

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: 12/06/2019**  
**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)

**REMINDER: Division of Marine Fisheries begins scoping period on southern flounder amendment**

**MOREHEAD CITY** – The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries is seeking input from the public on potential management strategies for an upcoming amendment to the Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan.

Fishermen and other stakeholders are encouraged to provide input by either attending one of three scoping meetings or providing written comments. The Wilmington meeting has been scheduled since the first announcement on Nov. 7.

The scoping meetings are scheduled for:

**Dec. 9 at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
**N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries**  
**Central District Office**  
**5285 Highway 70 West, Morehead City**

**Dec. 17 at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
**Dare County Government Complex**  
**Commissioners Meeting Room**  
**954 Marshall C. Collins Dr., Manteo**

**Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
**N.C. Department of Environmental Quality**  
**Wilmington Regional Office**  
**127 Cardinal Drive Extension, Wilmington**

The scoping meetings will include a presentation from division staff, followed by a public comment period. Individuals will be allotted three minutes each for comment on a first-come-first-served basis. The meetings will end at 8 p.m., as scheduled.

The public may submit written comments through an online form that can be accessed through the [Southern Flounder Information Page](#) or submit comments by mail to:

Southern Flounder Amendment 3 Scoping Comments  
P.O. Box 769  
Morehead City, N.C. 28557

Comments should be posted online or postmarked by 5 p.m. Dec. 18. The division will not accept comments submitted by email.

The division is seeking comments on potential management strategies in the southern flounder fishery that have already been identified for development in Amendment 3. The issues are:

- **Sustainable Harvest** – management measures such as quotas, slot limits, size limit changes, gear changes, and fishing days (other management strategies may also be examined and are outlined in the scoping document);
- **Species Specific Management** – separating management of southern flounder, summer flounder, and Gulf flounder for the recreational fishery; and
- **Inlet Corridors** – designating no fishing areas to protect mature female southern flounder.

A scoping document further outlining the potential management strategies can be found on the [Southern Flounder Information Page](#).

The division is proceeding with Amendment 3 based on the 2019 coast-wide stock assessment update (containing data through 2017) that indicated the stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring.

Scoping is the first stage of the amendment process. Additional opportunities to comment on the draft amendment will be announced as the fishery management plan process proceeds.

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: 12/06/2019**  
**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)**

## **You're Invited to Fish Camp!**

Sea Grant's fisheries specialists, Scott Baker and Sara Mirabilio, will host Jan. 7-9, 2020 a networking and skill-building workshop for a rising generation of men and women involved in commercial fishing. The effort builds upon a 2018 series of workshops — coined Fish Camps — that were part of a Sea Grant-funded social science research project looking at aging in the fishing fleet as younger people seek jobs outside of the industry.

Workshop topics range from securing financing and business management, to fisheries science and management — even fishing vessel safety. Partners include staff from UNC-TV North Carolina Science Now and from the Small Business Center at Carteret Community College. The director of the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Steve Murphey, will hold a "kitchen-table" style conversation with participants on the second day.

Fish Camp will be centrally located at the Trinity Center in Salter Path, North Carolina. Participants will receive two nights lodging, all meals, and a modest compensation for lost fishing income from attending the training. The N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund supported the project. Deriving from commercial fishing license fees, dispersion of monies falls under the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission's Commercial Resource Fund Committee and the Funding Committee for the N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund.

Space is limited and so pre-registration is required. Interested persons should contact Mirabilio at (252) 475-5488 or [semirabi@ncsu.edu](mailto:semirabi@ncsu.edu) by Dec. 20, 2019.

