

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: 11/30/2018**  
**NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION**  
**"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"**  
**PO Box 86; Morehead City, NC 28557**  
**Phone: (252) 726-NCFA (6232) Fax: (252) 726-6200**  
[www.ncfish.org](http://www.ncfish.org)

The General Assembly began their latest special session on Tuesday at noon. Glenn Skinner & Jerry Schill were in Raleigh on Tuesday & Wednesday speaking to legislators and attending meetings about hurricane relief. S-823, "Hurricane Florence/Supplemental Act" was discussed by the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Rules Committee where it passed given favorable reports unanimously. You can see the current bill here: <https://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Bills/Senate/PDF/S823v3.pdf>

There is \$10 million in the bill for commercial fishing assistance.

The bill then passed the full Senate on Tuesday afternoon. The House Appropriations Committee discussed the bill on Thursday and gave the bill a favorable report.

When the House went back into session at 2:00pm on Thursday, the bill was immediately put on the day's calendar. After a short discussion the House approved the bill unanimously. It then was sent to the Governor for his signature which is all but guaranteed.

It was noted in both Senate and House, that if further needs can be clarified those needs can be addressed next year during the long session.

As Jerry noted during his remarks on the bill, we appreciate the work of the General Assembly but also the support of Governor Cooper, Secretary Regan at DEQ and his staff including the Division of Marine Fisheries, but most importantly to the citizens of our great state to make this relief package possible.

## Calendar

**South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting Dec. 3-7 in Kitty Hawk** - Members of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council head to the Outer Banks of North Carolina in December to address federal fishery management measures affecting offshore fisheries including snapper grouper, dolphin, wahoo, habitat protection and ecosystem-based management, and the Council's Citizen Science Program. The council will also host a For-Hire Electronic Reporting Training Session (see below for details). The meetings are open to the public unless otherwise specified, and public comment is now being accepted on agenda items.

**Agendas, Overviews, and Briefing Materials:**

The agenda for the week-long meeting, as well as individual committee agendas and helpful overviews, are available from the [Council meeting website](#). Documents, summaries, presentations, and other briefing materials for the meeting are also available.

**Attend the Meeting via Webinar:**

The meeting may be accessed via webinar each day as it occurs. Registration for each day is required. *Register now* via the links below and receive email reminders for the upcoming sessions. (Note: The council's Personnel Committee is meeting in Closed Session on Monday and the meeting will not be available via webinar.)

- [Tuesday, December 4](#) 8:30 am - 5 pm
- [Wednesday, December 5](#) 8:30 am - 6 pm
- [Thursday, December 6](#) 8:30 am - 5 pm
- [Friday, December 7](#) 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

**Public Comment:**

Comments on agenda items may be submitted using the [online comment form](#). The form allows council members immediate access to all comments and gives others the opportunity to read comments as they are posted.

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The council will also solicit **public comment during the meeting beginning at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018.**

**Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee to meet –**

The Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee will meet at 6 p.m. Dec. 6 at the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality's Washington Regional Office, 943 Washington Square Mall, Washington.

**Mid-Atlantic Council Meeting in Annapolis, MD: December 10-13,**

**2018** - The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's meeting to be held December 10-13 in Annapolis, MD. The meeting will be held at Westin Annapolis (100 Westgate Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401, Telephone 410-972-4300).

**Meeting Materials:** Briefing documents will be posted at <http://www.mafmc.org/briefing/december-2018> as they become available.

**Public Comments:** Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on November 28 to be included in the Council meeting briefing book. Comments received after this deadline but before 5:00 p.m. on December 6 will be posted as "supplemental materials" on the Council meeting web page. After that date, all comments must be submitted using an online comment form available at <http://www.mafmc.org/public-comment>.

**Webinar:** For online access to the meeting, enter as a guest at: <http://mafmc.adobeconnect.com/december2018>.

**NCFA Board Meeting- December 12, 11 a.m.**

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott, Washington  
2090 West 15<sup>th</sup> St  
Washington, NC 27889

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