



## **ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

**SUBJECT:** Horseshoe Crab Management Practices

**PURPOSE:** To examine current horseshoe crab management practices

Wednesday, January 29, 2025  
10:00 a.m.  
Hearing Room C, Legislative Office Building  
Albany, NY

### **ORAL TESTIMONY WILL BE BY INVITATION ONLY**

Horseshoe crabs have existed on Earth for over 400 million years and are an integral part of the marine ecosystem; for example, their eggs are consumed by migratory shorebirds, including the threatened Red Knot, to provide the energy they require for migration. New York's horseshoe crab population is primarily harvested by the commercial fishing industry for use as bait and by the biomedical industry for use of their blood to produce *Limulus Amoebocyte Lysate*, which is used to test medical products for contamination. In 2024, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) designated horseshoe crab stock in three out of four New York horseshoe crab management regions as poor, the worst of any state along the Atlantic coast. New York also takes more horseshoe crabs than almost any other Atlantic state, with reports from ASMFC estimating that New York has taken close to one million horseshoe crabs over the past decade. In addition, since the neighboring states of Connecticut and New Jersey have implemented moratoria, pressure on New York's horseshoe crab fishery seems likely to increase.

The purpose of this hearing is to examine current horseshoe crab management practices and solicit input on potential solutions to address the horseshoe crab population decline.

Persons invited to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to ten minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

Attendees and participants at any legislative public hearing should be aware that these proceedings are video recorded. Their likenesses may be included in any video coverage shown on television or the internet.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

**Deborah J. Glick**  
**Member of Assembly**  
**Chair**  
**Committee on Environmental Conservation**

**PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM**

Persons invited to present testimony at the public hearing on horseshoe crab management practices are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email, or fax it to:

Marc Thurston  
Analyst  
Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation  
Room 520 – Capitol  
Albany, New York 12248  
Email: thurstonm@nyassembly.gov  
Phone: (518) 455- 4363

- I plan to attend the following public hearing on horseshoe crab management practices to be conducted by the Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation on January 29, 2025.
- I have been invited to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to ten minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.
- I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

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- I do not plan to attend the above hearing.
- I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
- I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_