

# ***CHAIRMAN'S REPORT***

# *LETTERS*

# *BLUE CRAB*



ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

MICHAEL S. REGAN  
*Secretary*

STEPHEN W. MURPHEY  
*Director*

Nov. 25, 2019

Michael S. Regan, Secretary  
North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality  
1601 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1601

Dear Secretary Regan,

On Nov. 15, 2019, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission approved the draft North Carolina Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3 for your review. The amendment is located at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/blue-crab-topic> and the executive summary of the plan is enclosed for your convenience. Please submit any comments or recommendations regarding the plan to my office within 30 days.

The Fisheries Reform Act of 1997 [G.S. 113-182.1 (c1) and (e)] requires that you transmit this fishery management plan to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources for review. The commission and committee also have 30 days from the date of receipt of the plan to submit comments. Cover letters for your signature are being prepared for that purpose and will be sent under separate cover.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter and please contact me at 252-808-8013 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stephen W. Murphey, Director  
North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries

Enclosure

cc: North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission  
Joy Hicks, Department of Environmental Quality Legislative Affairs Director

SWM/cb

## DRAFT – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

### N.C. Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3

#### Executive Summary

North Carolina's blue crab resource has been harvested since the 1800s and supports the state's largest and most valuable commercial fishery. The blue crab fishery in North Carolina is the fourth largest blue crab fishery in the United States. Blue crab is also targeted by recreational fishermen and is an important species in the coastal ecosystem serving as prey for many recreationally and commercially important species.

The 2018 stock assessment determined the North Carolina blue crab stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring. State law requires management action to be taken to end overfishing within 2 years and to recover the stock from an overfished condition within 10 years with a 50% probability of success from the date of adoption of the plan. A minimum harvest reduction of 2.2% in numbers of crabs from 2016 commercial hard crab landings is necessary to meet these statutory requirements.

The goal of the North Carolina Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan (FMP) is to manage the blue crab fishery to achieve a self-sustaining population that provides sustainable harvest using science-based decision-making processes. Objectives for the FMP are: implement management strategies that maintain/restore the blue crab spawning stock with multiple cohorts and adequate abundance to prevent recruitment overfishing; restore, enhance, and protect habitat and environmental quality necessary to maintain or increase growth, survival, and reproduction of the blue crab population; use biological, environmental, habitat, fishery, social, and economic data needed to effectively monitor and manage the blue crab fishery and its ecosystem impacts; promote stewardship of the resource through increased public awareness regarding the status and management of the blue crab fishery, including practices that minimize bycatch and discard mortality.

To meet statutory requirements to achieve a self-sustaining population, sustainable harvest was addressed in the FMP. Other issues addressed in the plan encompassed the following general categories: non-quantifiable management measures, water quality, crab spawning sanctuaries, use criteria for terrapin excluder devices, and bottom disturbing gear. Specific recommendations for each issue are as follows:

- 1) Achieving sustainable harvest: To recover the North Carolina blue crab stock the selected management strategy is: a January closed season and a 6 ¾-inch maximum size limit for mature female blue crabs north of the Highway 58 Bridge; a March 1 to 15 closed season south of the Highway 58 Bridge; and to retain the prohibition on immature female hard crab harvest and the 5% cull tolerance established in the 2016 Revision to Amendment 2. These measures are estimated to result in a 3.1% harvest reduction from 2016 landings. Other measures selected were to: have the season closures replace the annual pot closure period; adopt the adaptive management framework based on the peer-reviewed and approved stock assessment; and to update the stock assessment once 2019 data is available.

## DRAFT – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- 2) Non-quantifiable management measures: While not having quantifiable harvest reductions, several additional management measures were identified that could help improve the condition of the blue crab stock. The selected management strategy includes the following: retain a minimum number of 3 cull rings per pot with one in the modified corner position and to prohibit the harvest of dark sponge crabs from April 1-30 measures established in the 2016 Revision to Amendment 2; and removing the cull ring exemptions for the Newport River and eastern Pamlico Sound.
- 3) Water quality: Negative impacts to blue crab from poor water quality have been widely documented and strategies were developed for the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) to pursue to improve water quality. Strategies selected were: highlight problem areas and advise other regulatory agencies; push to create an interagency work group; support the Clean Water Act; task the CHPP steering committee to prioritize blue crab water quality impacts; send letters to other state agencies sharing concerns about water quality and Best Management Practices; invite other agencies to future MFC meetings to present their efforts to address water quality; and initiate public outreach on how to report crab and fish kills.
- 4) Crab spawning sanctuaries: Research has shown the existing crab spawning sanctuaries are largely ineffective due to their small size and that expanding the sanctuary system as well as establishing migration corridors will increase the number of mature females reaching the spawning grounds. The selected management strategy includes: maintain the current sanctuary boundaries for Oregon, Hatteras, and Ocracoke inlets; move the Drum Inlet sanctuary boundary to encompass Ophelia Inlet; expand the Barden Inlet sanctuary boundary; and designate new crab spawning sanctuaries around Beaufort, Bogue, Bear, Browns, New River, Topsail, Rich, Mason, Masonboro, Carolina Beach, Cape Fear River, Shallotte, Lockwood Folly, and Tubbs inlets. The new crab spawning sanctuaries will be closed from March 1 to October 31 with the same restrictions as previously existing sanctuaries.
- 5) Terrapin excluder devices: The bycatch of diamondback terrapins has been discussed in every blue crab FMP since 1998 with little action. To address this issue the selected management strategy is to study locally specific pot funnel designs to reduce terrapin bycatch in crab pots and to identify individual areas with diamondback terrapin hot spots that will be closed to pots unless a terrapin excluder device is used.
- 6) Bottom disturbing gear: To reduce the habitat impacts from the blue crab fishery, the use of bottom disturbing gear, specifically dredges and trawls, was examined. The selected management strategy includes: retain the prohibition on targeted crab dredging established in the 2016 Revision to Amendment 2; reduce the crab bycatch limit from oyster dredges to 10% of the combined crab and oyster catch or 100 pounds, whichever is less; and to prohibit the use of crab trawls in areas where shrimp trawls are prohibited in the Pamlico, Pungo, and Neuse rivers.



NORTH CAROLINA  
*Environmental Quality*

ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

MICHAEL S. REGAN  
*Secretary*

December 6, 2019

Senator Phil Berger and Representative Tim Moore, Co-Chairs  
Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations  
North Carolina General Assembly  
Legislative Building  
16 West Jones Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601

RE: Draft Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3

Dear Senator Berger and Representative Moore:

The draft North Carolina Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3 was submitted to me by the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission for review. North Carolina General Statute 113-182.1(e) requires that once I review any proposed fishery management plan, I report that plan to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources. The committee then has 30 days to submit comments or recommendations to me on the proposed plan. Additionally, G.S. 113-182.1(c1) requires the department to review any comment or recommendation regarding a plan that a regional advisory committee submits to the department before submission of a plan to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

The amendment is located at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/blue-crab-topic> and the executive summary of the plan is enclosed for your convenience. While not formally provided for in the statute, if you commission has comments or recommendations on the proposed plan, please send them to me within 30 days of the date of this letter. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please contact Department of Environmental Quality Legislative Affairs Director Joy Hicks at 919-707-8618 if you have any questions.

Sincerely, 1

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael S. Regan".

