

NCFA UPDATE:03/10/2025
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
PO Box 86; Morehead City, NC 28557
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MFC Meeting This Week

The time has come for the Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) to discuss and vote on the six fisheries on the chopping block. This is your chance to come together and show unity and support as a fishing community. Public comments are important, but showing up in large numbers sends a strong message as well.

Meeting Location:

- Hilton Garden Inn - Kitty Hawk, NC

Public Comment:

- Wednesday, March 12th at 2:00pm and 6:00pm
- If you have a handout you need to bring 12 copies
- Each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes

Meeting Times:

- Wednesday, March 12th 2:30pm - 6:00pm
- Thursday, March 13th 9:00am - 12:45pm

Meeting Agenda:

- [Meeting Agenda](#)

Meeting Website:

- [Meeting Webpage](#)

Watch Meeting on YouTube:

- [YouTube Meeting Link](#)

Final Call To Save Us From The Chopping Block

We have talked about these issues for weeks leading up to this MFC meeting. You

know the issues, you know the problems, and you want to do what is right. Just attending this meeting shows solidarity and the urgency of our situation. If you can, we also encourage you to give public comment, talk with MFC members, and/or DMF staff.

As a final update ahead of the meeting this week I just wanted to give a bullet point overview of everything on the chopping block one more time.

Last Chance Issues

False Albacore Rule

- Last time this issue comes to the MFC before implementation
- No stock assessment
- Rule not recommended by DMF
- Rule does nothing to conserve or sustain the stock

Speckled Trout

- Last time this issue comes to MFC before implementation
- Need for reductions and the science are highly questionable
- Slot limit creates more discards
- 38.3% reduction for commercial sector is wrong

Second to Last Chance Issues

Blue Crab

- May 2025 MFC meeting is final vote before implementation
- No stock assessment or necessary data needed for management
- Moving forward with Adaptive Management violates the FMP

Last Chance Before Legislative Review

Hard Clam

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- Zero science to back the DMF recommendation
- No monitoring or accountability of recreational harvest
- Clam harvesters have been accountable

Eastern Oyster

- Zero science to back the recommendation
- No monitoring or accountability of recreational harvest
- Oysterman have suggested reasonable alternatives

Stay Informed Changes Coming Soon

Southern Flounder

- Failed stock assessment
- Recreational access has never been limited
- NCFA supports increasing harvest opportunities for both sectors

Thank you all for staying with us through these issues and reading our updates. Please continue reaching out and asking questions. We need everyone to be on the same page and walk together as we fight this unprecedented attack on our fisheries!

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