

O Borden joins AOLA



Veteran fisheries policy expert David Borden is the new interim executive director of the Atlantic Offshore Lobstermen's Association (AOLA),

succeeding Bonnie (Spinazzola) Hyler, who retired at the end of August after a 15-year run.

Borden brings close to 30 years of fisheries management and policy experience to the job. Before retiring as acting director of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's Bureau of Natural Resources in 2004, he represented the state on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the New England Fishery Management Council, including three years as chairman, and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

In recent years, Borden has been a consultant on marine fisheries issues, working with a number of groups in both Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

"This is an exciting time for AOLA," said association President David

Spencer. "We are saying goodbye to our trusted executive director of over 15 years who served us well, and we are embarking on a path with a new leader who we fully expect to thrive in the position."

O CFRF summit

The Commercial Fisheries
Research Foundation (CFRF) held an
international collaborative research
summit Oct. 1-2 in Narragansett, RI to
hear how data collected by fishermen
and researchers in other countries is
used to support stock assessments and
to discuss how lessons learned might be
applied here in the Northeast.

Presenters included industry/science teams from Norway, Nova Scotia, and the Falkland Islands. Among those who attended were industry members from the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Gulf of Mexico, researchers from private and academic institutions, fisheries managers from state and regional management agencies, and staff from environmental organizations.

Although the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Science Center was a co-sponsor of the event, science center personnel were unable to attend due to the federal government shutdown, which began on Oct. 1. The Nature Conservancy and the Walton Family Foundation also were co-sponsors.

CFRF offered the following key points raised during the summit:

- There is a need to directly link cooperative fisheries research results with the stock assessment process;
- It is critically important to include members of the commercial fishing industry in all aspects of the stock assessment process, including setting research priorities, on-the-water research, and the assessment itself, especially when key model assumptions are being made;
- It is important to lay a foundation for building trust and respect among all parties and to develop an ongoing communication process;
- It is essential to provide support for industry involvement as well as appropriate incentives for engagement in collaborative research; and
- Additional efforts should be made in the Northeast to explore other US examples of collaborative efforts for data collection and involvement in the stock assessment process.

The CFRF has posted summit presentations on its website at http://cfrfoundation.org/summit>.

Advisers wanted

The New England Fishery Management Council is looking for active herring fishermen to fill two vacancies on its herring advisory panel and for people who either fish for whiting or know about the fishery to serve on its whiting advisory panel.

Advisers provide information and guidance to council oversight committees and make recommendations to the council during the development of fishery management plans, plan amendments, and framework adjustments. They also may be asked for information when special issues or problems come up.

Council advisory panels are meant to reflect various areas of expertise and interests, including geography, gear types, user groups, and a range of social and economic perspectives. Each is limited to a maximum of 15 individuals, and members are reimbursed for travel expenses.

New advisers will serve three-year terms that run from January 2014 through December 2016. Following a review of applicants by the council's herring and whiting oversight committees, the council's executive committee will make the final appointments.

Applications and background materials may be downloaded from the council's website at http://nefmc.org/advisors. If you need paper copies, call the council office at (978) 465-0492, ext. 102. For more information, call Pat Fiorelli at the council office, ext. 106, or e-mail her at pfiorelli@nefmc.org.

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