Michael S. Regan  
Secretary

Enclosure

cc: North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission  
Joy Hicks, Department of Environmental Quality Legislative Affairs Director  
Steve Murphey, Division of Marine Fisheries Director





NORTH CAROLINA  
*Environmental Quality*

ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

MICHAEL S. REGAN  
*Secretary*

December 6, 2019

Senator Brent Jackson and Representatives Jimmy Dixon and Pat McElraft, Co-Chairs  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources  
North Carolina General Assembly  
Legislative Building  
16 West Jones Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601

RE: Draft Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3

Dear Senator Jackson and Representatives Dixon and McElraft:

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The amendment is located at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/blue-crab-topic> and the executive summary of the plan is enclosed for your convenience. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please contact Department of Environmental Quality Legislative Affairs Director Joy Hicks at 919-707-8618 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Secretary

Enclosure

cc: North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission  
Joy Hicks, Department of Environmental Quality Legislative Affairs Director  
Steve Murphey, Division of Marine Fisheries Director



## DRAFT – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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#### Executive Summary

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The 2018 stock assessment determined the North Carolina blue crab stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring. State law requires management action to be taken to end overfishing within 2 years and to recover the stock from an overfished condition within 10 years with a 50% probability of success from the date of adoption of the plan. A minimum harvest reduction of 2.2% in numbers of crabs from 2016 commercial hard crab landings is necessary to meet these statutory requirements.

The goal of the North Carolina Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan (FMP) is to manage the blue crab fishery to achieve a self-sustaining population that provides sustainable harvest using science-based decision-making processes. Objectives for the FMP are: implement management strategies that maintain/restore the blue crab spawning stock with multiple cohorts and adequate abundance to prevent recruitment overfishing; restore, enhance, and protect habitat and environmental quality necessary to maintain or increase growth, survival, and reproduction of the blue crab population; use biological, environmental, habitat, fishery, social, and economic data needed to effectively monitor and manage the blue crab fishery and its ecosystem impacts; promote stewardship of the resource through increased public awareness regarding the status and management of the blue crab fishery, including practices that minimize bycatch and discard mortality.

To meet statutory requirements to achieve a self-sustaining population, sustainable harvest was addressed in the FMP. Other issues addressed in the plan encompassed the following general categories: non-quantifiable management measures, water quality, crab spawning sanctuaries, use criteria for terrapin excluder devices, and bottom disturbing gear. Specific recommendations for each issue are as follows:

- 1) Achieving sustainable harvest: To recover the North Carolina blue crab stock the selected management strategy is: a January closed season and a 6 ¾-inch maximum size limit for mature female blue crabs north of the Highway 58 Bridge; a March 1 to 15 closed season south of the Highway 58 Bridge; and to retain the prohibition on immature female hard crab harvest and the 5% cull tolerance established in the 2016 Revision to Amendment 2. These measures are estimated to result in a 3.1% harvest reduction from 2016 landings. Other measures selected were to: have the season closures replace the annual pot closure period; adopt the adaptive management framework based on the peer-reviewed and approved stock assessment; and to update the stock assessment once 2019 data is available.

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**From:** [Klibansky, Lara](#)  
**To:** [Bizzell, Rob](#); [Blanton, Mike](#); [Cross, Doug](#); [Kornegay, K](#); [Posey, Martin H](#); [Hendrickson, Tom](#); [McNeill, Robert](#); [Romano, Sam](#)  
**Cc:** [Maier, Shawn](#); [Gillikin, Dana](#); [Murphey, Steve](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Blue Crab FMP  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 31, 2019 10:08:24 AM

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Good morning, Chairman Bizzell and commissioners,

Director Murphey asked me to share with you the following comments he received from Ken Seigler regarding the Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment 3. Just as a reminder, you'll be taking a vote on final action for this FMP at your February business meeting in New Bern. Please let me know if you have any questions.

-----Begin Comments-----

"NC Division Marine Fisheries  
Steve Murphy, Director

Re: NC Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan (two issues)

Issue One;

Fishery Management Plan (FMP) proposed rules place southern areas of the state at significant economic disadvantage vs. northern areas. Proposed northern area closure for crabs would occur January 1 thru January 30. Proposed southern area closure for crabs would occur March 1 thru March 15. The crab pot cleanup period (15A NCAC 03J .0301) January 15 thru February 7 would be eliminated from the rules.

Southern area closure would occur just as markets begin to open and become active as the spring crab season normally begins. Northern areas will be harvesting for 6 weeks prior to southern areas reopening March 16. Very few markets would remain accessible to southern crab fishermen as northern crab fishermen flood markets with product.

Eliminating the crab pot cleanup period would result in fewer harmful ghost pots removed from the waters.

Splitting enforcement duties (north/south) could result in higher enforcement cost, and potential conflicts/confusion with product crossing from open areas into closed areas.

By current rule 15A NCAC 03J .0301, all crab pots must be removed from the waters statewide January 15, beginning pot cleanup period. Normal routine enforcement would do a fly-over to check for derelict pots and none compliance, very expensive undertaking. With areas reported as being clear of pots, the fisheries director may then reopen the crab pot fishery January 19. Four days is very little time allotted for groups like Coastal Federation and the ghost pot removal program.

If we must have closure to achieve reductions required for the FMP, it would be more practical to close all state waters at one time, giving all fishers the same market opportunities, conservation groups ample opportunity to carry out their work, and save a load of money on the very expensive legislative rule making process and potential budgetary windfall for DMF in the process.

To resolve this issues, NC Marine Fisheries Commission should use it's authority to suspend portions of rule 15A NCAC 03J .0301 (a) 1) "The Fisheries Director may, by proclamation, reopen various waters to the use of pots after January 19 if it is determined that such waters are free of pots."

Result would be a three week closure in which all crab pots would be removed from state waters January 15 thru February 7.

- FMP harvest reductions achieved
- conservation groups have ample time to complete ghost pot removal
- all fishers have far and equal market access
- statewide closure, less potential for compliance conflicts across boundaries
- no air plane compliance flyovers needed, DMF budgetary windfall
- no exhaustively expensive rule making process required

Issue Two;

Currently, mature female crabs less than five inches (hickory sooks) are sold as cull crabs to processors as there is no live or fresh market value. These crabs are routinely discarded during processing due to minimal meat yield, ultimately resulting in lower returns to fishermen for processed crabs.

Additionally, reports of processors mixing local product with imported product should raise significant concerns for both fishermen and consumers.

With the ability to compete on an international trade stage at risk, resolution must be met head on by industry, selling small crabs having minimal yield to be processed is no longer an option.

A minimum harvest size of five inches for male and female crabs with exception for peeler crabs should be instituted.

Thank you for your time, your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Kenneth M. Seigler"

-----End Comments-----

Wishing you all a happy new year.

Best,  
Lara

Lara K. J. Klibansky  
Executive Assistant for Councils and Commissions  
Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison  
NC Division of Marine Fisheries  
Department of Environmental Quality



252 808 8021 office (direct)

252 726 7021 main

[Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov)

P.O. Box 769  
3441 Arendell Street  
Morehead City, NC 28557

*Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to the  
North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties*

*DELINEATION  
OF FISHING  
WATERS*



**TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS**

Post Office Box 1719, 102 Town Hall Drive  
Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina 27948  
252-449-5300  
www.kdhnc.com

January 28, 2020

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
c/o Betsy Haywood  
Mail Service Center 1701  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1701

**Mayor  
BENJAMIN A. SPROUL**

**Mayor Pro Tem  
IVY RAY INGRAM**

**Commissioners  
TERRY L. GRAY  
BERNARD B. MCAVOY, JR.  
JOHN L. WINDLEY**

**Town Manager  
DEBORA P. DIAZ**

**Assistant Town Manager  
SHAWN R. MURPHY**

**Town Clerk  
MARY E. QUIDLEY**

**Town Attorney  
CASEY C. VARNELL**

North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission  
c/o Nancy Fish  
N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries  
3441 Arendell Street  
Morehead City, NC 28557

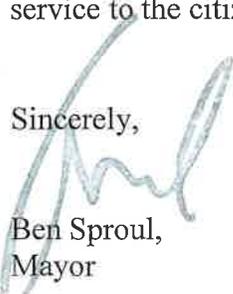
Dear Commission Members,

At its January 13, 2020, meeting, the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners adopted the following resolution:

*Resolution Opposing Reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters*

A copy is included for reference. Thank you for your continued service to the citizens of Kill Devil Hills and North Carolina.

