

WEEKLY UPDATE: 3/16/2018
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
PO Box 86; Morehead City, NC 28557
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www.ncfish.org

CCFA SETS DATE FOR ANNUAL FISH FRY!

The Carteret County Fisherman's Association has set May 5th as the date for its Annual Fish Fry at Wheatly Boys Tire in Otway! Hours are 11:00am to 4:00pm.

Sponsorships are \$250 & up; Memorial/Honorarium \$100; Raffle tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20
Plates are only \$10 each!

Tickets for the raffle and for fish plates can be picked up now at the NCFA office in Morehead City!

For sponsorships or honorariums or for more info, call Aundrea O'Neal: 252-503-8302.



Carteret County
FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION
Annual
FISH FRY
AND
BAKE SALE
Enjoy Local Seafood
AND
Support Commercial Fishermen

May 5th
11AM to 4PM
\$10 Per Plate

LOCATION: Wheatly Boys Tire & Auto
760 Hwy 70 E. OTWAY, NC
for more information call 252.269.5020 or 252.503.8302

SEAFOOD RECEPTION AND LOBBY DAY PLANNING IN THE WORKS! Event will be on May 23rd!

The day begins with a rally on the south side of the Capitol from 9:00am till 1:00pm!

If you want to take advantage of special room rates, you **MUST** make your reservation by April 22nd!

Here are the details for the special rates at the Raleigh hotel for May 22nd and/or May 23rd:

Red Roof PLUS on South Saunders Street

Rates start at \$63.74 and you can reserve for only one night or both.

To reserve, call 1-800-733-7663 and mention the North Carolina Fisheries Association and Code B256NFISH

NCFA is making final preparations for a Seafood Reception and Lobby Day for May 23rd! This will be an especially important time for you to make plans for going to Raleigh to talk to legislators during the day and attend a legislative seafood reception in the evening.

Last year was the first year for Seafood Lobby Day, which we hope to make an annual event in conjunction with the Legislative Seafood Reception. The Reception was started several years ago by NC Watermen United (NCWU) and NCFA was invited a few years ago to participate. NCFA had the first Seafood Lobby Day last year, primarily to address H-867 which was basically a rewrite of the Fisheries Reform Act without any commercial fishing input.

SOUTHERN FLOUNDER FMP ADVISORS TO MEET

The Southern Flounder FMP Advisory Committee will meet on March 21st at 6:00pm at the DEQ offices in Washington, NC.

The purpose of the meeting is to continue assisting the Division of Marine Fisheries with the development of Amendment 2 to the N.C. Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan. The committee will receive a presentation reviewing the data sources considered for the southern flounder stock assessment. A document containing the data from the January 2018 Southern Flounder Stock Assessment is enclosed so you can review the material prior to the presentation.

CAMPAIGN EVENTS

Rep. George Cleveland of Jacksonville is an incumbent candidate for NC House and is having an event on March 20th. The event is 6:00 – 8:00pm at The Osprey Grill, Gum Branch Rd in Jacksonville. Sponsorships available: \$5200, 2500, 1000, 500 and 250. To attend the cost is \$110 or 150/couple. For more info, contact Todd Batchelor (919) 818-4370.

From a press release:

JONES TAKES ACTIONS TO LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD FOR ENC SHARK FISHERMEN

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Walter B. Jones (NC-3) is working again to level the playing field for Eastern North Carolina shark fishermen. This week, Congressman Jones joined his friend and colleague, Congressman Dan Webster (FL-11), in introducing [H.R. 5248, the Sustainable Shark Fisheries and Trade Act](#). The bill would hold other nations to the same conservation and management standards that America has adopted in our shark fisheries. Under H.R. 5248, any nation seeking to export shark products to America must receive certification from the Secretary of Commerce that it has an effective ban on the practice of “shark finning,” and that it has a similar conservation and management program for sharks, skates, and rays. The bill also increases traceability of imported shark products.

“If foreign countries are failing to manage their shark populations appropriately, they should change their ways,” said Congressman Jones. “They shouldn’t be allowed to dump unsustainably harvested shark product on our

market, and our legal, sustainable American harvesters should not be penalized for the shortcomings of foreign fishermen.”

America has been a global leader in protecting shark species while allowing a sustainable harvest. In fact, U.S. federal law mandates that the domestic shark fishery be managed sustainably. According to renowned shark scientist, Dr. Robert E. Heuter of Florida’s Mote Marine Lab, America has “one of the best systems in the world for shark fisheries management and conservation.” The proof can be seen in NOAA Fisheries own data. NOAA Fisheries’ 2015 coastal shark survey captured and tagged “more than 2,800 sharks, the most in the survey’s 29-year history.” The leader of the survey stated that NOAA Fisheries has “seen an increase in the number of sharks in every survey since 2001,” and the agency called the survey results “very good news for shark populations.”

H.R. 5248 is supported by the North Carolina Fisheries Association, Southeastern Fisheries Association, Blue Water Fishermen’s Association, Sustainable Shark Alliance, Garden State Seafood Association, and the Louisiana Shrimpers Association.

Congressman Jones has long been a [strong supporter and advocate for Eastern North Carolina fishermen](#).

For additional information, please contact Allison Tucker in Congressman Walter Jones’ office at Allison.tucker@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-3415.

MID ATLANTIC COUNCIL SEEKS ADVISORS

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council is soliciting applications from qualified individuals to serve on eight advisory panels. Advisory panels provide information and recommendations to the Council during the development of fishery management plans, amendments, specifications, and management measures. One of the chief responsibilities of advisory panels is the development of annual Fishery Performance Reports. These reports provide the Council and SSC with information about the factors that influenced fishing effort and catch within each fishery during the previous year.

Advisory panels are composed of individuals with diverse experience and interest in Mid-Atlantic fisheries. Members include commercial fishermen, recreational anglers, for-hire operators, dealers, scientists, environmentalists, and other members of the interested public. Most advisory panels meet 1-2 times per year. Members are compensated for travel and per diem expenses for all meetings. Individuals who are appointed to advisory panels serve for three-year terms. All current advisory panel members must reapply in order to be considered for reappointment.

The Council is accepting applications for the following advisory panels:

- Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass
- Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish
- Surfclam and Ocean Quahog
- Tilefish
- Bluefish
- Ecosystem and Ocean Planning
- River Herring and Shad
- Dogfish (Jointly managed with New England Council)

How to Apply

Anyone interested in serving on an advisory panel may apply online or download an application at www.mafmc.org/forms/advisory-panel-application. Applications can also be obtained by calling the Council office at (877) 446-2362.

Completed applications must be received by Friday, April 20, 2018.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Mary Sabo at (302) 518-1143, msabo@mafmc.org.

CALENDAR

March 20; 6:00-8:00pm; George Cleveland campaign event; The Osprey Grill in Jacksonville
March 21; 6:00pm; Southern Flounder FMP Advisory Committee; DEQ office; Washington, NC
April 10 – 12; Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Montauk, NY
May 1 – 3; Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; Arlington, VA
May 5; Carteret County Fisherman's Association Fish Fry
May 23; ALL DAY; Seafood Lobby Day in Raleigh
