

WEEKLY UPDATE: 1/23/2017
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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PASSING OF STEVE PARRISH

I am saddened to let you know that Steve Parrish of Brunswick County passed away last evening. We lost a tremendous man who was extremely knowledgeable, calm, and just a wonderful human being. In addition to his net making, he served on NCFA's Board and the Observer Board and DMF's bycatch reduction team. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

We will provide further details once arrangements have been made. White Funeral and Cremation Service in Shallotte is in charge of the arrangements.

NC WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The NC Wildlife Resources Commission will hold a public hearing at Craven Community College in New Bern. On Wed., Jan. 25, at 7 pm.

There will be multiple issues addressed according to the Public Hearings handbook including the following rule change for striped bass. (Excerpt from Handbook noted below)

Striped Bass and Bodie Bass (Hybrid Striped Bass) para. F11.

Modify the exception to the general statewide regulation for Striped Bass in inland fishing waters of the Neuse, Pungo and Tar-Pamlico rivers by increasing the minimum size limit of 18 inches to 26 inches. The daily creel limit (2 per day) and harvest season (October 1–April 30) will not change.

Justification: Annual assessments by NCWRC biologists of Striped Bass population characteristics in the Neuse and Tar rivers continue to document high mortality, truncated size and age structures, and minimal natural recruitment. The proposed change is intended to promote the abundance of larger, older female Striped Bass, which is expected to result in increased egg production.

The full NCWRC Public Hearings Handbook, which contains information on potential rule changes for this and many other Fishing, Hunting, and Trapping, can be found at:

<http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Regs/Documents/NCWRC-Public-Hearing-Book-2017-2018.pdf>

MESSAGE FROM JERRY:

Just a reminder that although the outcome of the Advisory Committee meeting last Tuesday concerning the petition for rulemaking was encouraging, this issue will be discussed and voted on for final action by the Marine Fisheries Commission at their next business meeting in February.

I urge you to attend, as this is also an extremely important meeting. In addition to scheduled business, their final vote could have devastating impacts on the future of commercial fishing families and their communities.

The meeting will be held at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside, Feb. 15-16.

ALL COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES AND LOVERS OF SHRIMP AND ALL SEAFOOD ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

God bless,

Jerry

SOUTHERN FLOUNDER LAWSUIT:

We would like to thank all of you who have donated to the Southern Flounder Fund so far. Below is a list of those who have contributed to the fund so far.

As noted previously, we have had two hearings on our lawsuit on southern flounder before two judges. Both judges ruled in our favor. However, it's not over! There will be a hearing at some point and we need to be prepared!

Whether you are a commercial fisherman, dealer, or recreational fisherman, if you are pleased that we took this legal action and your season did not close on October 16th as the MFC planned, we need your help!

Checks can be made payable to:

NCFA Southern Flounder Fund
2807 Neuse Blvd.; Suite 11
New Bern, NC 28562

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SOUTHERN FLOUNDER FUND

Thanks to the following individuals, businesses and organizations that have contributed to the Southern Flounder Fund. Is your name on the list? This is an updated list, so let us know if you have contributed but you are not listed.

Allyn Powell
Alvia Hearren Jr.
Anders, Ireland & Marshall, Inc.
Beacon 1 Seafood
Beaufort Inlet Seafood Co., Inc.
Blackburn Brothers
Blue Ocean Market
Brunswick County Commercial Fish Association
Cain Faircloth
Hunter A Fulford Jr
Johnny Singletary
Mark Galloway
Old Ferry Seafood
Carteret County Fisherman's Association
Clint Midkiff
Crystal Coast Fisheries
Glenwood Montgomery
Gordon Networks, Inc.
Howard D Gaskill
Jason G Spatilson
Jesse Troy Outland
John R Hudnall
John F Reardon
Lance W Riggs
Len Creech
Locals Seafood LLC

Luther L Smith Son., Inc.
Mike Keller Ltd.
Mitchell T Lassard
Morgan Harvest, Inc.
Murray L Nixon Fishery
Myron A Smith
North Carolina Watermen's Association
Ocracoke Seafood, Inc.
Ocracoke Working Watermen's Association
O'Neals Sea Harvest, Inc.
Phillip Goodwin
Quality Seafood
Ralphie Craddock
Robert D McBride
Robert Ellis Emory
Rodney Smith
Sam Rust Seafood, Inc.
Steve Parrish
T A Taylor & Sons Seafood, Inc.
Tillman Taylor
Timmy Creech
Van E Pyatte
Vince B Emory
Walter Lee Craddock
Wells J. Barker
West End Seafood Market

THANK YOU!

CALENDAR

Jan 25, 2017; 7 pm; NCWRC Public Hearing; Craven Community College, New Bern, NC
Jan 30-Feb 2, 2017; ASMFC Winter Meeting; The Westin Alexandria, Alexandria, Virginia
Feb 6, 2017; Noon; NCFA Board of Directors; Civic Center; Washington, NC
Feb 14-16, 2017; MAFMC Meeting; Kitty Hawk, NC
Feb. 15-16, 2017; NCMFC Meeting; Hilton Wilmington Riverside, Wilmington, NC