Sincerely,

  
Ben Sproul,  
Mayor

Encl.

- c: Honorable Roy Cooper, Governor
- Honorable Bob Steinburg, N.C. Senate
- Honorable Bobby Hanig, N.C. House of Representatives
- Dare County Board of Commissioners
- Duck Town Council
- Southern Shores Town Council
- Kitty Hawk Town Council
- Nags Head Board of Commissioners
- Manteo Board of Commissioners
- Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners
- file



## TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

*Land Where Flight Began*

### RESOLUTION OPPOSING RECLASSIFICATION OF JURISDICTIONAL WATERS

**WHEREAS**, in January of 2019, the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) formed a joint committee for the purpose of determining boundaries defining inland and coastal waters; and

**WHEREAS**, the joint committee had its last meeting in May of 2019, after having disagreements between the agencies of the “salinity value” to determine boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, in August of 2019, the WRC business meeting was held with little direct notice to the MFC or to the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ). At this meeting the WRC decided to move forward with the proposed boundaries based on the arbitrary 2.6 ppt. salinity value;” and

**WHEREAS**, in 2017 the MFC conducted a review of rules pertaining to delineation (15A NCAC 03Q.0200 et seq.) and determined there was no basis to adjust jurisdictional boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters would be a loss of approximately 144,984 square acres or 226.5 square miles of coastal and commercial fishing waters. Thus, creating even more confusion and regulations to the already over-regulated N.C. commercial fishing industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the MFC would be required by law to perform a comprehensive financial analysis to modify jurisdictional boundaries, which would include a review of all existing rules and a detailed mapping effort expected to take over a year to complete with added costs to the taxpayers of North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the financial impact as proposed would exceed \$1,000,000.00 for sustainable economic impact as prescribed in the N.C. Administrative Procedure Act; and

**WHEREAS**, fisheries management plans of important commercial and recreational species under MFC authority follow a criterion initially to establish coastal and joint waters but not inland waters, thus a complete review of all MFC rules would have to be completed at N.C. Taxpayer expense.

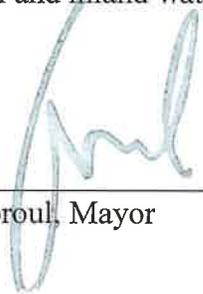
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners strongly opposes the Reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters as prescribed by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. Under such research we have not found where a Salinity Value is a determination of boundary lines between coastal and inland waterways.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2020

SEAL



  
James Michael O'Dell, Deputy Town Clerk

  
Ben Sproul, Mayor



**Resolution**  
**Opposing Reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters**

**WHEREAS**, in January of 2019, the NC Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) formed a joint committee for the purpose of determining boundaries defining inland and coastal waters; and

**WHEREAS**, the joint committee had its last meeting in May of 2019, after having disagreements between the agencies on the “salinity value” to determine boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, in August of 2019, the WRC business meeting was held with little direct notice to the MFC or to the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ). At this meeting the WRC decided to move forward with the proposed boundaries based on the arbitrary “2.6 ppt salinity value”; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2017 the MFC conducted a review of rules pertaining to delineation (15A NCAC 03Q .0200 et seq) and determined there was no basis to adjust jurisdictional boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters would be a loss of approximately 144,984 square acres or 226.5 sq. miles of coastal and commercial fishing waters. Thus, creating even more confusion and regulations to the already over regulated NC commercial fishing industry; and

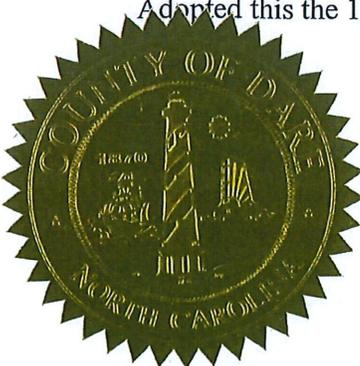
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**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Dare County Board of Commissioners strongly opposes the Reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters as prescribed by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. Under such research we have not found where a Salinity Value is a determination of boundary lines between coastal and inland waterways.

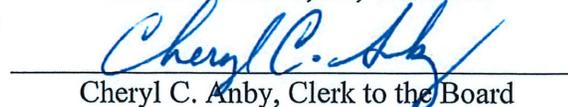
Adopted this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.





Robert Woodard, Sr., Chairman

Attest:



Cheryl C. Anby, Clerk to the Board

Board of Commissioners  
William Smith, Chair  
Robin Comer, Vice-Chair  
Bob Cavanaugh  
Jimmy Farrington  
Mark Mansfield  
Jonathan Robinson  
Ed Wheatly



County Manager  
Tommy R. Burns

Clerk to the Board  
Rachel B. Hammer

RECEIVED  
Office of the Secretary

JAN - 6 2020

December 17, 2019

Department of Environmental Quality

The Honorable Governor Roy Cooper  
Office of the Governor  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor Cooper:

The Honorable Carteret County Board of Commissioners, while sitting in regular session on Monday, December 16, 2019, adopted the enclosed Resolution opposing the reclassification of jurisdictional waters.

The Carteret County Board of Commissioners reaffirms its unwavering commitment to North Carolina's commercial fishing industry and opposes any action that would create additional confusion and regulations of the industry.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, we would greatly appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Rachel B. Hammer  
Clerk to the Board

/rbh  
Enclosure

copy: Senator Norman W. Sanderson  
Representative Pat McElraft  
Secretary Michael Regan, NCDEQ

Board of Commissioners  
Mark Mansfield, Chair  
Robin Comer, Vice-Chair  
Bob Cavanaugh  
Jimmy Farrington  
Jonathan Robinson  
Bill Smith  
Ed Wheatly



County Manager  
Tommy R. Burns

Clerk to the Board  
Rachel B. Hammer

## **RESOLUTION OPPOSING RECLASSIFICATION OF JURISDICTIONAL WATERS**

**WHEREAS**, in January of 2019, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission (“MFC”) and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (“WRC”) formed a joint committee for the purpose of determining boundaries defining inland and coastal waters; and

**WHEREAS**, the joint committee had its last meeting in May of 2019, after having disagreements between the agencies on the “salinity value” to determine boundaries; and

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**WHEREAS**, the financial impact as proposed would exceed \$1,000,000.00 for sustainable economic impact as prescribed in the North Carolina Administrative Procedure Act; and

**WHEREAS**, fisheries management plans of important commercial and recreational species under MFC authority follow a criterion initially to establish coastal and joint waters, but no inland waters. Thus, a complete review of all MFC rules would have to be completed at North Carolina taxpayer expense.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Carteret County Board of Commissioners strongly opposes the Reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters as prescribed by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. Under such research we have not found where a salinity value is a determination of boundary lines between coastal and inland waters.

**ADOPTED**, this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019.

*Mark Mansfield*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Mansfield  
Chairman

ATTEST

*Rachel Hammer*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel Hammer  
Clerk to Commissioners





**RESOLUTION  
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**WHEREAS**, in January of 2019 the NC Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) formed a joint committee for the purpose of determining boundaries defining inland and coastal waters; and

**WHEREAS**, the joint committee had its last meeting in May of 2019, after having disagreements between the agencies on the “salinity value” to determine boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, in August of 2019, the WRC business meeting was held with little direct notice to the MFC or to the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ). At this meeting the WRC decided to move forward with the proposed boundaries based on the arbitrary “2.6 ppt salinity value”; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2017 the MFC conducted a review of rules pertaining to delineation (15A NCAC 03Q.0200 et seq) and determined there was no basis to adjust jurisdictional boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters would be a loss of approximately 144,984 square acres of 226.5 square miles of coastal and commercial fishing waters. Thus, creating even more confusion and regulations to the already over-regulated NC commercial fishing industry; and

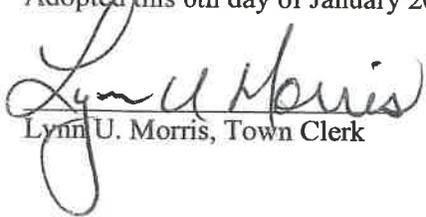
**WHEREAS**, the MFC would be required by law to perform a comprehensive financial analysis to modify jurisdictional boundaries, which would include a review of all existing rules and a detailed mapping effort expected to take over a year to complete with added costs to the taxpayers of North Carolina; and

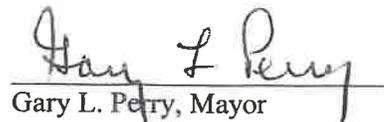
**WHEREAS**, the financial impact as proposed would exceed \$1,000,000.00 for sustainable economic impact as prescribed in the NC Administrative Procedure Act; and

**WHEREAS**, fisheries management plans of important commercial and recreational species under MFC authority follow a criterion initially to establish coastal and joint waters but not inland waters, thus a complete review of all MFC rules would have to be completed at NC taxpayer expense.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Kitty Hawk Town Council strongly opposes the reclassification of Jurisdictional Waters as prescribed by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. Under such research we have not found where a salinity value is a determination of boundary lines between coastal and inland waterways.

