

NCFA UPDATE: 11/19/2021
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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UPDATE for 11.19.2021

MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION:

Shrimp FMP, Amendment 2:

The MFC meeting in Emerald Isle started out with a public comment period on Wednesday evening that lasted about 2 hours. The comments were limited to 3 minutes with overwhelming opposition to the DMF proposal to close certain areas to shrimping. The comments came from shrimpers, NCFA, county commissioners, a state Senator and consumers. We'll offer a public thank you to the groups and individuals in the next update.

Thursday morning began with 10 additional comments from the public including NCFA, along with NC Catch, CCA and Wildlife Federation.

The Commission didn't begin debating the issue until the afternoon session with DMF staff giving background information, followed by extensive debate. A motion to approve the Division's recommendations was made with the resulting vote of 5 opposed and 4 in favor. Another motion was made to approve a host of separate measure that are much more favorable to shrimpers, and that motion passed by a vote of 5-3 with 1 abstention. Specifics on these votes will be listed later.

We will give the exact wording of the approved motion later.

Southern Flounder FMP, Amendment 3:

The Commission also voted to approve Amendment 3 to the southern flounder fmp.

The southern flounder amendment goes out for public comment. It will be very, very important for you to watch for those meeting announcements and make comment IN PERSON if at all possible but at the very least submit written comments.

The shrimp amendment goes to DEQ for review.

As noted earlier, more details will be coming including any further actions taken by the Commission on Friday morning.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

This week both the Senate and House approved the budget and sent it to the Governor. Governor Cooper quickly signed it.

There is a provision for voluntary buyback of commercial fishing licenses with those licenses being put back into the pool of available commercial licenses. The process for this provision will have to be worked out by DMF.

REDISTRICTING:

In previous updates we've listed the new districts for coastal counties. We also noted that it's our intention to keep you updated on who is running and letting you know about any forums, meet and greet events or fund raisers the candidates may have. We can only do that if the candidate or their supporters let us know what's going on!

The primary is scheduled for March 2022 with candidate filing beginning in December.

CONGRESS:

Senator Richard Burr indicated some time ago that he is not running again, so his term is up in 2022.

This week, Congressman G.K. Butterfield indicated he's not running for another term. Congressman David Price isn't running again either.

God bless,

Jerry