



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

February 18, 2016

Dear Artificial Reefs Stakeholder,

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) and NOAA Fisheries will be co-hosting a workshop this June focused on artificial reef science and management. The workshop will be held at the Westin Alexandria outside of Washington, DC, June 9-10th, and we hope you will participate.

Your experience and expertise will make the workshop a valuable event and help us reach the proposed objectives to:

- Provide an overview of current science and applied experience (lessons learned) regarding the application of artificial reefs as a tool to support or enhance sustainable recreational fisheries.
- Consider the potential artificial reefs may have as a management tool to support and/or enhance sustainable recreational fisheries.
- Identify priority science and management challenges, knowledge gaps, and strategies for monitoring, use, and management of artificial reefs, including the potential role of federal, state, private sector partnerships in resolving challenges and achieving objectives.
- Outline key actions to advance workshop findings.

If you are interested in joining us, please RSVP to Dr. Lisa Havel (lhavel@asmfc.org, 703.842.0740) by March 18th. We have limited space and funding available to cover non-federal participant travel and lodging.

To assist with planning and workshop facilitation, we have acquired the expertise of Seatone Consulting, whose staff will provide agenda development support and meeting facilitation services. Following this announcement, you will hear from Seatone regarding a pre-workshop survey by which interested parties such as yourself can help shape the workshop agenda. Please keep an eye out for an email from Seatone Executive Director Rich Wilson.

Thank you in advance for your contributions to a successful artificial reef science and management workshop. We look forward to seeing you in June.

Robert E. Beal

Executive Director
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Russell Dunn

National Policy Advisor for Recreational Fisheries
NOAA Fisheries