

WEEKLY UPDATE: 3/23/2018
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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Peer review workshop for North Carolina blue crab stock assessment set

Staff with the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries will hold a three-day, in-person workshop March 27-29 with scientists who are peer reviewing a draft assessment of the North Carolina blue crab stock.

The workshop will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel New Bern Riverfront, 100 Middle St., New Bern.

The discussions begin at 1 p.m. on March 27, 9 a.m. on March 28, and 9 a.m. on March 29 and will be open to the public. The open sessions allow the public to observe the peer review process, but do not include a public comment period.

When deemed necessary, the committee will close the meeting to the public allow the peer reviewers to deliberate and complete a draft version of their peer review report.

A stock assessment is a scientific analysis that uses information gathered from commercial and recreational fishermen and data from on-the-water scientific sampling and observations to determine the health of a population and predict how that population may respond to different management measures.

A peer review is an evaluation of scientific work by independent and unbiased experts. A peer review of a fisheries stock assessment evaluates the validity of the data used, the appropriateness of the assessment model used and the rationale of any assumptions used to determine if the science conducted is adequate for use in fisheries management. Peer review scientists have not been involved in or had input into the development of the stock assessment and have no stake in its outcome.

The open, in-person peer review process is meant to foster communication between the peer reviewers and division stock assessment scientists and to improve public understanding of fisheries stock assessments.

JOHN DROZ TO OFFER INFO ON WIND ENERGY

John Droz, Jr., physicist & citizen activist, will present a 30 minute slide presentation titled, "Wind Energy Local Economics: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly". At the Dare County Commissioners meeting, he'll also offer some comments on offshore energy.

April 2nd; 5:00pm; Currituck County Commissioners meeting

April 3rd; 9:00am; Dare County Commissioners meeting

April 3rd; 1:00pm; meeting with citizens; Old Courthouse in Edenton

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.



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.

CAMPAIGN EVENTS

We have not received any campaign news to report.

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 27 – 29; 1:00pm pm 27th; 9:00am 28th, 29th; Blue Crab Workshop; Hilton; New Bern, NC
April 2 & 3; John Droz presentation on wind energy; Currituck, Manteo & Edenton; see above for details
April 4; 10:00am to 2:00pm; Shrimp Bycatch Workshop; History Center; New Bern, NC
April 9; Noon; NCFA Board of Directors; Civic Center; 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