Adopted this 6th day of January 2020.

  
Lynn U. Morris, Town Clerk

  
Gary L. Petty, Mayor

# *FLOUNDER*

**From:** [Klibansky, Lara](#)  
**To:** [Gillikin, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Flounder  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2019 4:38:04 PM

---

**From:** Bizzell, Rob <r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2019 4:26 PM  
**To:** Klibansky, Lara <Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External] Flounder

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---

**From:** Bryan Shoffner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 18, 2019 4:11 PM  
**To:** Bizzell, Rob  
**Subject:** [External] Flounder

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to [report.spam@nc.gov](mailto:report.spam@nc.gov)

Dear Mr. Bizzell,

Went fishing at Nags Head back in October. Sad to learn no Flounder could be kept. Yet commercial fishing boats can with no restriction? I'll admit, I am not well informed but this just doesnt seem at all fair. How did the committee reach this decision? And do the two "at large" members have any affiliation with the commercial fishing industry?

Thanks, Bryan

**From:** [Klibansky, Lara](#)  
**To:** [Blanton, Mike](#); [McNeill, Robert](#); [Posey, Martin H](#); [Cross, Doug](#); [Hendrickson, Tom](#)  
**Cc:** [Bizzell, Rob](#); [Kornegay, K](#); [Maier, Shawn](#); [Gillikin, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Flounder and Public Involvement  
**Date:** Thursday, December 19, 2019 10:44:24 AM

---

Good morning, Commissioners,

Per his request, I am forwarding you an email from Dave Timpy which you'll see below..

Wishing you a happy holiday season!

Lara

**From:** Dave Timpy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 19, 2019 8:38:31 AM  
**To:** Bizzell, Rob <[r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov](mailto:r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov)>; Boltres, C <[c.boltres.mfc@ncdenr.gov](mailto:c.boltres.mfc@ncdenr.gov)>; Kornegay, K <[j.kornegay.mfc@ncdenr.gov](mailto:j.kornegay.mfc@ncdenr.gov)>  
**Subject:** [External] Flounder and Public Involvement

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Just wanted to shout out to ya's about the outstanding work by Mike Loeffler. I recently submitted online comments on southern flounder but had many questions prior to submitting. Mike was very helpful and answered all my questions plus provided some interesting papers referenced in the scoping documents. Give him a big raise! I have all the confidence that this MFC and it's staff will arrive at a fair and reasonable decision on this very complicated issued.

Also, I really like the online comment method being used. I tried to get folks to comment, it only takes 10 minutes, but you know how that goes.

Please feel free to share with the other commission members and staff.

Happy Holidays!

Dave Timpy  
[REDACTED]

*MAFMC*



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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Wilmington  
**ROBERT McNEILL**  
Wilmington  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

Jan. 3, 2020

Mr. Francis (Dewey) Hemilright

Dear Mr. Hemilright,

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce will request that Governor Cooper submit the names of qualified candidates to be considered for an obligatory appointment to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) in August 2020. The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission is responsible for compiling a list of nominees for the governor's consideration. At its Nov. 13-15, 2019 business meeting, the commission reviewed information from candidates interested in an appointment to the council. Your name was among those selected by the commission for submission to Governor Cooper as a nominee for an appointment to the council.

Each council nominee is required to complete nomination materials provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Your nomination materials are attached and are also available in fillable, .pdf format at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/partners/council-nomination-process-guidance> . All forms must be completed in detail in order for you to be considered for an appointment. Please complete the forms and return no later than Feb. 7, 2020 to: Chris Batsavage, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557. The division will review your forms for completeness and forward them to the governor's office for submission to the National Marine Fisheries Service by March 15, 2020.

I wish to congratulate you on your selection by the commission as a nominee for an obligatory appointment to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Please feel free to contact Mr. Batsavage by phone at 252-808-8009 or by email at [chris.batsavage@ncdenr.gov](mailto:chris.batsavage@ncdenr.gov) if you need additional information concerning the nomination process.

Sincerely,

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C Marine Fisheries Commission

WRB:cb:lk

Cc: John Nicholson     Steve Murphey     John Lucey  
Lara Klibansky     Chris Batsavage



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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Wilmington  
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Wilmington  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

Jan. 3, 2020

Mr. Brent Fulcher

Dear Mr. Fulcher,

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce will request that Governor Cooper submit the names of qualified candidates to be considered for an obligatory appointment to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) in August 2020. The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission is responsible for compiling a list of nominees for the governor's consideration. At its Nov. 13-15, 2019 business meeting, the commission reviewed information from candidates interested in an appointment to the council. Your name was among those selected by the commission for submission to Governor Cooper as a nominee for an appointment to the council.

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Sincerely,

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C Marine Fisheries Commission

WRB:cb:lk

Cc: John Nicholson     Steve Murphey     John Lucey  
Lara Klibansky     Chris Batsavage



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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Wilmington  
**ROBERT McNEILL**  
Wilmington  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

Jan. 3, 2020

Robert L. Ruhle

Dear Mr. Ruhle,

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce will request that Governor Cooper submit the names of qualified candidates to be considered for an obligatory appointment to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) in August 2020. The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission is responsible for compiling a list of nominees for the governor's consideration. At its Nov. 13-15, 2019 business meeting, the commission reviewed information from candidates interested in an appointment to the council. Your name was among those selected by the commission for submission to Governor Cooper as a nominee for an appointment to the council.

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Sincerely,

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C Marine Fisheries Commission

WRB:cb:lk

Cc: John Nicholson     Steve Murphey     John Lucey  
Lara Klibansky     Chris Batsavage

*NORTH CAROLINA  
WILDLIFE  
FEDERATION*



## North Carolina Wildlife Federation

*Affiliated with the National Wildlife Federation*

1346 St. Julien St  
Charlotte, NC 28205  
(704) 332-5696

1024 Washington St.  
Raleigh, NC 27605  
(919) 833-1923

### RESOLUTION

## **Consolidation of the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries into the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission to Eliminate Redundancy and Improve Natural Resource Management Efficacy**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is blessed with abundant, diverse, and valuable fish and wildlife resources that serve to enhance the quality and standard of life for all citizens, including the state’s heritage, culture, human and ecosystem health, and economic well-being; and,

**WHEREAS**, existence of these resources places a solemn duty and responsibility on government to properly manage and protect public trust resources in the most effective and efficient way possible for the interest of the resource and on behalf of all the citizens of the state; and,

**WHEREAS**, efficiency and efficacy are critical aspects of any professional natural resource management program; and,

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Wildlife Federation was formed in 1945 on the premise that fish and wildlife conservation programs must be conducted and managed in a manner that prioritizes the resource and is representative of citizens who value, utilize, and enjoy these resources through outdoor recreational activities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Wildlife Federation was instrumental in the establishment of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (“WRC”) in 1947, whose purpose by Statute Article #143-239 is to “manage, restore, develop, cultivate, conserve, protect, and regulate the wildlife resources of the State of North Carolina”; and,

