

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: 5/17/2019**  
**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)**

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

As noted previously, the crossover deadline was last week so it was rather hectic. Quite a contrast this week as legislators were slow in coming back with nothing going on legislatively regarding fisheries.

There will be a meeting next Tuesday of the House Wildlife Resources Committee. It's a two-hour meeting for a discussion on chronic wasting disease.

Jerry

**H-169**, the bill to make the Loggerhead Sea Turtle the state reptile passed the House and in Senate Rules. No action in the Senate this week.

### **H-483: LET THEM SPAWN**

Voted favorably 11-3 in Wildlife Resources on April 16; now in Rules.

Should be dead as it did not make it through the House before crossover. But this is the Easter season, so we'll be vigilant. No action this week.

NCFA OPPOSES H-483

### **H-486 COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE REFORMS**

Voted favorably 6-4 in Wildlife Resources on April 16; now in Finance.

This is similar to a bill filed last year, but it died in committee. This bill would eliminate the RCGL or recreational commercial gear license, would only allow one standard commercial license per person with person including corporation; doubles the license fees. We understand it was discussed in Republican caucus but unsure of status. No action this week.

NCFA OPPOSES H-486

### **S-517: PROTECT THE MILITARY/FISHERIES/TOURISM; by Senator Peterson**

In Senate Rules. No action this week.

Would prohibit offshore drilling. Same as H-545 below.

**S-554: MARINE FISHERIES REFORMS; by Senators Sanderson, Brown, Tillman and Steinburg**  
Passed on the Senate floor on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 46 to 1.

Now in the House Rules Committee. No action this week.

**S-648: SUPPORT SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE; by Senators Sanderson, Rabon and Steinburg**

Passed on the Senate floor on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 47 to 0.

Now in the House Rules Committee. No action this week.

**H-545: PROTECT THE MILITARY/FISHERIES/TOURISM; by Rep. Harrison, Martin, Russell and others**

No action this week: In the House Rules Committee. Same as S-517 above.

**H-598: BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN AS STATE MARINE MAMMAL by Reps Hanig, Grange and others.**

Passed the House and sent to the Senate.

In the Senate Rules Committee. No action in the Senate this week.

**H-597: WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION AMENDS; sponsored by Adams, Henson, Wray, Yarborough and others.**  
Substantially raises license fees and makes changes in proclamation authority.

Passed the House Wildlife Resources Committee; Although given a favorable report by the Finance Committee on May 15<sup>th</sup>, there were concerns noted from some legislators. It is now in Rules and perhaps more discussions there.

**H-809: SUPPORT SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE; McElraft, Yarborough, Shepard, Harrison and others.**

Similar to S-648 mentioned above. In House Environment Committee.

Since S-648 passed the Senate and now in the House, no action will be taken on this bill.

### **H-810: MARINE FISHERIES REFORMS; Yarborough**

Similar in name to S-554 and H-860 but NOT the same in content!

In House Rules Committee. No action this week.

NCFA opposes H-810.

**H-860: MARINE FISHERIES REFORMS: Cleveland, McElraft, Butler**

Similar to S-554.

In House Rules Committee.

Since S-554 passed the Senate and now in House, no action will be taken on this bill.

### **H-479: ERC STUDIES/SCOPE: Dixon**

Provides legislative oversight of marine fisheries issues by the

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Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources.  
Passed the House and sent to the Senate.  
In Senate Rules. No action this week.

#### **THIRD DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL RACE**

The two top vote getters from the Republican Primary will be in a runoff on July 9<sup>th</sup>. They are Greg Murphy from Greenville and Joan Perry from Kinston. Joan Perry will be at next Monday's meeting of the God and Country Christian Alliance.

It will not be a debate, but a conversation. The meeting is open for all so a good opportunity to meet the candidate and see where she stands on the issues. The meeting begins at 7:00pm at Moore's Old Thyme BBQ on Hwy 17 South in New Bern. No charge to attend unless you eat. Those who want to eat first are encouraged to arrive between 6:00 and 6:30. If his schedule allows, candidate Greg Murphy will be at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, same time and location. The two candidates will participate in a debate in early July in Greenville. More details as we get them.

#### **CALENDAR**

**Carteret County Fisherman's Association 2019 Annual Fish Fry & Bake Sale**  
**Saturday, May 18**  
**11-Until**  
Wheatley Boys Tire & Auto  
760 Hwy 70, Otway, NC

**NCFA Board Meeting**  
**Monday, May 20**  
**11 am.**  
Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott  
2063 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Washington, NC

**May 23 at 6 p.m.**  
Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee  
**Development of Amendment 3 to the Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan**  
N.C. Department of Environmental Quality's Washington regional office  
943 Washington Square Mall, Washington  
**Contacts:** Jason Rock / Corrin Flora  
Phone: 252-808-8091 / 252-264-3911  
Email: [Jason.Rock@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Jason.Rock@ncdenr.gov) / [Corrin.Flora@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Corrin.Flora@ncdenr.gov)

Commercial Fishing Resource Funding committees to meet  
**Wednesday, May 29 1:00 – 4:00pm**  
N.C. Department of Environmental Quality's  
Washington Regional Office  
943 Washington Square Mall  
Washington