

WEEKLY UPDATE: 9/1/2017
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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PLEASE SIGN SHARK LETTER!

Please sign the Sustainable Shark Alliance document to Congress to oppose this radical shark fin trade elimination act that the ENGOs and others are trying to push. Time is running out and it only takes about 2 minutes of your time.

Any fish houses that deal in coastal sharks, pelagic sharks and dogfish sharks should be very concerned and have their boat captains and crews sign on. Also, any other folks that want to sign on should so Congress can know that families and friends are being affected as well.

Click here to sign, but please use it simply as a guide and use your own words to suit your situation and experience: <https://savingseafood.salsalabs.org/sustainables sharkalliance/index.html>

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Earlier this week we got word that Senator Bill Cook will retire after the 2018 session. Today I heard that Representative Chris Millis will resign in a couple of weeks.

Very disappointing on both counts, but I understand with the redistricting issue combined with the stress on the family. There may be some who hold elected office that do so for the money but it certainly isn't the members of the North Carolina General Assembly!

God bless Bill and Chris and their families. They didn't just fill a seat but made sure the working class had a voice.

The General Assembly met this week to approve the redistricting for the Senate and House and also address some bills that were vetoed by Governor Cooper. About the last thing they did was vote on the conference report for H56, which had some fish provisions added in the Senate, but were not included in the conference report. The bill passed yesterday with none of the fish provisions included.

They are scheduled to come back October 4th.

I will provide more information on the new district lines next week.

I was in Washington DC this week for meetings with industry folks and Congressional staffers from the Senate and House. Topics included menhaden, Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Magnuson-Stevens Act, highly migratory species (HMS) management and catfish inspection issues.

God bless,

Jerry

NCFA OFFICES HAVE MOVED!

NCFA's office has moved from New Bern to Morehead City!

Here is the new **PHYSICAL** address:

101 N. 5th St.
Morehead City, NC 28557

The **MAILING** address is:

P.O. Box 86
Morehead City, NC 28557

Phone: (252) 726-NCFA or 6232.

Extensions: Glenn Skinner, 100; Aundrea O'Neal, 101; David Bush, 102; Jerry Schill, 104

Fax number will be listed after it's hooked up.

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES AP TO MEET SEPTEMBER 6 & 7

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) intends to hold a meeting of the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Advisory Panel (AP) on September 6-7, 2017, at the Sheraton Silver Spring Hotel, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The AP meeting and webinar will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6, and from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 pm on Thursday, September 7.

The meeting on Wednesday, September 6 and Thursday, September 7, 2017, will also be accessible via conference call and webinar. Conference call and webinar access information are available at:

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/advisory_panels/hms_ap/meetings/sept-2017/ap-meeting.html.

Participants are strongly encouraged to log/dial in 15 minutes prior to the meeting. NMFS will show the presentations via webinar and allow public comment during identified times on the agenda.

The intent of this meeting is to consider alternatives for the conservation and management of all Atlantic tunas, swordfish, billfish, and shark fisheries. We anticipate discussing Final Amendment 10 on Essential Fish Habitat; implementation of Final Amendment 7 on bluefin tuna management, including the upcoming three-year review; commercial swordfish pelagic longline fishery issues; recreational fishery issues, such as the use of circle hooks in tournaments, and Charter/Headboat permitted vessels; progress updates regarding the exempted

fishing permit requests; and updates on electronic dealer reporting (eDealer) and quota monitoring. We also anticipate inviting other NMFS offices provide updates, if available, on their activities relevant to HMS fisheries with a focus on national policies/guidance that may require an FMP amendment or implementation strategy, such as Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology and Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management Policy.

Additional information on the meeting and a copy of the draft agenda will be posted prior to the meeting at: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/advisory_panels/hms_ap/meetings/ap_meetings.html.

CALENDAR

September 11-15; South Atlantic Council; Charleston, SC

Sept. 6 & 7; NMFS HMS Advisory Panel; Sheraton; Silver Spring, MD

Sept. 19; 7:00pm; Cobia public hearing; Hatteras Community Center; Hatteras NC

Sept. 20; 1:00pm; NCFCA Board of Directors meeting; Civic Center; Washington, NC

Sept. 27; 6:00pm; Menhaden hearing; DMF Central Ofc; Morehead City