**WHEREAS**, historically, in a time of exceptional abundance of marine fishery stocks, the management of marine fishes was set aside to a separate agency, originally called the Office of Commercial Fisheries, to allocate harvests at maximum levels for commercial purposes with little regard for protecting breeding stocks to replenish future fisheries; and,

**WHEREAS**, over the past 25 years, the levels of marine fish stocks have diminished dramatically due to overharvest allowed by permissive regulations of the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission (“MFC”) that have been inadequate to protect the stocks from overharvest; and,

**WHEREAS**, since the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (“DMF”) has never had adequate budgetary or policy support from its parent agency (currently the NC Department of Environmental Quality), the administration, or the General Assembly, the programs and plans offered to manage marine fisheries stocks have always been too little, too late, leading to the significant decline in marine fisheries experienced in North Carolina today; and,

**WHEREAS**, the missions of the WRC and DMF to protect and enhance the public trust natural resources and habitats of North Carolina are closely aligned but create areas of duplication, redundancy, uncertainty, and inefficiency as indicated by the partial list presented here:

- Artificial, arbitrary and burdensome designation of coastal, joint, and inland waters on every coastal tributary with different jurisdictions, rules, and enforcement on each body of water without any obvious beneficial purpose, occupying significant personnel resources for the adoption of Joint Rules by each agency, the publication of hundreds of Rules in the NC Administrative Code.
- Separate law enforcement divisions to enforce the rules for each type of fishing waters, which in effect mandate that the same fishes swimming back and forth have different protection depending upon where they may be at any given time and often the officers of each agency may be patrolling the same waters monitoring different activities such as commercial and recreational fishing that often result in multiple checks of the same individual.
- Separate aerial units for WRC and DMF, each employing its own pilots and aircraft and separate communication systems and centers, and operators in different locations, often with duplicate radio repeaters on the same tower paying two rental fees, and duplicate recruitment and training programs for law enforcement officers.
- Separate administrative functions for each agency including: purchasing, printing, personnel management, license sales and record keeping, legal representation and Rule making, warehousing, and storage of uniforms and other assigned gear for enforcement and fishery management purposes, virtual technologies for public awareness and access.
- Separate governance by extensive boards of commissioners (WRC has 19 members and MFC has 9 members), which represents a large commitment of resources with no identifiable benefit other than political patronage, especially with regards to the MFC and the archaic, gubernatorial criteria of member appointments based on the economic segment of the industry they represent.

**WHEREAS**, a decision to consolidate the MFC and DMF with the WRC would increase effectiveness of the natural resource programs in North Carolina, while saving significant funds, reducing bureaucracy and enforcement issues, and eliminating public confusion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation in official session this sixteenth day of November 2019, that for the reasons given herein that the consolidation of the MFC and DMF into the WRC would result in a more effective agency to manage and administer the fish, wildlife, and marine fisheries resources of North Carolina, and the provision of equitable access to public trust resources, enhancing livelihoods and recreation for participants by promoting the ability of fish and wildlife to reproduce and be maintained in a healthy state for the future.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Wildlife Federation strongly recommends the consolidation of the MFC and DMF into the WRC to create one fish and wildlife agency as an efficiency measure to reduce wasteful, excessive duplication of responsibilities, programs, personnel, and services; to realize economies and efficiencies from consolidation; and to improve administrative, regulatory, and management efforts directed toward the public trust fish and wildlife resources of North Carolina.

# *RULE READOPTION*



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Mailing address:  
6714 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6714

Street address:  
1711 New Hope Church Rd  
Raleigh, NC 27609-6285

January 16, 2020

Jennifer Everett, Rulemaking Coordinator  
Marines Fisheries Commission  
Commission for Public Health  
1601 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1601

Re: Readoption pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A(c)(2)g of **15A NCAC 18A (.0100, .0300-.0900, .3400)**

Dear Ms. Everett:

Attached to this letter are the rules subject to readoption pursuant to the periodic review and expiration of existing rules as set forth in G.S. 150B-21.3A(c)(2)g. After consultation with your agency, this set of rules was discussed at the January 16, 2020 Rules Review Commission meeting regarding the scheduling of these rules for readoption. Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A(d)(2), the rules identified on the attached document shall be readopted by the agency no later than June 30, 2024.

If you have any questions regarding the Commission's action, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Amber May  
Commission Counsel

Administration  
919/431-3000  
fax: 919/431-3100

Rules Division  
919/431-3000  
fax: 919/431-3104

Judges and  
Assistants  
919/431-3000  
fax: 919/431-3100

Clerk's Office  
919/431-3000  
fax: 919/431-3100

Rules Review  
Commission  
919/431-3000  
fax: 919/431-3104

Civil Rights  
Division  
919/431-3036  
fax: 919/431-3103

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**RRC DETERMINATION  
PERIODIC RULE REVIEW**

**January 17, 2019**

**APO Review: March 24, 2019**

**Marine Fisheries Commission**

**Total: 164**

**RRC Determination: Necessary with substantive public interest**

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Determination</b>
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0134</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0135</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0136</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0137</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0138</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0139</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0140</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0141</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0142</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0143</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
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<u>15A NCAC 18A .0149</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0150</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0151</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0152</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0153</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
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<u>15A NCAC 18A .0156</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0157</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0158</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0159</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0160</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0161</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0162</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0163</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0164</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0165</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<u>15A NCAC 18A .0166</u>	Necessary with substantive public interest









**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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Wilmington

**DR. MARTIN POSEY**  
Wilmington

**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

Jan. 7, 2020

Jeffery T. Hyde, Chair  
N.C. Rules Review Commission  
N.C. Office of Administrative Hearings – Rules Division  
1711 New Hope Church Rd.  
Raleigh, NC 27609

Dear Chairman Hyde:

North Carolina General Statute 150B-21.3A(c) requires each agency to conduct a review of all its rules at least once every 10 years in accordance with a prescribed process of reporting and readoption. Once the final determination report becomes effective, N.C.G.S. 150B-21.3A(d)(2) requires the Rules Review Commission (RRC) to establish a date by which an agency must readopt its rules after consultation with the agency and consideration of the agency's rulemaking priorities in establishing the readoption date.

An evaluation of the rules under the authority of the Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) was undertaken in two lots (see Figure 1.) The MFC has 211 rules in 15A NCAC 03, of which 172 are subject to readoption, and 164 rules in 15A NCAC 18A, Sections .0100, .0300-.0900, and .3400 that regulate shellfish sanitation and recreational water quality processes that are also subject to readoption. At its June 14, 2018 meeting, the RRC approved the schedule for readoption of the rules in Chapter 03 to be completed by June 30, 2022; readoption of these rules is underway within the four-year schedule.

Rules	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Chapter 03 (172 rules)	Report	41 Rules Readopted	Rule Readoption (131)			6/30/22 deadline		
Subchapter 18A (164 rules)			Report	Rule Readoption (164)				6/30/24 deadline

Figure 1. Marine Fisheries Commission rule readoption schedule to comply with G.S. 150B-21.3A, Periodic Review and Expiration of Existing Rules.

This letter is in regard to the 164 rules in 15A NCAC 18A for which the MFC needs to schedule readoption per G.S. 150B-21.3A(d)(2). All rules were determined to be necessary with substantive public interest. The corresponding RRC determinations are attached.

