director as needed for regulatory changes (<i>opportunity for public comment will be provided</i>)

<p>7. <u>Proposed regulations publicly noticed</u> (links to powerpoint presentation provided):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Summary of proposed rulemaking document</i> • <i>2025 recreational striped bass mgmt.</i> • <i>2025 commercial general category and floating fish trap striped bass mgmt.</i> • <i>Commercial menhaden mgmt.</i> • <i>Black sea bass pots</i> • <i>Horseshoe crab mgmt.</i> • <i>Dealer accounting</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Noticed proposal</i> ◦ <i>Revised proposal based on DLE and Industry feedback</i> • <i>Aggregate Program for Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Summer/fall program closure trigger for black sea bass</i> ◦ <i>Summer/fall program closure trigger closure trigger for summer flounder</i> ◦ <i>Possession limit for black sea bass</i> ◦ <i>Penalties for non-compliance</i> • <i>2025 recreational cobia mgmt.</i> • <i>Lobster LCMA 1 and LCMA 3 mgmt.</i> • <i>Lobster FMP compliance measures (min. size, min. escape vent size corrections)</i> • <i>Ninigret Pond-Foster Cove sub-area 1 and sub-area 2 (Ninigret Pond Shellfish Management Area)</i> <p><u>Summary of comments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Part 3 – Finfish (striped bass, menhaden, black sea bass pots, cobia)</i> • <i>Part 5 – Lobsters, Crabs, and Other Crustaceans (horseshoe crabs, lobster)</i> • <i>Part 7 – Dealers (dealer accounting)</i> • <i>Part 23 - Aggregate Program for Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass (closure triggers for black sea bass and summer flounder, black sea bass possession limit, penalties for non-compliance)</i> • <i>Part 1 – Definitions and General Provisions (Ninigret Pond Shellfish Management Area)</i> • <i>Written comments received (≈ 205 comments received; 139 were in a form letter)</i> <p><u>External links (Sec. of State) to proposed rules:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Part 1 – Definitions and General Provisions</u> • <u>Part 3 – Finfish</u> • <u>Part 5 – Lobster, Crabs, and Other Crustaceans</u> • <u>Part 7 – Dealers</u> • <u>Part 23 - Aggregate Programs for Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass</u> 	<p>Provide recommendations to the Director regarding proposed regulations</p>
<p>8. Any other matters?</p>	<p>FYI or recommendations for future action.</p>
<p>9. Adjourn</p>	

All RIMFC meetings are open to the public. If any reasonable accommodation is needed to ensure equal access, service, or participation, or to request sign language and/or CART services for the deaf and hard of

hearing, please contact Peter Duhamel @ peter.duhamel@dem.ri.gov . We strongly encourage you to do this at least 3 business days before the date of the scheduled meeting to allow adequate time to process the request.