

WEEKLY UPDATE: 9/8/2017
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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HURRICANE PREP!

From the Division of Marine Fisheries:

MOREHEAD CITY – The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries is asking fishermen to keep a close eye on the progress of Hurricane Irma and to start getting ready for the storm now.

Governor Roy Cooper has declared a State of Emergency for all 100 counties in the state and is urging North Carolinians to prepare for the storm. While the hurricane's path is still uncertain, North Carolinians will likely feel the impacts somewhere in the state.

Fishermen should remove fishing gear from the water well before the storm's arrival. Crab pots and gillnets, especially, are prone to damage and displacement during storms.

Vessel owners should check their safety equipment to ensure all is in working order and plan to remove their boats from the water or take them to safe harbor as the storm approaches. Fishermen should monitor NOAA Weather radio for storm updates and channel 16 on their marine radios for the latest U.S. Coast Guard emergency broadcasts.

Information about other hurricane preparations, as well as a free mobile app, can be found on the state Division of Emergency Management's website at www.ReadyNC.org.

Also, upon the recommendation of Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler, Governor Cooper has issued transportation waivers as follows. If you would like the complete emergency declaration and transportation waiver, please let us know.

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 166A-19.70(g) on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Agriculture, upon a finding that there is an imminent threat of severe economic loss of livestock, poultry or crops ready to be harvested, the Governor shall direct the Department of Public Safety to temporarily suspend weighing those vehicles used to transport livestock, poultry or crops; and

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

The General Assembly is scheduled to come back October 4th.

I will provide more information on the new district lines later.

Governor Cooper has joined the Governor's Sportsmen's Caucus, a national group that promotes hunting and fishing. Unfortunately, the group also has commercial fishing in its crosshairs and supports legislation that is not at all friendly toward commercial fishing families or seafood consumers. One can only hope that the Governor will use his influence to get the Caucus to emphasize a positive agenda without targeting commercial fishing families and seafood consumers!

God bless,

Jerry

NCFAs OFFICES HAVE MOVED!

Note the new mailing address, phone numbers above. Fax is now hooked up. Beginning on Monday, we can accept credit card for paying dues or purchases!

CALENDAR

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

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

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