At its Nov. 15, 2019 business meeting, the MFC approved a recommended schedule for re-adoption of the 164 rules in 15A NCAC 18A to be completed by June 30, 2024. In approving the re-adoption schedule, the MFC considered its rulemaking priorities:

- The MFC has 164 rules subject to re-adoption in 15A NCAC 18A, a relatively large number.
- The MFC strives to undertake a single package of rules each year to assist stakeholders with anticipating changes and making informed decisions about continued participation in various fisheries based on those rule changes. The MFC generally meets quarterly, providing only four opportunities per year to take action on rules.
- The MFC is currently in the process of re-adopting another 172 rules in 15A NCAC 03 and there is interplay between the two groups of rules, adding complexity to the re-adoption process.
- The MFC has a diverse group of stakeholders affected by the wide variety of issues regulated by these rules. By nature of managing a limited natural resource, the rules are generally controversial.

A deadline of June 30, 2024 would provide a concurrent four-year schedule within which the MFC would undertake re-adoption of an average of 41 rules per year. The schedule also accommodates the requirement to develop fiscal analyses of proposed rules that have substantive changes for approval by the Office of State Budget and Management.

For these reasons, the MFC requests a schedule for re-adoption of its 164 rules in 15A NCAC 18A to be completed by June 30, 2024. Pending approval of this request, the process of rule re-adoption is scheduled to begin at the MFC's May 2020 business meeting.

Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C Marine Fisheries Commission

Attachment

cc: Stephen W. Murphey, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries Director

WRB/cb

**RRC DETERMINATION  
PERIODIC RULE REVIEW  
January 17, 2019  
APO Review: March 24, 2019  
Marine Fisheries Commission  
Total: 164**

**RRC Determination: Necessary with substantive public interest**

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<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0151</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0152</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0153</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0154</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0155</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0156</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0157</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0158</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0159</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0160</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0161</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0162</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0163</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0164</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0165</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest
<a href="#"><u>15A NCAC 18A .0166</u></a>	Necessary with substantive public interest







*SHRIMP*

**From:** [Klibansky, Lara](#)  
**To:** [Gillikin, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Shrimp Bycatch Solution  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2020 9:23:12 AM

---

**From:** Bizzell, Rob  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2020 9:22 AM  
**To:** Klibansky, Lara <Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Shrimp Bycatch Solution

For the books

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---

**From:** Hamilton, Cindi B <[Cindi.Hamilton@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Cindi.Hamilton@ncdenr.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2020 8:14 AM  
**To:** Murphey, Steve; Bizzell, Rob; Rawls, Kathy; Klibansky, Lara; Lupton, Dee; Stewart, Chris  
**Cc:** West, Katy; Moore, Tina; Blum, Catherine; Rock, Jason; Harding, Kimberlee k  
**Subject:** FW: Shrimp Bycatch Solution

I received Walt Mercer's note this morning and am sending to you. Thank you.  
CINDI

---

**From:** Walt Mercer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2020 6:07 AM  
**To:** Hamilton, Cindi B <[Cindi.Hamilton@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Cindi.Hamilton@ncdenr.gov)>  
**Subject:** [External] Shrimp Bycatch Solution

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to [report.spam@nc.gov](mailto:report.spam@nc.gov)

Very simple. Ban shrimp trawlers from our sounds. They can trawl outside the inlets.

Every other state on the seaboard does this and it has increased their shrimp harvest a created a recreational fishery that attracts tourist dollars.

But of course NC is politically corrupt and the NCDMF and politicians paid for by the seafood industry will never let this happen.

Shame on you all.

# *MFC ADVISORY COMMITTEES*



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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Wilmington  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Ken Seigler  


Dear Mr. Seigler:

I have reappointed you to the Finfish Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
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Wilmington  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Brian Boutin  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Boutin:

I have reappointed you to the Habitat and Water Quality Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Mike Street  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Street:

I have reappointed you to the Habitat and Water Quality Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Robert Christian



Dear Mr. Christian:

I have reappointed you to the Habitat and Water Quality Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Jim Rice



Dear Mr. Rice:

I have reappointed you to the Northern Regional Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Floyd Layden  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Layden:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for serving on the Marine Fisheries Commission's Northern Advisory Committee. As you know, the Bylaws of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission require that all advisors attend at least 75 percent of all meetings annually. Records indicate you have not attended any of the committee meetings held in 2019. Unfortunately, as a result, you are being removed from the Northern Regional Advisory Committee.

Again, thank you for your service. If you have any questions regarding the commission's advisory committee process, please contact Lara Klibansky at 252-808-8021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Joseph Kavanagh  


Dear Mr. Kavanagh:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for serving on the Marine Fisheries Commission's Northern Advisory Committee. As you know, the Bylaws of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission require that all advisors attend at least 75 percent of all meetings annually. Records indicate you have not attended any of the committee meetings held in 2019. Unfortunately, as a result, you are being removed from the Northern Regional Advisory Committee.

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Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
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February 3, 2020

Sam Liverman, Jr.  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Liverman:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for serving on the Marine Fisheries Commission's Northern Advisory Committee. As you know, the Bylaws of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission require that all advisors attend at least 75 percent of all meetings annually. Records indicate you have not attended any of the committee meetings held in 2019. Unfortunately, as a result, you are being removed from the Northern Regional Advisory Committee.

Again, thank you for your service. If you have any questions regarding the commission's advisory committee process, please contact Lara Klibansky at 252-808-8021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Keith Bruno  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Bruno:

I have reappointed you to the Northern Regional Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



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Wilmington  
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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Raymond Pugh  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Pugh:

I have reappointed you to the Northern Regional Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Sara Winslow  
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Winslow:

I have reappointed you to the Northern Regional Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Brian Shepard  


Dear Mr. Shepard:

I have reappointed you to the Shellfish/Crustacean Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Bruce Morris



Dear Mr. Morris:

I have reappointed you to the Shellfish/Crustacean Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Adam Tyler  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Tyler:

I have reappointed you to the Southern Regional Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Tom Smith  


Dear Mr. Smith:

I have reappointed you to the Southern Regional Advisory Committee. Please remember that you are required to attend 75 percent of the meetings of your committee. I would like to thank you for continuing to sacrifice your time and provide your input to help us effectively manage the marine resources of our state.

Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Charles Griffin  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Griffin:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for serving on the Marine Fisheries Commission's Southern Regional Advisory Committee. As you know, the Bylaws of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission require that all advisors attend at least 75 percent of all meetings annually. Records indicate you have not attended any of the committee meetings held in 2019. Unfortunately, as a result, you are being removed from the Southern Regional Advisory Committee.

Again, thank you for your service. If you have any questions regarding the commission's advisory committee process, please contact Lara Klibansky at 252-808-8021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison



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Wilmington

February 3, 2020

Christopher Hunt  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Hunt:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for serving on the Marine Fisheries Commission's Southern Regional Advisory Committee. As you know, the Bylaws of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission require that all advisors attend at least 75 percent of all meetings annually. Records indicate you have not attended any of the committee meetings held in 2019. Unfortunately, as a result, you are being removed from the Southern Regional Advisory Committee.

Again, thank you for your service. If you have any questions regarding the commission's advisory committee process, please contact Lara Klibansky at 252-808-8021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/lk

cc: Lara Klibansky, Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison

# *MISCELLANEOUS*

**From:** [Bizzell, Rob](#)  
**To:** [Gillikin, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External] Management  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 12, 2019 5:10:45 PM

---

Next meeting  
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**From:** james hall [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 12, 2019 4:41 PM  
**To:** Bizzell, Rob  
**Subject:** [External] Management

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to [report.spam@nc.gov](mailto:report.spam@nc.gov)<<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>>

Good Afternoon

I am writing this out of concern for our fisheries. Yesterday being Veterans Day I was off of work, so being an outdoors man I took to the water. When I arrived at my destination I was disgusted. There was trash all over the oyster beds drink bottles, toilet paper from individuals using the bathroom, plastic bags, wrappers from food. I am aware that oyster season is in and people will be harvesting. The majority of people whom I observed oystering where in some capacity commercial. My question or concerns are why is marine fisheries catering to the commercial fishermen if they have no more respect for the resources than what I have observed. You (marine fisheries) are appearing to cut the recreational fishermen out of the resource while allowing the commercial aspect to take full advantage. If my livelihood was made on the water I would be your number one conservationist. But instead I am no longer allowed to harvest flounder, and they are still fishing and reportedly going to get more seasons opening. I do not understand the logic going into the management practices the marine fisheries are proposing and in-acting. I have also yet to mention that we are the only state that still allows netting in our coastal waters. I am also fully aware that this is people's livelihoods but if they cannot take care of instead of destroying out coastal estuaries then something needs to change.

