

## Virginia Seeks Nominees for an At-Large Seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council



Nominations are being accepted for an At-Large seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC). At least three nominees will be forwarded from the Governor's office to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for review and final consideration.

A candidate must be a Virginia resident and must complete and submit a nomination application detailing their fisheries background, experience and ability to serve as a council member.

The MAFMC is responsible for managing fisheries in Mid-Atlantic federal waters (New York through North Carolina) extending from three to 200 miles offshore. MAFMC members must be prepared to attend six MAFMC meetings a year during a three-year term, with each meeting typically lasting three to four days. Council members will be compensated by the MAFMC for all travel expenses for transportation, hotel and meals, and receive a stipend of \$519.28 per meeting day.

According to NOAA's website, nominees' eligibility for the position is based, in part, on their occupation or other related experience, scientific expertise or training – and they must be knowledgeable and experienced in one or more of the following areas related to the fishery resources within Mid-Atlantic federal waters:

- Commercial fishing, aquaculture or the processing or marketing of fish, fish products or fishing equipment
- Fishing for pleasure, relaxation or consumption, or experience in any business supporting fishing
- Leadership in a state, regional or national organization whose members participate in a fishery in the Council's area of authority
- The management and conservation of natural resources, including related interactions with industry, government bodies, academic institutions and public agencies
- Representing consumers of fish or fish products through participation in local, state or national organizations, or performing other activities specifically related to the education or protection of consumers of marine resources; or
- Teaching, journalism, writing, consulting, practicing law or researching matters related to fisheries, fishery management and marine resource conservation.

Applications should be submitted to Patrick Geer, email: [pat.geer@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:pat.geer@mrc.virginia.gov), or mailed to Virginia Marine Resources Commission **no later than March 4, 2022**. For a nomination application kit, please contact Mr. Geer by email or at 757-247-2236.