Thank you  
James Hall

**From:** [Klibansky, Lara](#)  
**To:** [Gillikin, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Surf Fishing  
**Date:** Friday, November 08, 2019 11:40:44 AM

---

Hi Dana,

Please add the below to the February letters. Thank you!

Lara

---

**From:** Bizzell, Rob <r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 7, 2019 7:54 PM  
**To:** Klibansky, Lara <Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External] Surf Fishing

Please put this in the February meeting book, past the cut off for this meeting. Thanks, Rob  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 7, 2019 4:45 PM  
**To:** Bizzell, Rob  
**Cc:** Boltes, C; Hendrickson, Tom; Posey, Martin H; Kornegay, K; McNeill, Robert; Blanton, Mike; Cross, Doug;  
**Subject:** [External] Surf Fishing

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to [report.spam@nc.gov](mailto:report.spam@nc.gov)

I am not sure who to send this note to, so I'm sending it to the staff of North Carolina division of marine fisheries.

I don't know if any of the staff spends time surf fishing or how much accurate information you receive so I would like to give you some feedback from a recent surf fishing trip in North Carolina.

I'm part of a group of 8 to 10, mostly family members, that spend a week every October surf fishing on the beaches in North Carolina. We have been doing this every year since 1980. We are pretty serious fisherman, spending 10 to 12 hours fishing daily during the week that we are there.

The drum fishing has improved greatly since 1980 and this year was great, most of them fell in the slot limit. We caught bigger blues than prior years but not as many as in the past.. Caught some great Speckled Trout. Last year was the best year we have had catching Flounder. And this year was better than last year, with the exception that we had to release them. We do not fish for flounder specifically, we use a single hook and mullet minnows. This year we caught 25 to 30 flounder. More than we have caught in the past. But the size of them were much

bigger, a lot of them were 17 to 20 inches. All but 4 were under the 15 limit.

For the whole week there was only one other person fishing for as far as we could see up or down the beach.

I guess my question to the Staff is how can the rod and reel fisherman be impacting the size and quantity of the flounder? For the whole week we as a group would have kept maybe 20 flounder. In that same time frame how many flounder would be taken by a commercial fisherman? Is there a chance you are penalizing the wrong group of fisherman..

South Carolina doesn't seem to have a problem with the rod and reel fishermen, not sure yet about Virginia. I would hate to move our group to another state to surf fish. I love the North Carolina beaches and the surf fishing but you have targeted the wrong group (rod and reel) to help improve the size and quantity of flounder.

To help improve the size and quantity of flounder, and I am not sure there is a need there, look at some of the netting practices and the new attraction of Charter Flounder Giggling. I have been on flounder boats in years past and giggered 50 to 60 in a night. The flounder boats are deadly to flounder.

We are ok with raising the size limits but complete season closure is not fair to the rod and reel fisherman. And it will not help increase the size and quantity. From what we seen this year fishing, it could be that the Staff may have received some false information.

The ten of us would be glad to give you the honest facts at least what we experienced from our week of fishing.

Thank you for your time and feel free to contact me.

Ron Shaffer





# NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 27255  
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 814-0700  
Fax: (919) 715-0135

## Ethics & Lobbying Education

The following information applies to public servants, legislators, legislative employees, and ethics liaisons. For information on lobbying education and awareness presentations for lobbyists and lobbyist principals.

**Mandatory Education.** The N.C. State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement provides mandatory ethics and lobbying education for *public servants, legislators, legislative employees* and *ethics liaisons*. Topics covered include:

- Filing a Statement of Economic Interest (“SEI”)
- Monitoring and avoiding conflicts of interest
- The gift ban and its exceptions
- Prohibition on use of public position for private gain
- Lobbying and how it affects individuals covered by the State Government Ethics Act

Ethics education is the primary way individuals subject to the State Government Ethics Act are made aware of their public duties and responsibilities as well as the consequences for violating the ethics laws.

## Who Must Participate

- **Public Servants & Ethics Liaisons.** All public servants and ethics liaisons are required to attend a Commission-approved basic ethics and lobbying education presentation within six (6) months of the person's election appointment, or employment and attend a refresher presentation at least every two (2) years thereafter.
- **Legislators & Legislative Employees.** The Commission, jointly with the Legislative Ethics Committee, makes mandatory ethics education and lobbying presentations to all legislators within two (2) months of the legislator assuming his or her office. Legislative employees must also participate in ethics education within three (3) months of employment and attend a refresher at least every two (2) years.
- **Education Presentations & Schedule.** Ethics and lobbying education presentations for public servants and ethics liaisons are offered [online](#) and [live at Raleigh-only and distance education sites](#). Completing an online presentation or attending a live session meets either the basic or refresher mandatory education requirements. Visit <https://www.ncsbe.gov/Ethics/Education> to access online and live training options.

Ethics education for **legislators** is conducted in live sessions. Legislative employees may participate in ethics education online through the General Assembly.

- **Consequences for Failure to Attend.** Failure to attend an ethics and lobbying education presentation is a violation of the State Government Ethics Act and may result in the individual being recommended for removal from his or her public position or disciplined in his or her State job.

## Contact Information

For education related questions, contact:

NC State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement

Phone: (919) 814-3600

E-mail: [Education.Ethics@doa.nc.gov](mailto:Education.Ethics@doa.nc.gov)

## **2019 STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST REMINDERS:**

Completed SEIs must be filed on or before April 15, 2019. If you have already filed a 2019 SEI, do not refile. The forms and instructions can be found at <https://ethics.ncsbe.gov/sei/blankForm.aspx>.

If you filed a 2018 SEI ***and*** you have had ***no changes*** since your 2018 filing, you may file a 2019 SEI No Change Form, located on the website.

### **You must file a 2019 Long Form if any of the following apply to you:**

- a. You filed a 2018 SEI ***but*** you have had changes since your 2018 filing;
- b. You did not file a 2018 SEI; or
- c. You are a first-time filer or have been appointed to a new or additional position/board.

This year, the State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement will roll out a new electronic process for filing SEIs. That electronic filing option will be available in **early February**.

You are encouraged to file your SEI electronically. However, if you want to file your SEIs before the updated electronic version is available, hard copies are available for filing now at the link above.

New commissioners will need to file a 2019 SEI; however, if you have not had any changes since you last filed, you can use the No Change Form, which is fairly easy to complete.

Please file by April 15th to avoid fines and other penalties.

## **SEI HELPFUL TIPS**

**1. PUBLIC RECORDS.** The State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement (State Board) is required to collect and maintain disclosures from certain persons covered by the State Elections and Ethics Enforcement Act Government Ethics Act (Elections and Ethics Act). By law, the information requested is public record and available to the public upon request. As public records, Statements of Economic Interest (SEI) are available on the Commission's website. Personal contact information, however, is not.

**2. CONTACT INFORMATION PAGE.** The Contact Information page, which includes your personal contact information, will not be available on the Commission's website, but is a public record.

**3. CHILDREN'S INITIALS.** Only list minor children's INITIALS on the SEI. List each child's full legal name on the Confidential Unemancipated Children's Form. If you are filing electronically, the form will be generated at the end of the SEI from the information that you provided on your electronic SEI. The Confidential Form is not a public record, and the State Board will not make it available to the public.

**4. READ EACH QUESTION CAREFULLY.** Read each question carefully and pay close attention to the time periods in each question as they do vary.

**5. ANSWER EACH QUESTION.** It is important to answer each question, including all applicable subparts. Even if your answer is "no" or "not applicable," make certain you answer each question. Many of the questions have "yes" and "no" boxes to check for your convenience. Incomplete SEIs may cause delays and negatively impact your public service on a covered board or as an employee.

**6. WHY ARE YOU FILING.** You must list the complete name of the state board or state agency employer for which you are filing the SEI. Without this information, your SEI may be delayed and negatively impact your public service on a covered board or as an employee.

**7. HOW TO FILE.** The State Board strongly recommends electronic on-line filing as it is secure, allows easy information updates, and gives you access to your electronic SEIs previously filed. Filing your SEI on-line is easy, quick, convenient, and reduces the chance of reporting errors. Getting started is easy. Follow the simple steps to create your own account and get access today: <https://EFILE.ncsbe.gov/> To file a paper version of the SEI, you must provide the State Board with a signed, original SEI form. Each SEI includes an "affirmation" and is a legally binding document. Faxed or emailed copies of your SEI CANNOT be accepted.

SEI Helpful Tips, continued

**8. INCOME.** List each source of income as requested on the SEI. The actual dollar amount is not required. Be sure to list your employer as a source of income in Question # 6 of the SEI.

**9. READ CAREFULLY.** Read each question carefully, as the Elections and Ethics Act requires that you disclose your financial holdings and obligations, personal property, and real property and may also include your knowledge of the holdings of both your immediate family and your extended family. "Immediate family" and "extended family" are defined terms in the Elections and Ethics Act, and those definitions are included with this document.

**10. REFLECT.** Think carefully about WHY you are filing, and whether it has any relationship to your position. Does your board or commission license or regulate you? For many of the boards, a subject matter expert like a licensee is needed. Answering "yes" does not prohibit your service on the board, and your perspective is valued.

**11. MAKE A COPY.** Make a copy of the SEI for your own records, and make a note in your calendar when you submit it, whether on-line or by mail or hand delivery. When you successfully submit your SEI electronically on-line, the final screen will provide a confirmation number and will be proof that you have satisfied your filing obligation. Please print the **confirmation screen for your records.**

**12. ETHICS LIAISON.** Contact your Ethics Liaison to assist you in your obligations under the Elections and Ethics Act. Your Ethics Liaison is good source of information about how to fill out your SEI.

**13. ON-LINE HELP.** The State Board has on-line resources to answer questions you may have about your SEI. For more information, please visit the State Board website which has education offerings.

**14. DEFINITIONS.** As noted above, certain terms are defined in the Elections and Ethics Act (“immediate family”). These definitions may be helpful to you in completing your SEI. A complete list of all definitions used in the Elections and Ethics Act is available on the State Board’s website, under “Ethics”. Some of the more common ones are attached to this document.

**15. YOUR INTERNET BROWSER.** Consider using Internet Explorer or Chrome to submit your SEI. Some users have had trouble using other browsers. **16. WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU.** In addition to on-line resources and written materials, the State Board has expert staff ready to answer any questions you might have and assist you in completing and filing your SEI. Do not hesitate to contact us at [sei@ncsbee.gov](mailto:sei@ncsbee.gov) (919) 814-3600.

## 2020 Meeting Planning Calendar

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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29	30	31				

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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26	27	28	29	30		

May						
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31						

June						
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28	29	30				

July						
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August						
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30	31					

September						
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October						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November						
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29	30					

December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

	MFC
	ASMFC
	SAFMC
	MAFMC
	State Holiday

	Southern Regional AC
	Northern Regional AC
	Finfish AC
	Habitat and Water Quality AC
	Shellfish/Crustacean AC

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## 2020 Committee Assignments for Marine Fisheries Commissioners

01/16/2020

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### **FINFISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Statutorily required standing committee comprised of commissioners and advisers that considers matters related to finfish.*

**Commissioners:** Vacant – chair, Sam Romano – vice chair

**DMF Staff Lead:** Lee Paramore - [lee.paramore@ncdenr.gov](mailto:lee.paramore@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Can meet quarterly, depending on assignments from MFC

### **HABITAT AND WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE & COASTAL HABITAT PROTECTION PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE**

*Statutorily required standing committee comprised of commissioners and advisers that considers matters concerning habitat and water quality that may affect coastal fisheries resources.*

**Commissioners:** Pete Kornegay – chair, Dr. Martin Posey – vice chair

**DMF Staff Lead:** Anne Deaton - [anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov](mailto:anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Committee can meet quarterly, depending on assignments from MFC. CHPP Steering Committee can meet a couple of times a year.

### **SHELLFISH/CRUSTACEAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Statutorily required standing committee comprised of commissioners and advisers that considers matters concerning oysters, clams, scallops and other molluscan shellfish, shrimp and crabs.*

**Commissioners:** Sam Romano – chair, Pete Kornegay – co-vice chair, Dr. Martin Posey – co-vice chair

**DMF Staff Lead:** Tina Moore - [tina.moore@ncdenr.gov](mailto:tina.moore@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Can meet quarterly, depending on assignments from MFC

### **CONSERVATION FUND COMMITTEE**

*Committee comprised of commissioners that makes recommendations to the MFC for administering funds to be used for marine and estuarine resources management, including education about the importance of conservation.*

**Commissioners:** Sam Romano - chair, Tom Hendrickson and Robert McNeill

**DMF Staff Lead:** Randy Gregory - [randy.gregory@ncdenr.gov](mailto:randy.gregory@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CIVIL PENALTY COMMITTEE**

*Statutorily required committee comprised of commissioners that makes final agency decisions on civil penalty remission requests.*

**Commissioners:** Rob Bizzell - chair, Doug Cross and Tom Hendrickson

**DMF Staff Lead:** Col. Carter Witten – [carter.witten@ncdenr.gov](mailto:carter.witten@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed

### **COASTAL RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Committee consisting of the three recreational seats and the science seat to provide the DMF advice on the projects and grants issued using Coastal Recreational Fishing License trust funds.* **Commissioners:**

Pete Kornegay – chair, Rob Bizzell, Robert McNeill and vacant

**DMF Staff Lead:** Jamie Botinovch - [jamie.botinovch@ncdenr.gov](mailto:jamie.botinovch@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

*Committee comprised of commissioners that makes recommendations to the MFC on at-large and obligatory nominees for the Mid- and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils.*

**Commissioners:** Robert McNeill – chair, Pete Kornegay, Mike Blanton, vacant

**DMF Staff Lead:** Chris Batsavage - [chris.batsavage@ncdenr.gov](mailto:chris.batsavage@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Typically meets once a year

## **STANDARD COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE ELIGIBILITY BOARD**

*Statutorily required three-person board consisting of DEQ, DMF and MFC designees who apply eligibility criteria to determine whether an applicant is eligible for a SCFL.*

**Commission Designee:** Mike Blanton

**DMF Staff Lead:** Marine Patrol Capt. Garland Yopp – [garland.yopp@ncdenr.gov](mailto:garland.yopp@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets two to three times a year, could need to meet more often depending on volume of applications

## **N.C. COMMERCIAL FISHING RESOURCE FUND COMMITTEE**

*Committee comprised of commissioners that the commission has given authority to make funding decisions on projects to develop and support sustainable commercial fishing in the state.*

**Commissioners:** Doug Cross – chair, Mike Blanton and Sam Romano

**DMF Staff Lead:** William Brantley – [william.brantley@ncdenr.gov](mailto:william.brantley@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets two to three times a year

## **WRC/MFC JOINT COMMITTEE ON DELINEATION OF FISHING WATERS**

*Committee formed to help integrate the work of the two commissions as they fulfill their statutory responsibilities to jointly determine the boundaries that define North Carolina's Inland, Coastal and Joint Fishing Waters as the agencies go through a statutorily defined periodic review of existing rules.*

**MFC Commissioners:** Rob Bizzell, Dr. Martin Posey and Pete Kornegay

**DMF Staff Lead:** Anne Deaton - [anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov](mailto:anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed